New Directions Pre-Retreat Town Hall Discussion (April 10, 2008)
Topic: Support for eScience, eEverything

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Comments about Proposed Starting Points and New Suggestions for Consideration

GIS – Many disciplines have an interest in GIS, variety of libraries support GIS at varying levels (BIOS, EART, ENVI). There was a prior task force on GIS services that could be reviewed. There is a need for support of web-based GIS services. There may be a need for a GIS fund to purchase electronic texts.

Instructor – Training of existing staff to support specific data-intense specialties may require significant time and effort. Staff may have to travel to attend national centers or other institutions. We should investigate appropriate courses on campus.

IS&T -- Reinstate representative to Roundtable meetings in order to get regular updates of activities in IS&T.

Data – As use of data and its analysis becomes more prevalent in the undergraduate curriculum, this gives entrée for library role. Some librarians are already working on the issue of standards for data sharing, i.e., use of DOIs for data.

In this process we need to ensure that we continue to look ahead and be flexible. We should also look at partnering with companies and foundations that are also interested in this area.