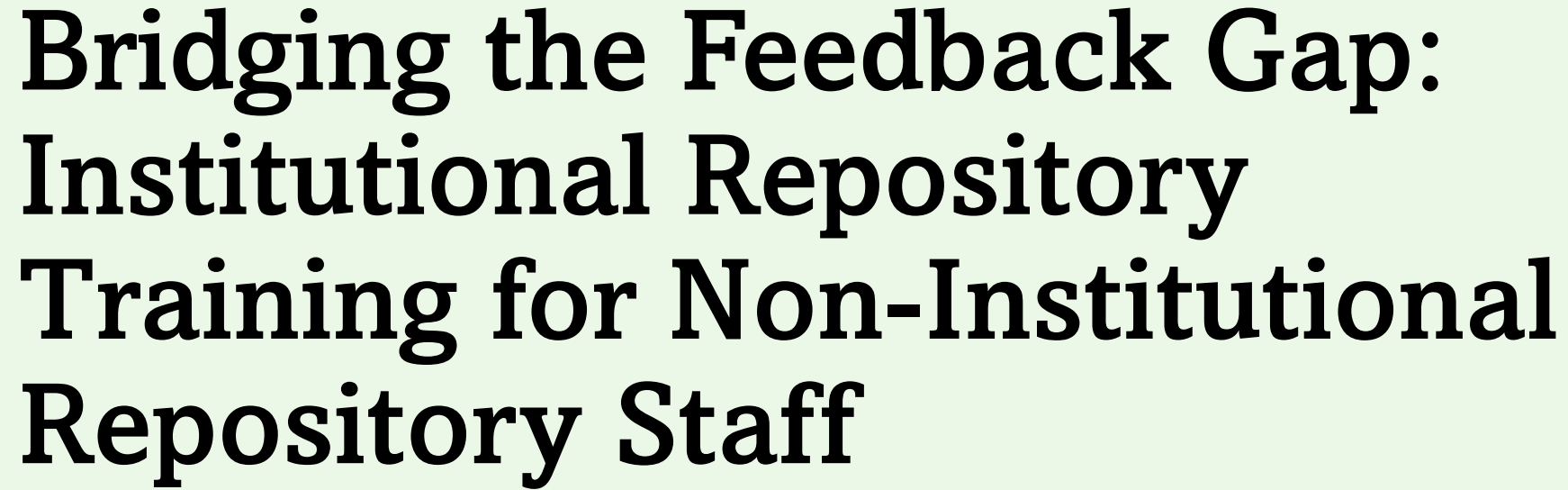
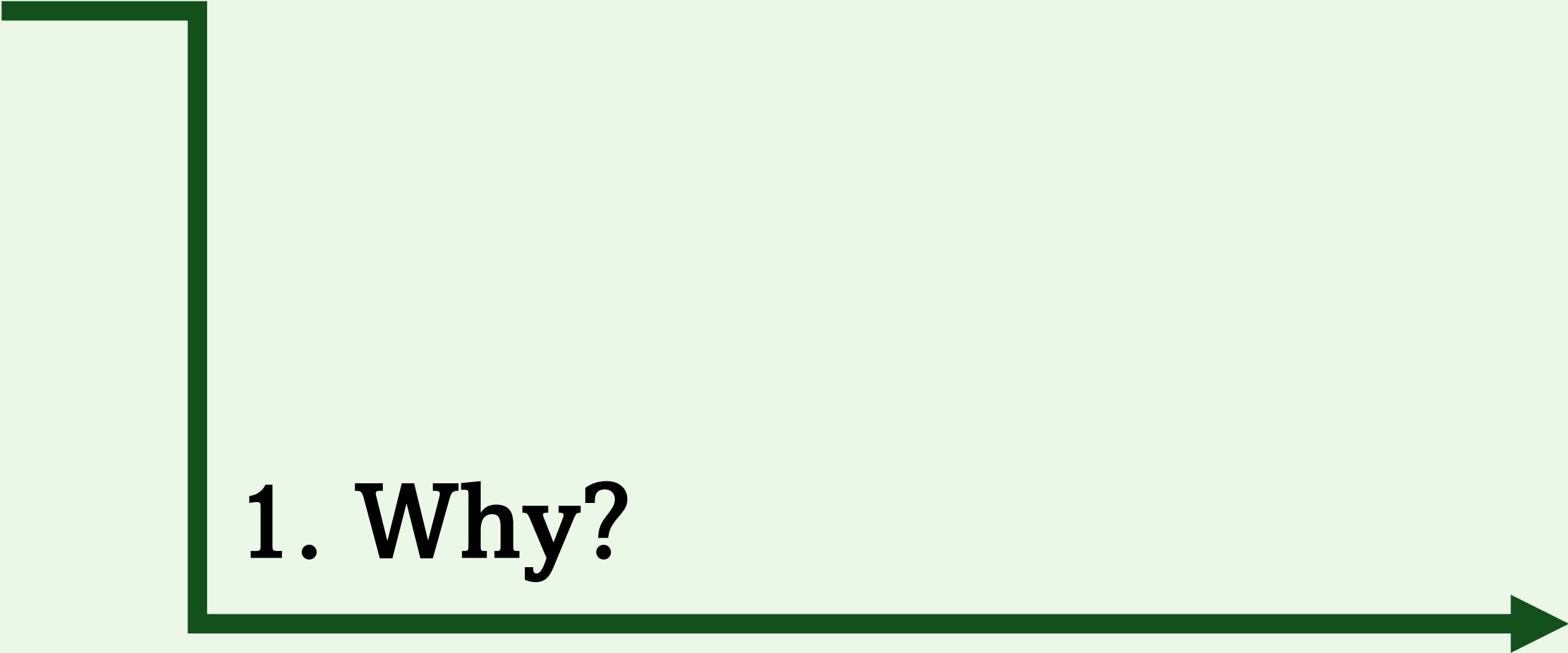


# **Bridging the Feedback Gap: Institutional Repository Training for Non-Institutional Repository Staff**

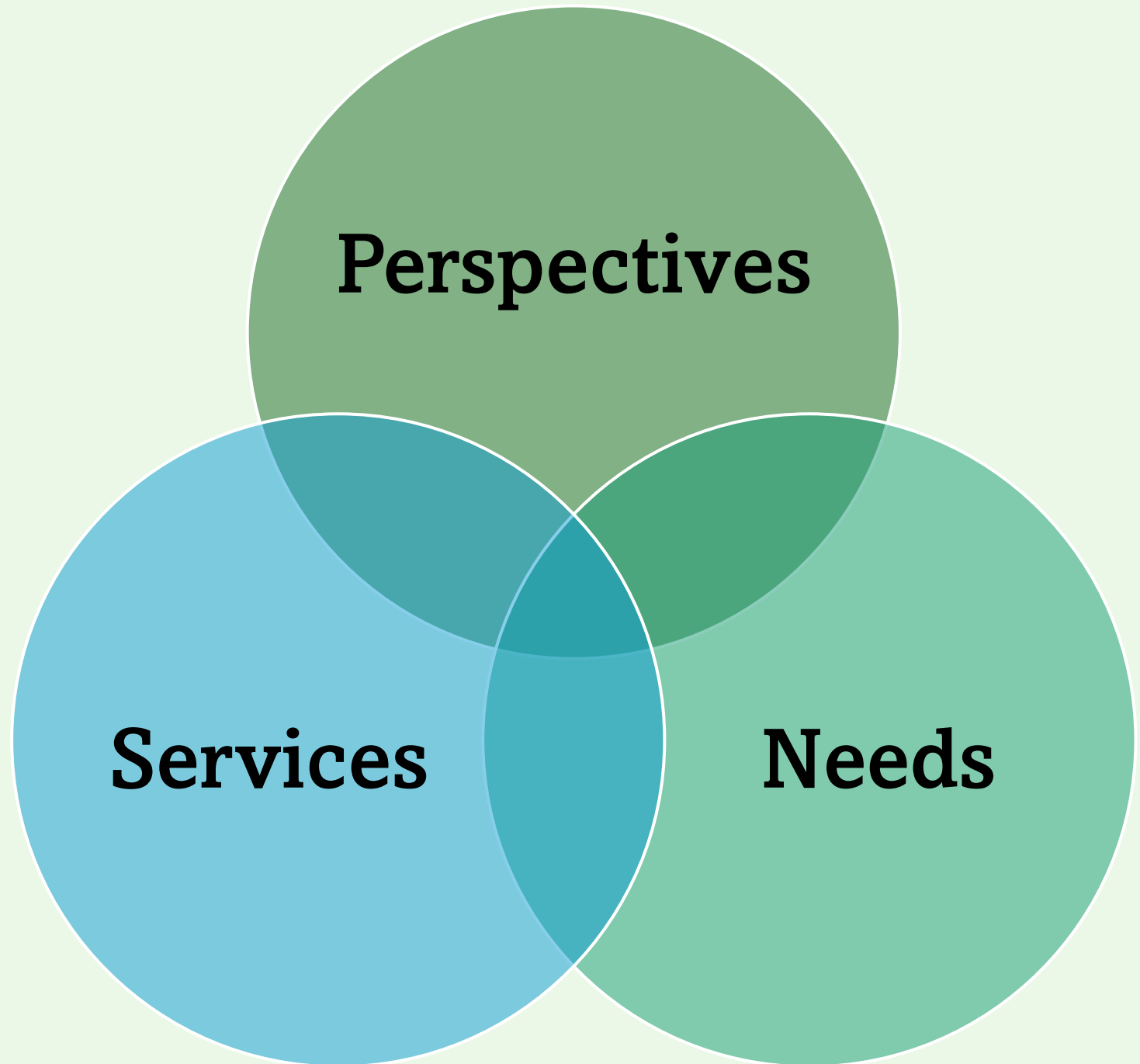


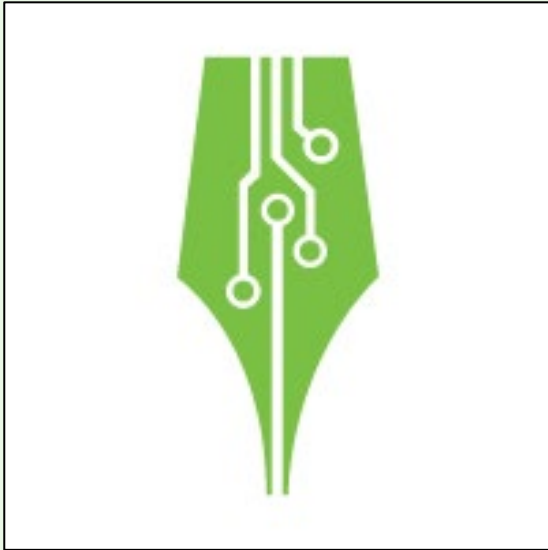
Whitney Johnson-Freeman &  
Viktoriia Savchenko,  
University of North Texas



**1. Why?**

# Bridging the Gap for Targeted Improvements





# UNT Scholarly Works

**Platform:  
UNT  
Digital  
Library**

- Built from Open-Source Software
- Maintained by Programming Team
- Collection-Based Model

**Service  
Scope**

All scholarly and creative material created by UNT faculty, staff, and students

**Service  
Model**

- Mediated
- Email Submissions

**Repository  
Team**

- 1 Full-Time Faculty
- 1 Part-Time Graduate Student Assistant



## **2. What to include?**

# Curriculum Sources

- Personal Experience
- Questions & Presentation Feedback
- Graduate Student Training
- TCDL 2024 Poster

## Institutional Repositories for Beginners

Whitney Johnson-Freeman, Ardis Warrenfels, & Jennifer Bussey, University of North Texas

### EASY MODE

What are the basics to know about supporting IRs?

#### Know Your Mission, Scope, & Audience

There are no set requirements for an IR besides that they host content created by the institution/organization. Be clear on what service your IR provides, who it serves, and what it hosts. Are the intended users faculty, staff, students, or some combination of these groups? Does it host published work, unpublished work, theses & dissertations, Open Educational Resources (OER), or some combination of these?

##### Spotlight UNT Scholarly Works

**Mission:** The IR brings together scholarly and creative works of UNT and makes them readily accessible to showcase our research and creative achievements to a worldwide audience.

**Scope:** No limit to content type, but we do have a family of repository collections in the UNT Digital Library that host specific content types, like the UNT Data Repository.

**Audience:** Submissions are welcome from faculty, staff, and students.

#### Vocabulary Check

Get to know *some* of the terminology of an IR:

Open Access	Green Open Access
Public Access	Gold Open Access
Version of Record	Bronze Open Access
Accepted Manuscript	Data Management Plans (DMPs)
Preprint	Scholarly Impact
Metadata	APCs/ADCs
Creative Commons Licenses	Principle Investigator (PI)
Self-Archiving	Embargo

#### Copyright Crash Course

IRs host a variety of items that fall under a broad range of copyright types.

Copyright	Copyright dictates the intellectual property of an item. Typically, it expires 70 years after the creator's death.
Open Access	Open Access refers to items shared under less restrictive licenses, like Creative Commons (CC), that promote reuse.
Public Domain	Creators of an item that is in the public domain have removed any copyright restrictions, allowing the public to use it as they wish, similar to some CC licenses.

#### Engaging Your Users

**Submitters:** Discuss requirements for uploading content, their preferences for descriptive metadata, and context for the item.



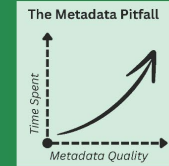
**Content Users:** Advertise the content of the repository, provide useful metadata, and gauge user demands through usage and feedback.

### STANDARD MODE

These are the every day challenges.

#### Metadata

Metadata is vital to the IR. The level of detail is determined by the item type, and some basic metadata, like title, author, and date of creation is enough for some items or enough to search online for more information.



#### Usability

Focusing on the usability of the IR for both submitters and content users is one of the guiding principles of supporting an IR. This is commonly known as having a user-centered design because every decision is driven by how you think it will impact your user. For example, how do you tailor your language in promotional material?

#### Accessibility

Accessibility features may be built-in to an IR platform, but it is important to know the basics of accessibility. UNT's IR supports accessibility by including descriptions of page and site structure, and descriptions of how items are formatted, organized, and their features. Captions and audio/video accommodations are available for most relevant items, and there are tools available for users with colorblindness and color deficiencies.

**When in doubt...** Digital content should be perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust (TEA, 2022). Resources to learn about these standards are widely available, but a good place to start are the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

#### Digital Preservation

The preservation standards of the IR vary, and then standards can vary by content type accepted to the IR. A good guiding principle is to ensure the greatest number of individuals can download and use the content, and this starts with non-proprietary file types that can be opened or viewed by a variety of programs.

#### Collaborations

IRs are collaborative collections. They rely on individuals to submit their work, so making connections is invaluable. Collaborations can start in the library, but campus and community partnerships provide champions for the IR.

##### UNT Collab Spotlight

###### UNT Funded Research Projects

Collaboration with the UNT Division of Research & Innovation to collect DMPs of grants awarded to UNT researchers. The grant outputs can then be connected to the DMP.

### HARD MODE

Big changes have been happening in the world of IRs.

#### OA Movement Success?

IRs support open access (OA), but that is easier said than done. Good intentions have met some heavy resistance. Some have even expressed that the OA movement has been a failure (Anderson, 2023). These challenges could be opportunities, but for many, they are clear barriers for IRs. Here are some challenges cited in The Budapest Open Access Initiative: 20th Anniversary Recommendations (2022):

- Proprietary OA Infrastructures
- Commercial Research Assessment & Metrics
- Publishing Fees
- Embargoes
- Article Versioning
- Misunderstandings of OA Options
- And More!

#### Public Access Mandates

Public access mandates encompass policies for making research outputs of funded research available to the public. The most well known driver of this is the 2022 OSTP Nelson Memo, but there are also private grant funders that are recognizing the value of these mandates, like the Gates Foundation. These mandates will hopefully help address some issues affecting the OA movement and the way that IRs can support grants awarded to their institutions.

<b>The Nelson Memo's Effective Date:</b>	December 31, 2024 Federal agencies will need to have plans for implementing policies that comply with the new requirements.
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#### Research Integrity

A common concern about IRs is that they detract from the lifecycle of research and publications which could mislead users. For example, published articles that have corrections or retractions would need to be documented in the IR. Tools like Retract Watch exist to help with this problem, but this is a complex challenge.

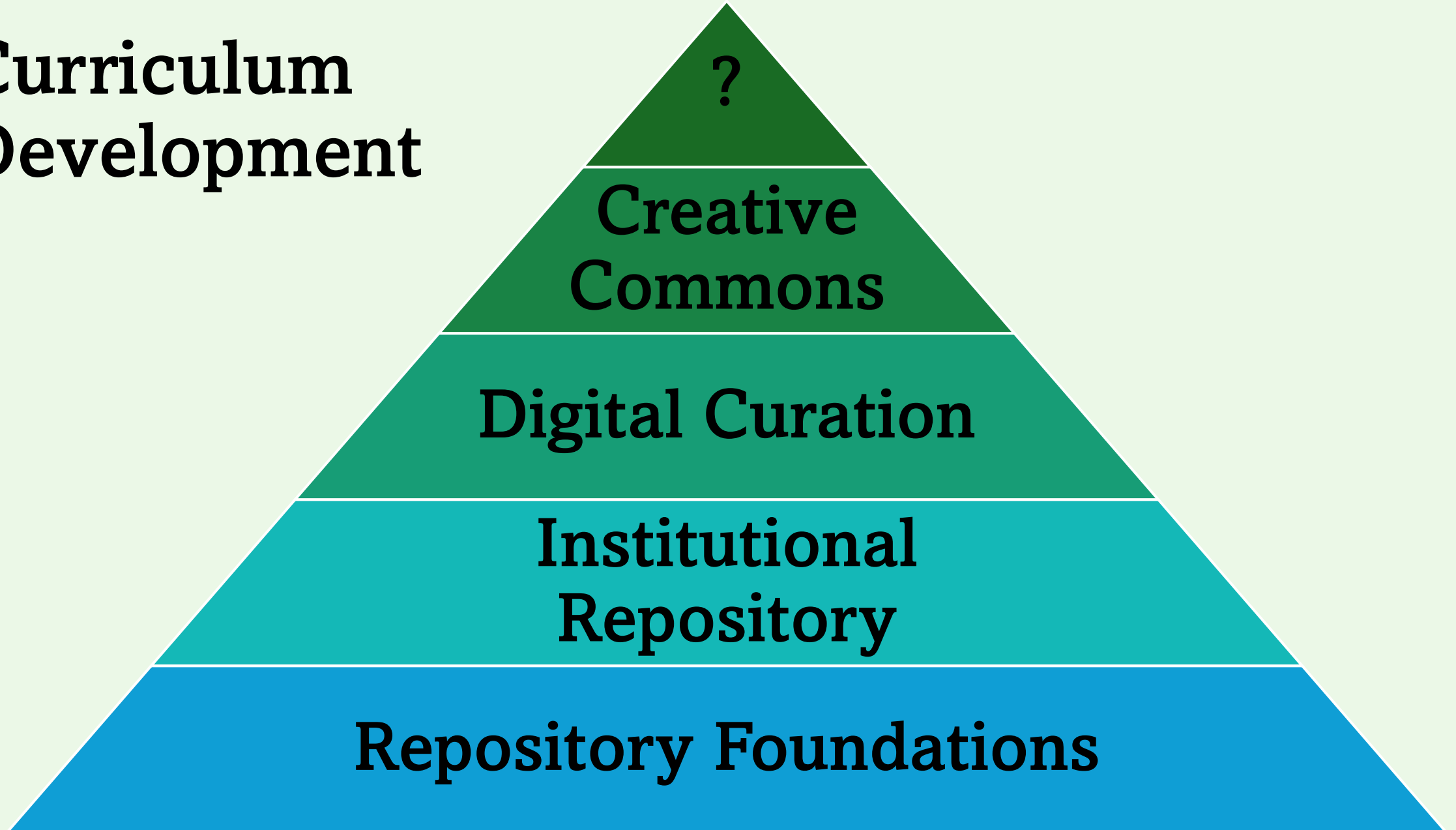
#### References

Poynder, Richard. (2023, December 7). *Where Did the Open Access Movement Go Wrong? An Interview with Richard Poynder (Interview)*. <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2023/12/07/where-did-the-open-access-movement-go-wrong-an-interview-with-richard-poynder/>

Texas Education Agency. (2022, November 13). *Accessibility fundamentals*. <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/accessibility-fundamentals>

THE BUDAPEST OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE: 20TH ANNIVERSARY RECOMMENDATIONS. (2022, March 15). <https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/boai20/>

# Curriculum Development



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Creative  
Commons

Digital Curation

Institutional  
Repository

Repository Foundations

# Curriculum Outline

- **Repositories 101: The Foundations**
  - What is a repository?
  - Why are repositories important?
  - Who are a repositories users?
  - How does stuff get into a repository?
    - Self-Archiving Policies
    - Creative Commons
- **Repositories 201: Institutional Repositories for Beginners**
  - Open Access Policies
  - Platforms
  - Collection Policies



**3. How to present it?**

# Session Format & Components

**Hybrid Format:** In-Person & Virtual Option

**Attendees:** Library Faculty, Staff, and Student Employees




## **Materials**

- Slides
- Pre-Test Survey
- Supportive Links Document
- Post-Test Survey

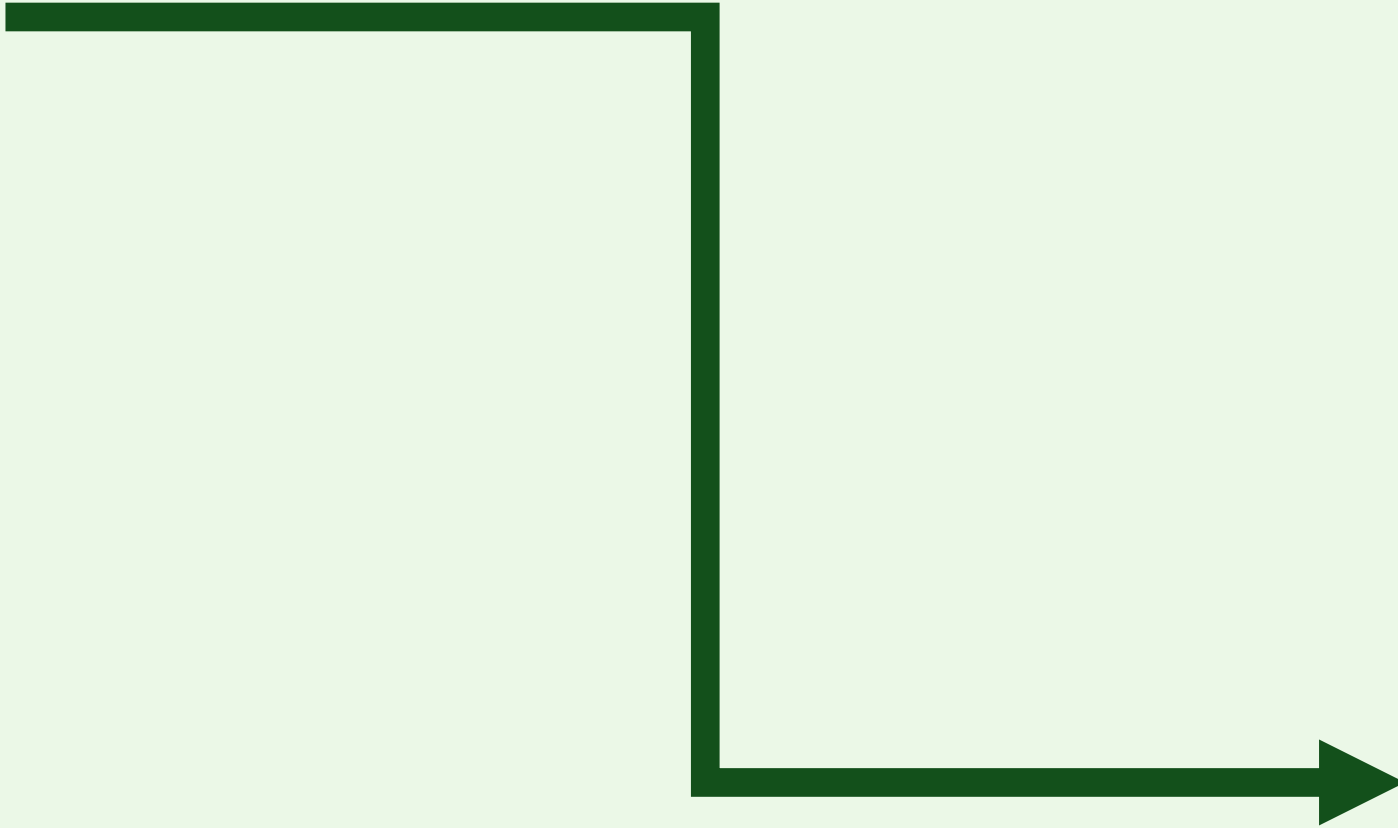


**4. Now what?**

# What's Next?



- Further Workshop Series Topics:
  - Digital Curation
  - Creative Commons
  - Data Management/DMPs
- Mini Training Opportunities
- Faculty Workshop Opportunities



**Thank you!**

Whitney Johnson-Freeman & Viktoriia Savchenko

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