#### **Western University** Scholarship@Western

Western Libraries Staff Presentations

Western Libraries

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## Keeping Assessment Results on the Radar: Responsibility for Action

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#### **Keeping Assessment On the Radar**

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#### **Assessment at Western: Progress**

- 2004 participated in LibQUAL+™ for first time
- 2005 assessment responsibilities assigned to a position and Assessment Librarian title created
- 2005 Assessment Committee established

## Progress cont'd

- 2006 participated in ARL "Making Library Assessment Work" program
- 2006 Assessment Committee created an assessment plan aligned with the Libraries' Strategic Plan
- 2007 Libraries participated in LibQUAL+™ as part of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries consortium

# Indicator more to be done: Gap between what our users tell us and what we do in response

User Assessment ? User-Centred Action

What is missing in order to achieve action expected by users?

#### Culture change—along the continuum

#### Gap stirred us to take time to:

- identify barriers to using the usercentred data to improve services and resources
- consider our successes what was working
- use this information to lessen gap between user-identified concerns and actions taken

#### Culture change—along the continuum

The overall Assessment Committee strategy is to act by

- positioning ourselves wherever we feel that we can have a positive impact on encouraging staff to work towards a culture of assessment, and
- keeping the need for user-centred action on agendas across the Libraries

#### Keeping assessment on the agenda

- Promote a culture of assessment at every opportunity, e.g.
  - use staff newsletters, blogs, etc. to promote assessment initiatives and actions taken
  - offer workshops and training one-on-one
  - wrangle invitations to library meetings to talk about assessment
  - provide current awareness regarding studies conducted at other research libraries that may be of interest and use

#### Keeping assessment on the agenda

- Collaborate with and support staff who have a commitment to the change in culture – look for win-win situations
- Volunteer to become involved in projects, working groups, committee work wherever you can have an impact by providing your expertise
- Push the user information you have to those who could use it

#### Keeping assessment on the agenda

Remember what users say; others will forget

Work towards action that fits the useridentified concern

And communicate within your libraries as well as to your user communities

## **Thank You**

**Questions?**