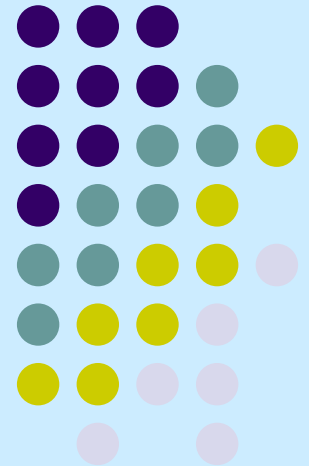
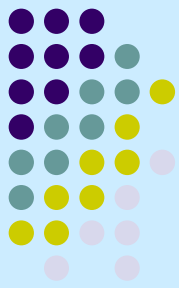


# The role of libraries in supporting research

Alma Swan  
Key Perspectives Ltd  
Truro, UK

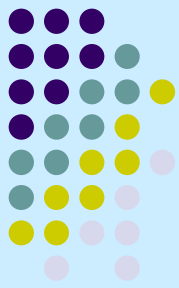


# *Researchers and Libraries* study for the Research Information Network



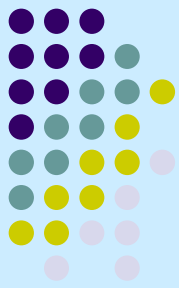
- <http://www.rin.ac.uk/researchers-use-libraries>
- Snapshot of the situation at  $T_0$
- Views and expectations about  $T_1$
- On occasions, a look back

# Methodology

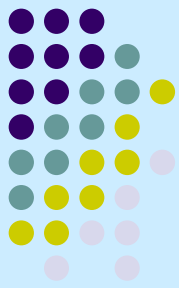


- Online surveys:
  - researchers: 2250+
  - librarians: 300+
- Telephone interviews: 30
  - researchers
  - librarians
  - library educators
  - information specialists
- Focus groups:
  - librarians: 4
  - researchers: 6

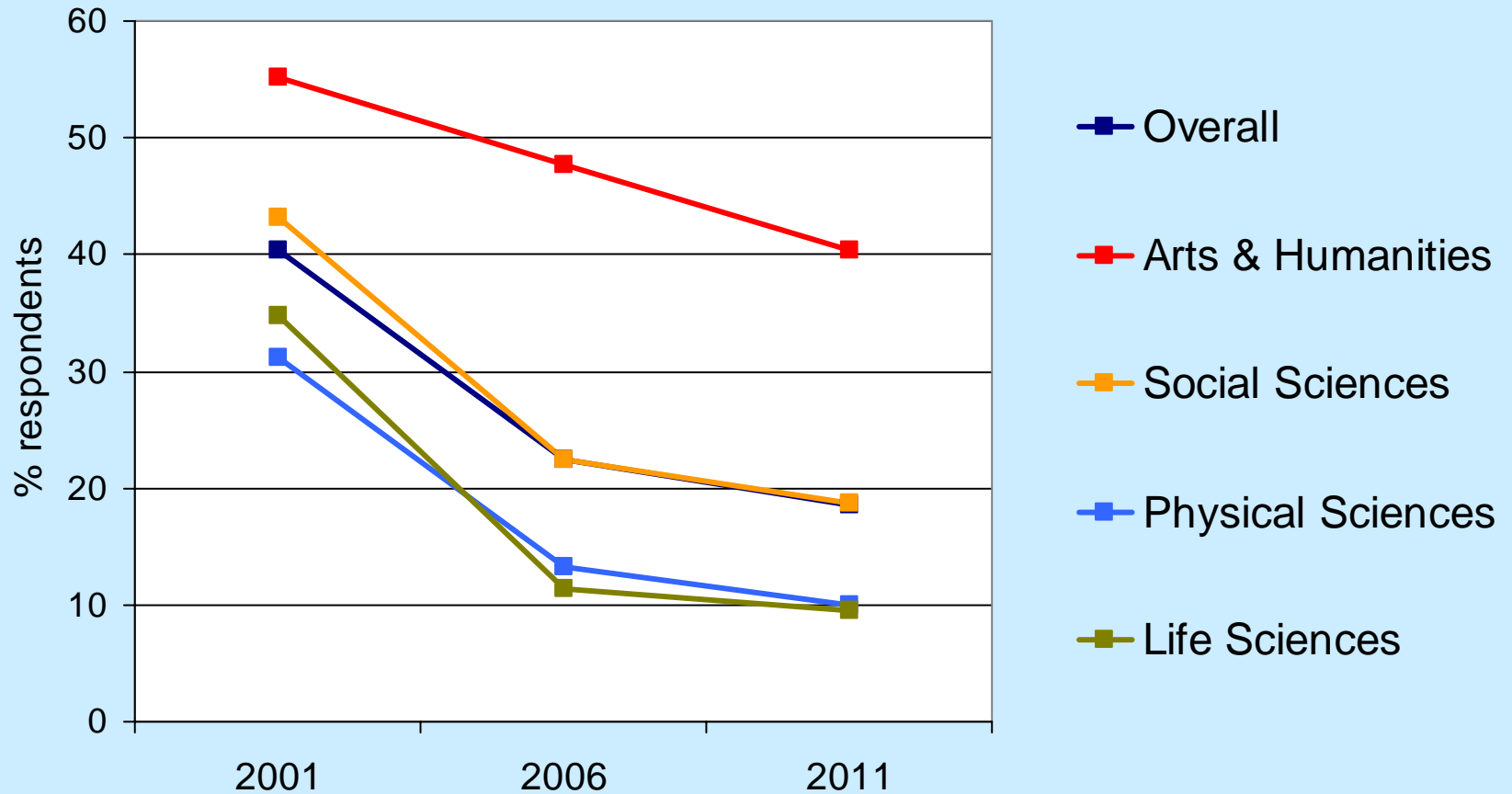
# Themes



- Digitisation
  - The library as a place
  - Use of resources
  - Finding of resources
  - Way work is done
  - Access
- Roles and responsibilities
- Communication

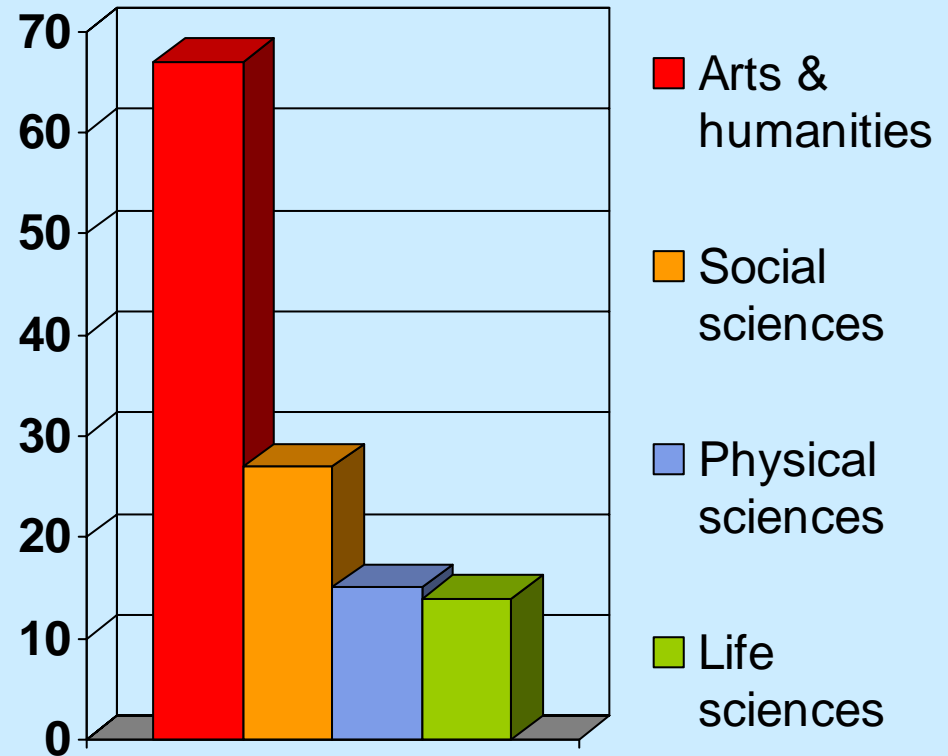
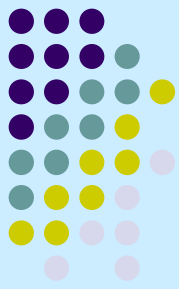


# Weekly visits to the library

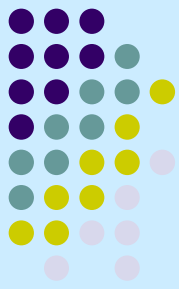


# Why go at all?

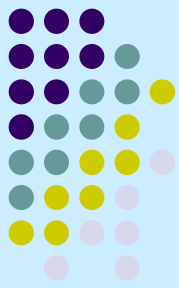
- Access print resources
- Order inter-library loans
- Talk to a subject librarian
- The library as a laboratory



# Key issues relating to the library space



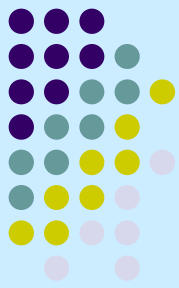
- Opening hours
- Browsing
- Quiet study
- The library is now ‘an undergraduate space’



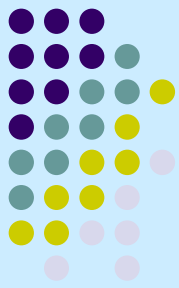
# Digital information

- Information wants to be digital
- e-journals
- e-books
- e-datasets
- Digital archival collections
- Digital finding aids

# Do they find what they want?



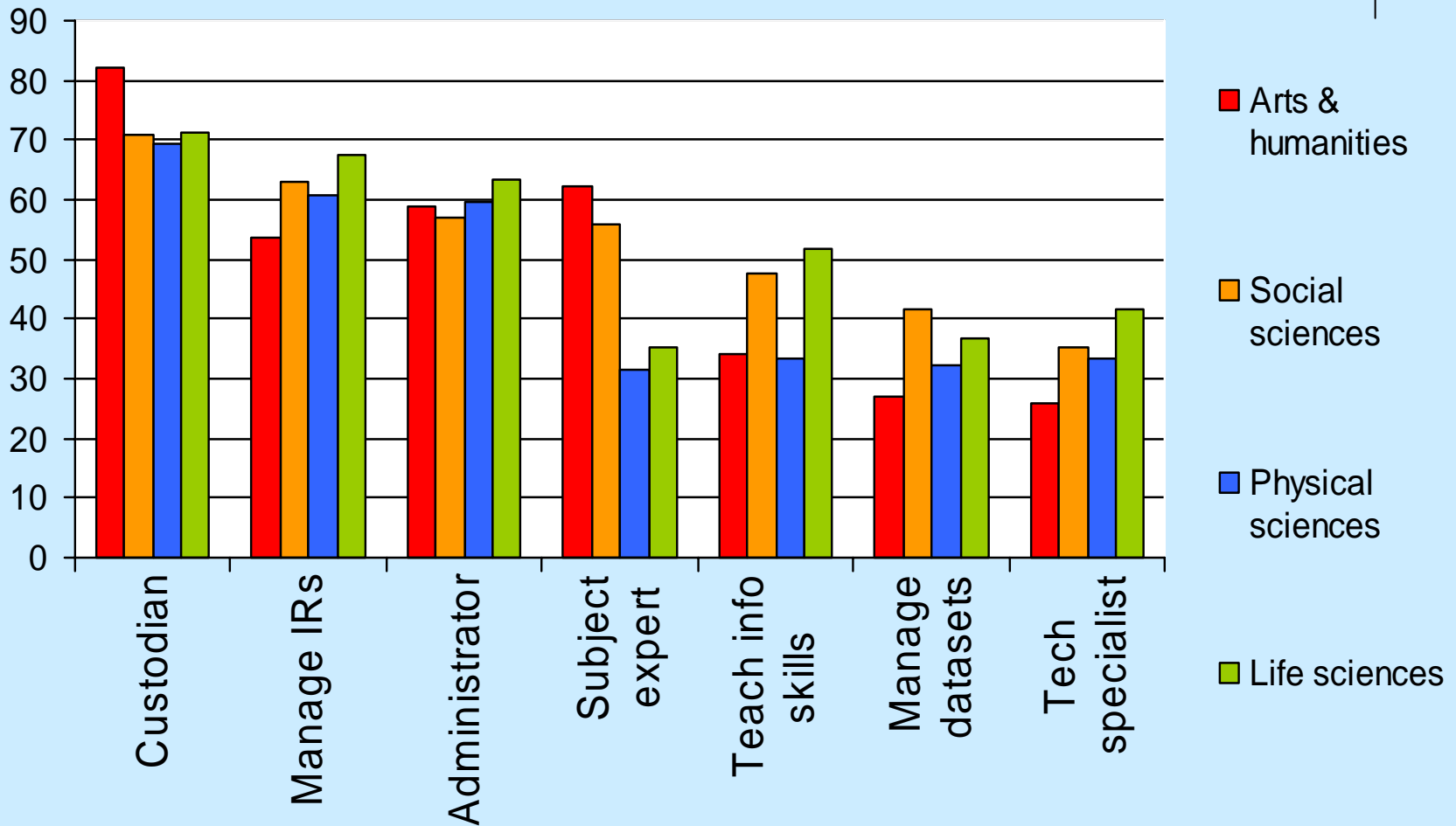
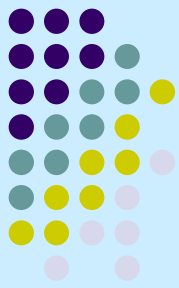
- Not at all expert:
  - Use what they've always used
  - Use Google – a lot
  - 'Good enough' tendency
- Contrary: ask for FT d/bs and then say WoS is enough
- Easily deterred:
  - Remote holdings
  - Locally held microform, microfilm
  - Locally-held print



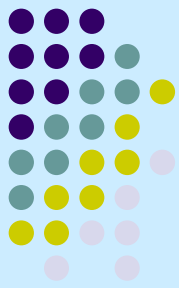
# Roles and responsibilities

- Custodian of information
- Manager of institutional repositories
- Administrator of information purchasing and delivery services
- Subject information expert
- Teacher of information literacy skills
- Manager of data
- Technology specialist

# Future roles for librarians: researchers' views

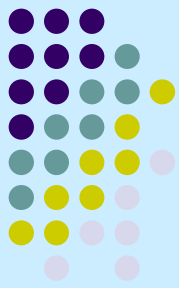


# The new kids on the block

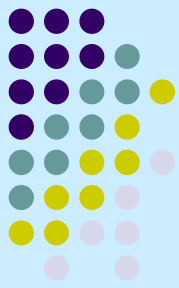


- Interdisciplinary research
- Big science / e-research
- Medium-to-small science / research pools
- VREs
- Data
- Metrics
- Demands:
  - New and different resources
  - New ways to assess and plan for needs
  - Awareness that these researchers may not know themselves what they need or should consult

# Big research, different research

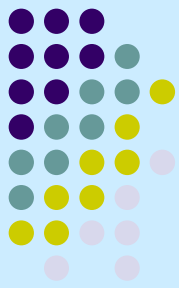


- Interdisciplinary research
- e-research
- Semantic technologies bringing new ways to do research
- Implications for library services
- Not just infrastructural, but cultural too
- Cornell's VIVO



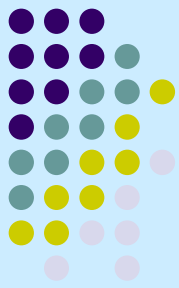
# Research data

- What are libraries to do about this?
- Watch out for more funder mandates
- Growing importance as outputs in themselves
- Big data are safe (ish)
- But we should be worrying about small data (who need carers)
- Data are only (going to be) really important if they are re-usable



# Metrics

- The RAE is fanning the flames now in the UK (and the RQF in Australia)
- Can only produce a range of really good metrics on an open corpus
- What metrics do YOU want to see?
- Can you help by producing the raw material?

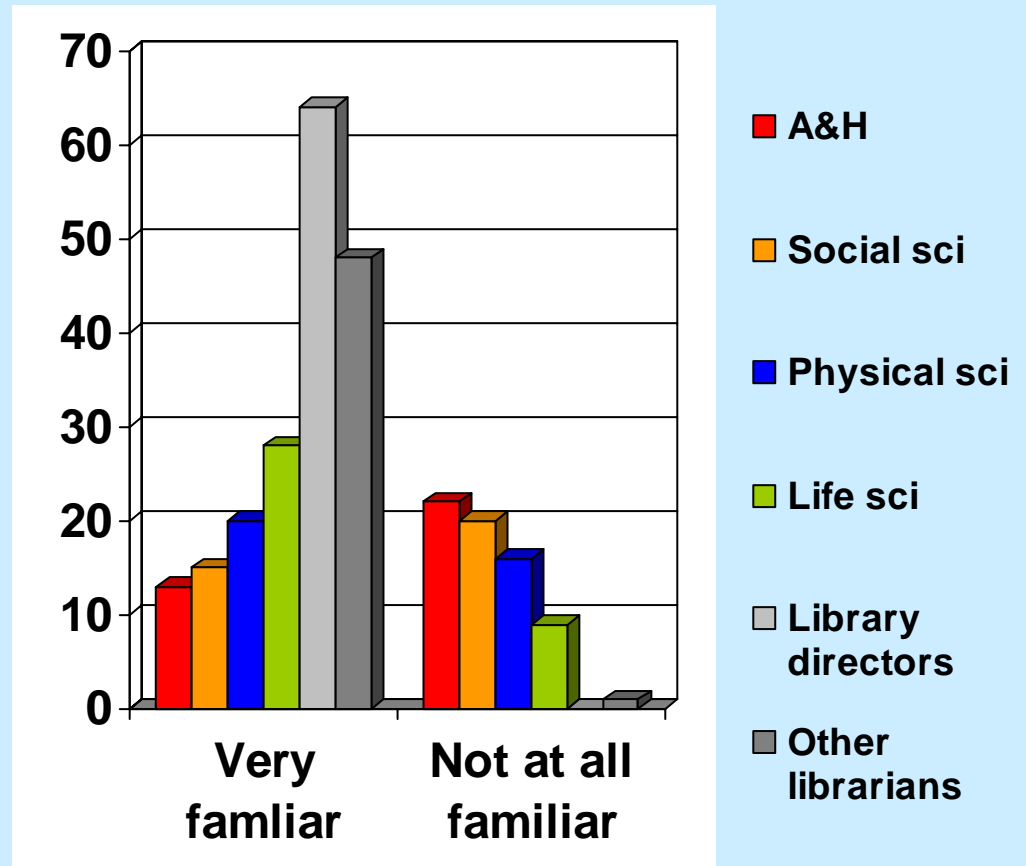


# Driving the OA agenda

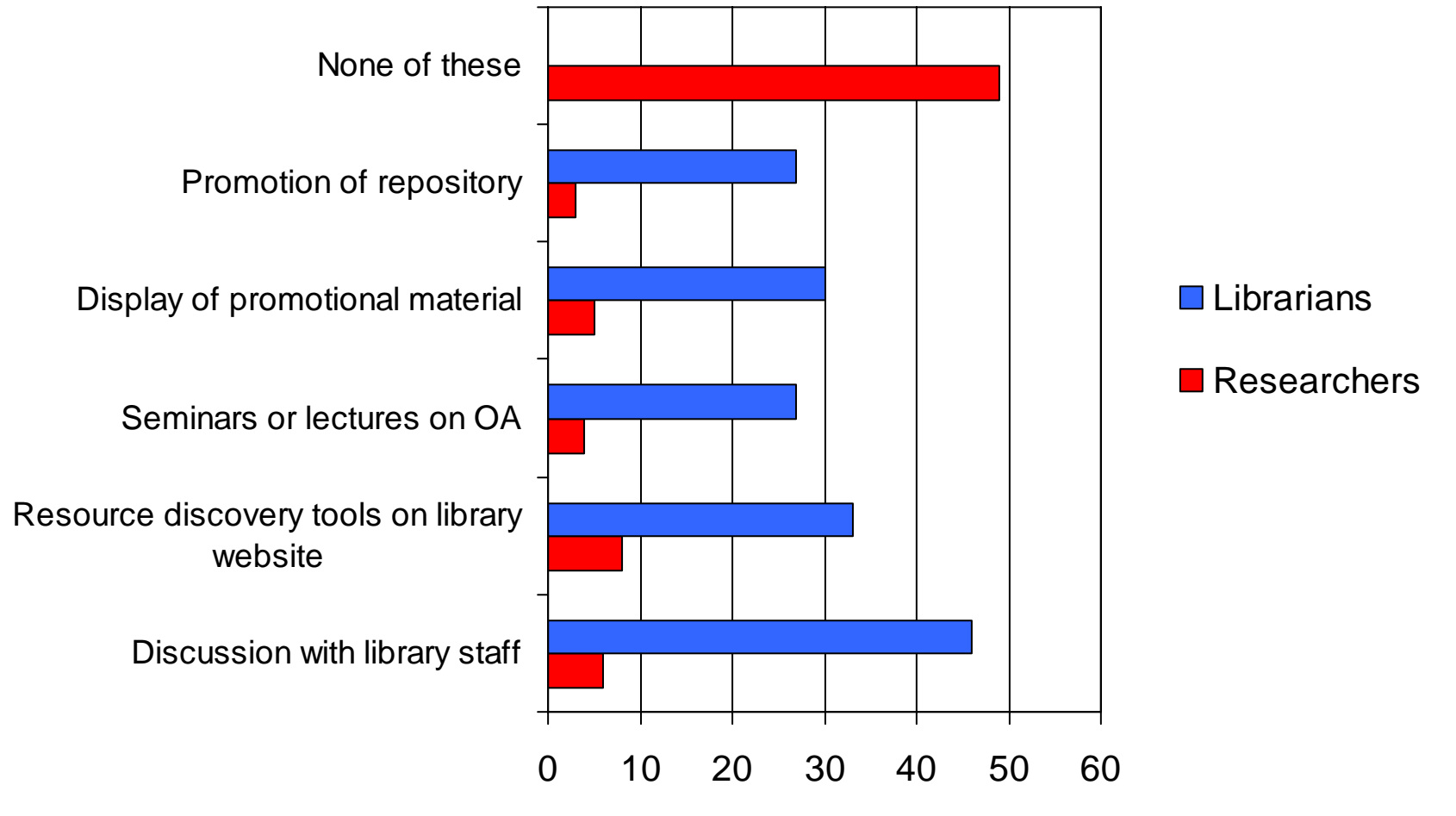
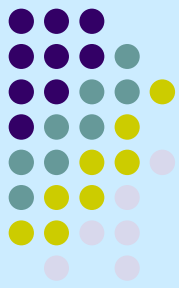
- Boldness please!
- Promotion via the library website
- Information on how funder payments are working and how you administer them (if you do)
- Monitor publisher responses to upfront payments
- And what is happening with e-books?

# Open access

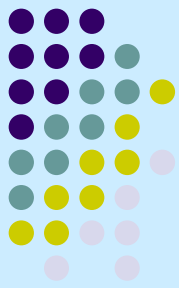
- Librarian awareness is high
- Researcher awareness is low



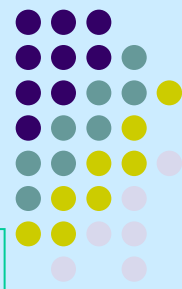
# OA education tools



# Institutional repositories



- Maximise the visibility of research outputs
- Maximise the impact of an institution
- Collect and curate **ALL** the research output
- Showcase the institution's work
- Will form the data layer of the future
  - i2010 Vision
  - Single Information Space
- Provide the locus for measurement, assessment and management (in association with information in the institution's CRIS)



Search / retrieve

Other value adding

Aggregate / display

Editorial

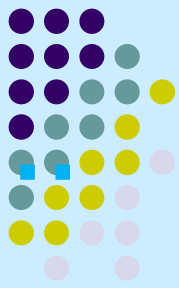
Count / assess

Peer review

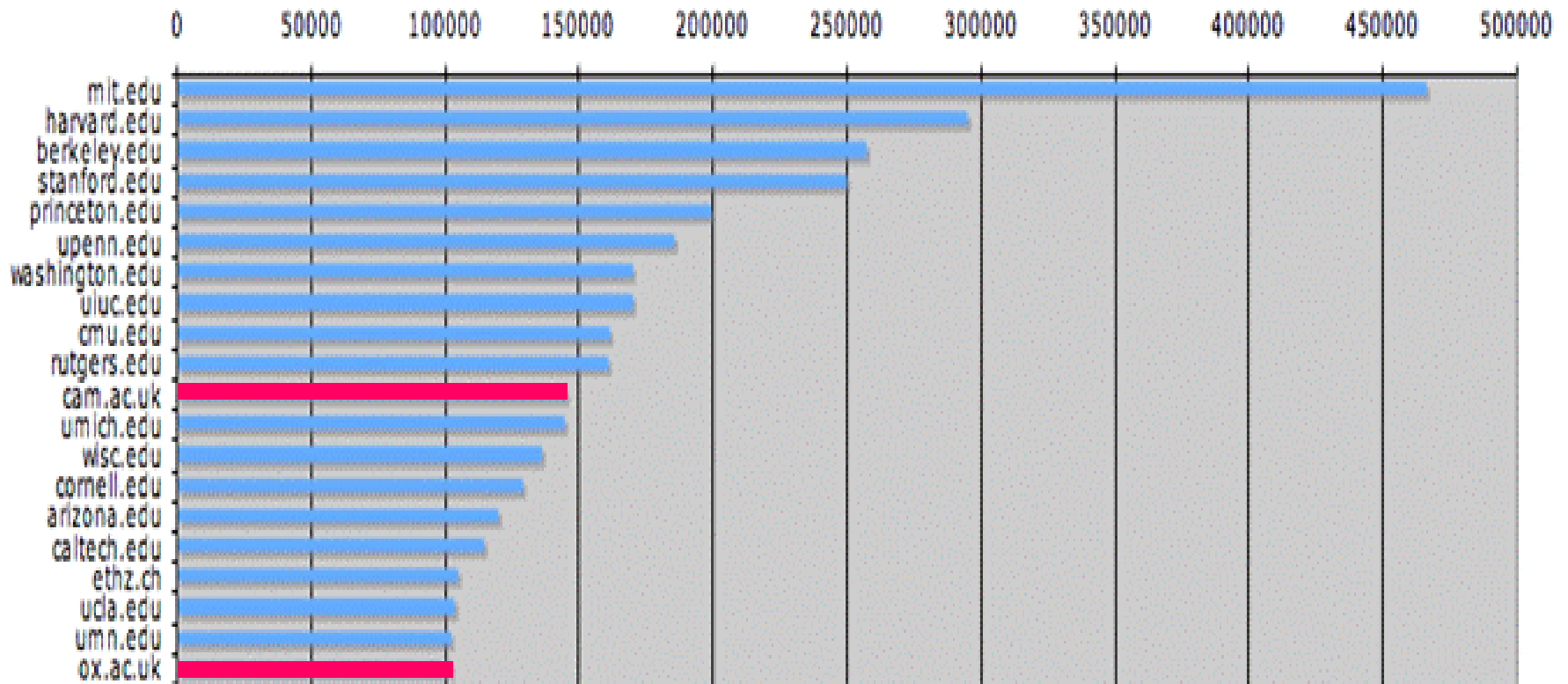
**REPOSITORIES  
and other open content**

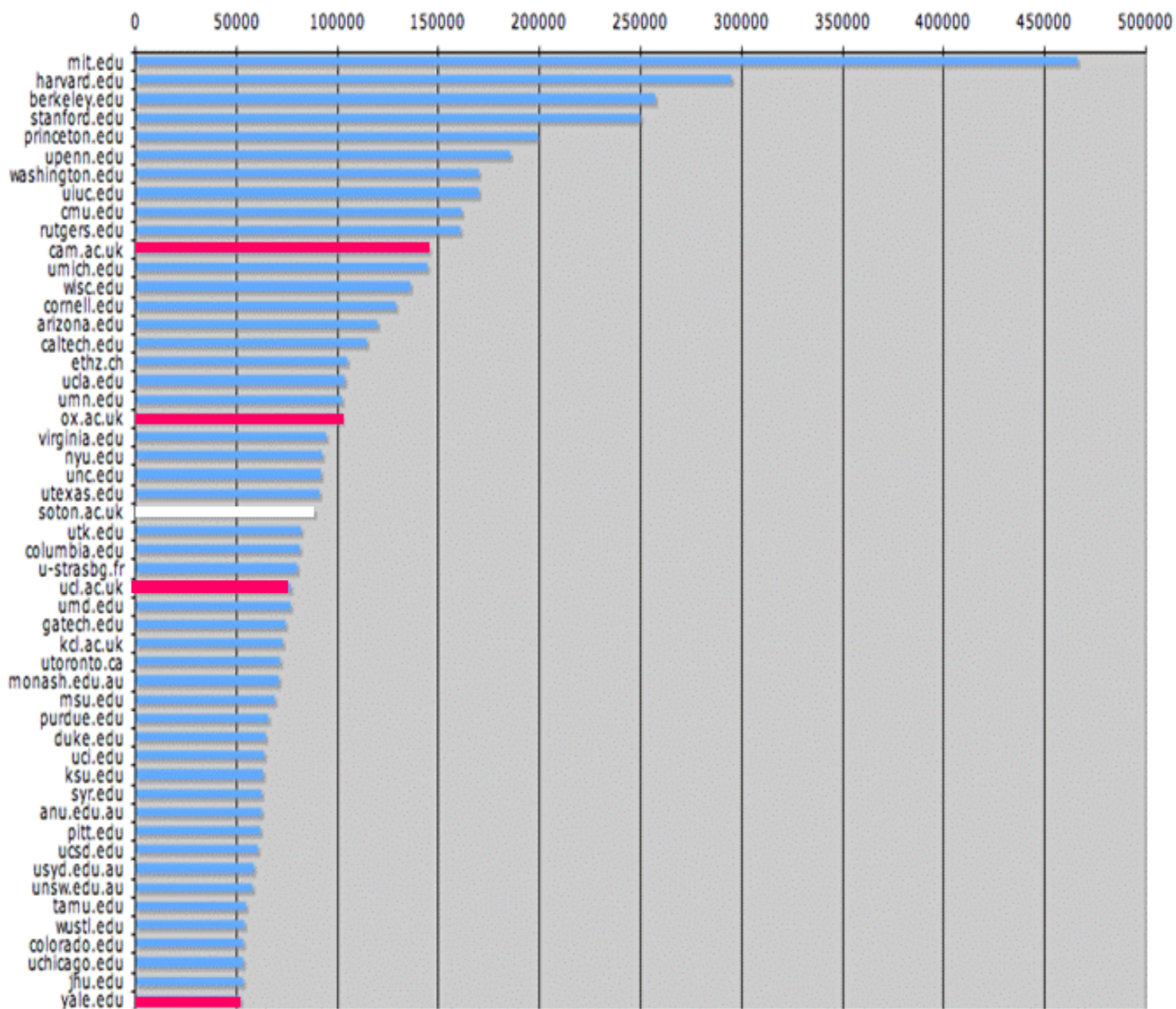
Ingest layer services

# The U.Southampton conundrum.

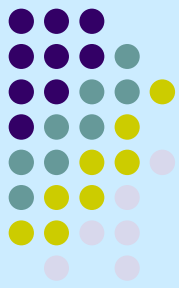


The G-Factor (universitymetrics.com)



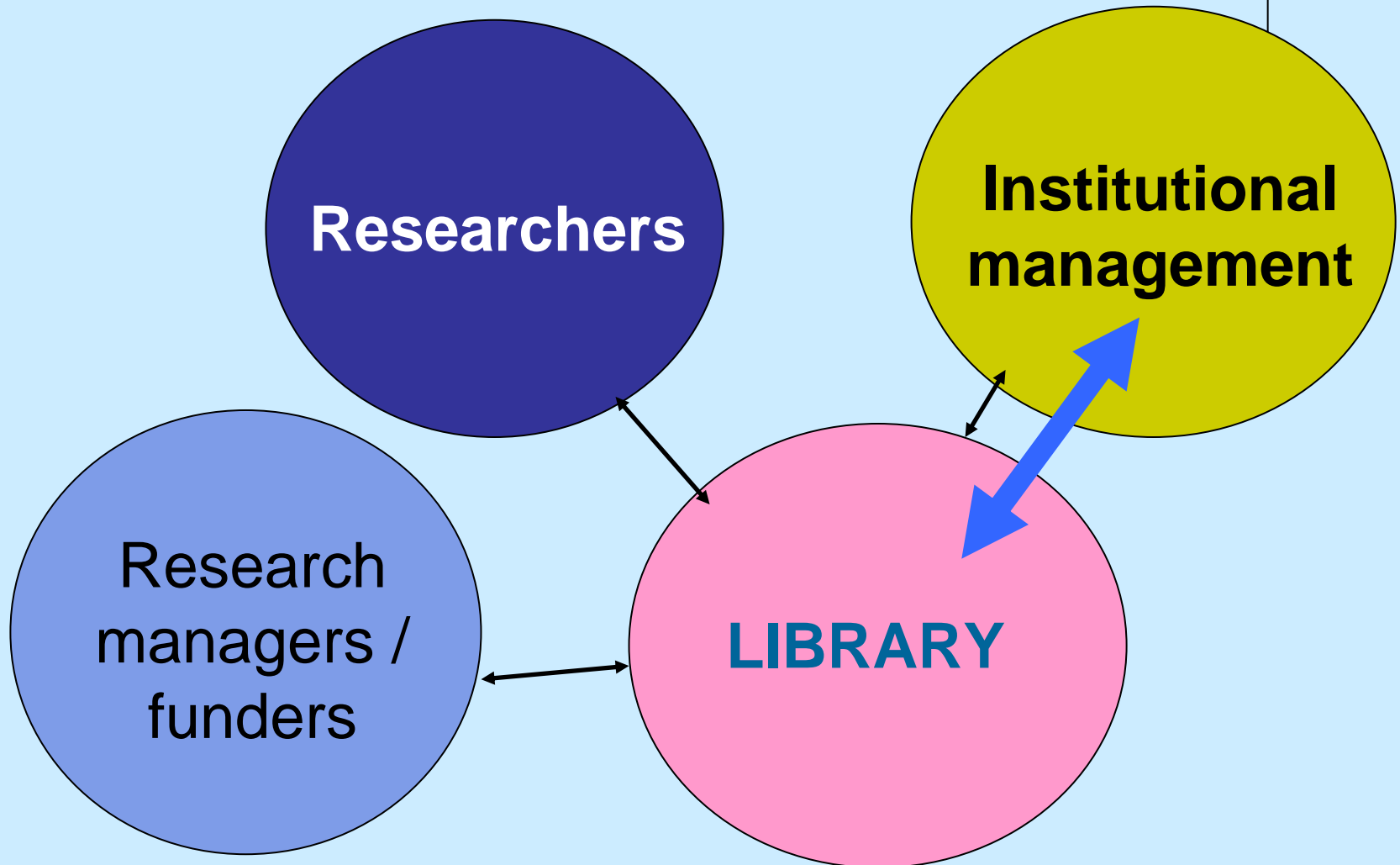
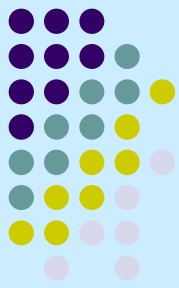


# Future roles in supporting research, then...

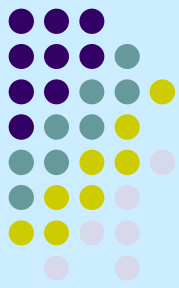


- Custodianship of archival collections
- Subject expertise
- Training in information literacy
- Technical expertise
- Metadata expertise
- Management of the institutional outputs
- Strategic role in institutional profiling and publishing

# Channels, communications



# Thank you for listening



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