

Leading Beyond the ICT Conundrums for Scholarship 2.0

Brad Wheeler
Indiana University

Abstract:

The foundations and frontiers of ICT and the purpose and passion of scholars are combining to reshape the modern university. It is easy to squander organizational attention and money in poor timing or poor choice of technology-enhanced efforts, but it is equally easy to miss the real transformative opportunities that arise from scholarly communities. As we embark on a new wave of maturing ICT and the attendant social changes, now is precisely the right time for assertive ICT leadership, purposeful strategy, and disciplined execution to ensure that our universities are able to rise to their potential. For ICT leaders, we must not shy away from the conversations regarding the digitization of the scholarly record, frontiers and funding models for campus and national cyberinfrastructure, and the increasingly porous boundaries of the university for serving learners. Our passion for architecting networks, systems, and services are just our stewardship responsibilities to the university. Co-creating scholarship 2.0, participating in a digital fabric of meta-universities, and doing all of this while serving the needs of individual scholars and students to deliver "user delight" with ICT services are among our challenges. We do, however, have the tools and community to lead through these conundrums if we choose to invoke them.