

---

# Collaboration from a data provider's perspective

---

Jenn Riley  
Metadata Librarian  
Indiana University

---

# Collaboration provides education

- Learn from both service providers and other data providers
  - Practical and theoretical lessons
  - Selection of software
  - Need to create “view” of metadata for shared environment
  - Improvements can be iterative
  - Community as resource
-

---

# Collaboration promotes quality

- Demonstrates potential of how metadata can be used in a shared environment
  - Allows data providers to see the results of their efforts
  - Incentive for data provider to provide additional robustness
-

---

# Collaboration encourages innovation

- “Two heads are better than one”
  - Innovations from each side can move to the other
  - Can negate the “chicken and egg” problem
  - Shared metadata can serve as a testbed for local improvements
-

---

# Collaboration sets priorities

- Optional parts of the OAI protocol to implement
  - Adoption of new metadata formats
  - Exposure of new materials
  - Can de-prioritize things service providers normalize for their own purposes
-

---

# Collaboration poses challenges

- Data providers must collaborate with multiple service providers
  - We can't customize metadata for each and every service provider
  - Loss of control is scary
  - Project-specific guidelines not enough
  - Community-based standards and best practices needed
  - No hacks!
-

---

# The bottom line

Collaboration benefits everyone.

---