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Teamwork Makes the Dream Work: Positioning, Collaboration, and Finding Balance Across Technical and Public Services

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TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK: POSITIONING, COLLABORATION, AND FINDING BALANCE ACROSS TECHNICAL AND PUBLIC SERVICES

ROUNDTABLE FACILITATORS:

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TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

Technology, budgets, and library reorganizations have dramatically reshaped the roles of technical and public services librarians in recent years. Ways of collaborating across library units have changed as well.

Together, technical and public services librarians are asking how we should position ourselves, seek collaboration, and find balance in our work.

Drawing on participants' experiences, we will explore how engaging strengths and expertise across technical and public services, and partnering with students and researchers in scholarly communication practices, reframes librarian roles and contributes to well-rounded, impactful services for patrons.

This discussion welcomes voices from across technical and public services.

FOCUSING QUESTIONS

- Do you work in technical or public services? Do you collaborate with other service units in your library?
- Do you work with students, faculty, and other schools or departments outside the library? If so, in what ways?
- What are the benefits and/or challenges of working with other library units outside of the library? Has your role changed as a result of these collaborations?
- In what ways do technical and public services intersect, specifically with regard to delivery of effective reference and instructional services?
- What special skills do technical services personnel bring to public services, and how do public services librarians help to “surface” these skills as promotable services?
- How does partnering and promoting services across library units cast library services differently to patrons? What is the impact of intra-library collaboration?

SELECT RESOURCES

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Keyword: User experience, Collaboration, Cataloging, Metadata, Public Services, Technical Services