Collaborating on Scholarship

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Why collaborate?

- Share expertise and ideas
- Be more productive
- Mentor others or be mentored
- Reinforce accountability
- Motivation
- Higher acceptance rate
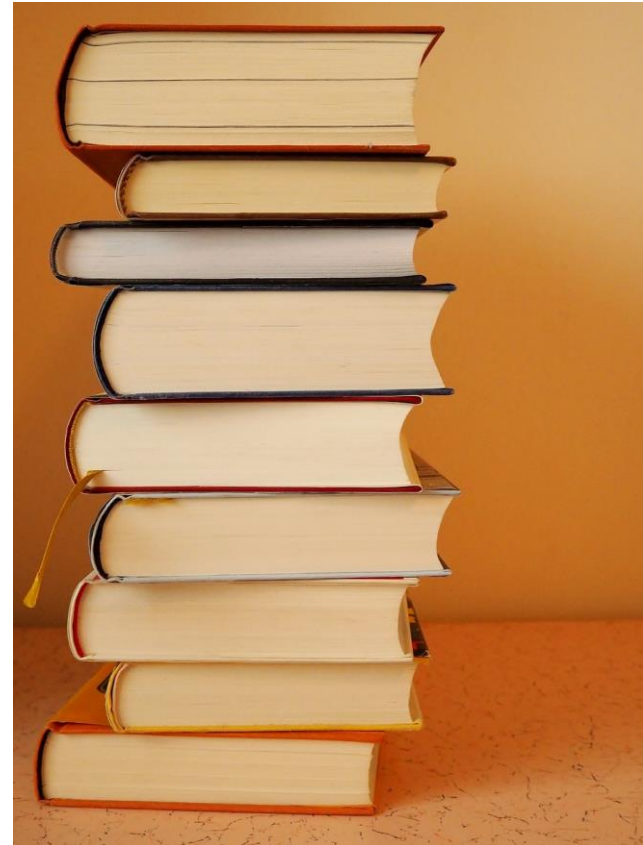
Choose collaborators carefully.

- Expertise
- Work habits/ethics
- Responsibility
- Patience
- Communication
- Receptivity to feedback
- Balance of power
- Past experience

Educate inexperienced co-authors.

- Publishing process
- Writing examples
- Conference proposal process
- Slideshow examples

Monitor opportunities.

- *A Library Writer's Blog*

http://librarywriting.blogspot.com/

- *Library Conference Call for Speakers*

(Facebook)

- Internet discussion lists

- Websites for conferences

- Opportunities outside of LIS

Agree on the venue.

- Presentation
- Journal article
- Book chapter
- Poster session
- Webinar

Agree on the order of the authors' names.

- Equal responsibility?
- Amount of work?

Identify roles, responsibilities, expectations and operational definitions.

Decide how the paper will be written.

Journal Article Outline Example

"Assessing an Academic Library Professional Development Program"

1. Introduction – Cathy

2. Literature review – Erin

3. Assessments – Karen

4. Conclusion – Cathy

5. Bibliography – all

6. Appendix: Assessment instruments – Cathy

7. Other: Manager of the project – Cathy
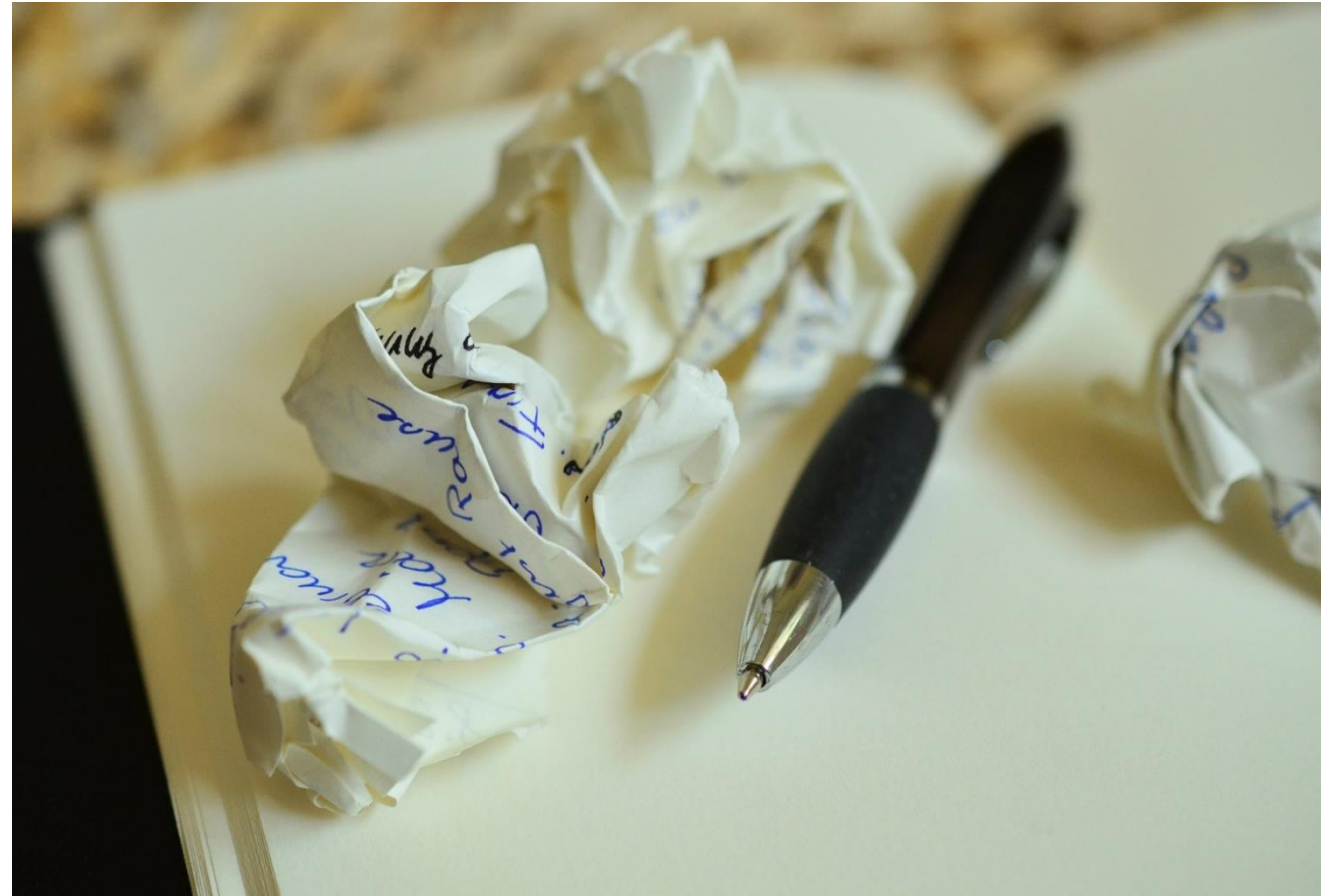
Journal Article Outline Example

"Evaluating the University of North Texas Digital Collections and Institutional Repository"

1. Introduction – Laura

2. Operational definitions – Laura

3. Literature Review – Janette

4. Research Design, General Results, Analysis – Jesse

5. Discussion – Laura/Sian

6. Conclusion – Laura

7. Other – Timekeeper, taskmaster, editor – Sian

Decide how the paper will be revised.

- Everyone

- One editor to make the style consistent

- External reviewer

- Library peer-review service

Record important dates.

- Deadline for proposal submission

- Deadline for submission of completed project

- Other deadlines (submission of speaker contract, photographs of presenters, handouts, etc.)

- Later – add post-submission deadlines (revisions, uploads, etc.)

Determine the timeline.

Poster Development Timeline Example

Responsibility	Name	Date Due
Draft poster text	Cathy	1-Jun
Add graphics	Karen	15-Jun
Critique poster	Erin	22-Jun
Discuss revisions	Erin, Karen and Cathy	24-Jun
Submit poster for printing	Erin	1-Jul
Submit poster to Institutional Repository	Erin	15-Jul
Present poster at CTLC	Erin, Karen and Cathy	22-Jul
Present poster at LAC	Cathy	1-Nov

Note: Survey design, IRB approval, data collection and data analysis were completed in a previous project.

Use technology to facilitate collaboration.

- Writing the text
- Writing reference lists
- Managing citations
- Scheduling meetings
- Sharing documents
- Meeting virtually

Maintain regular communication.

- Meetings
- Minutes
- Accountability
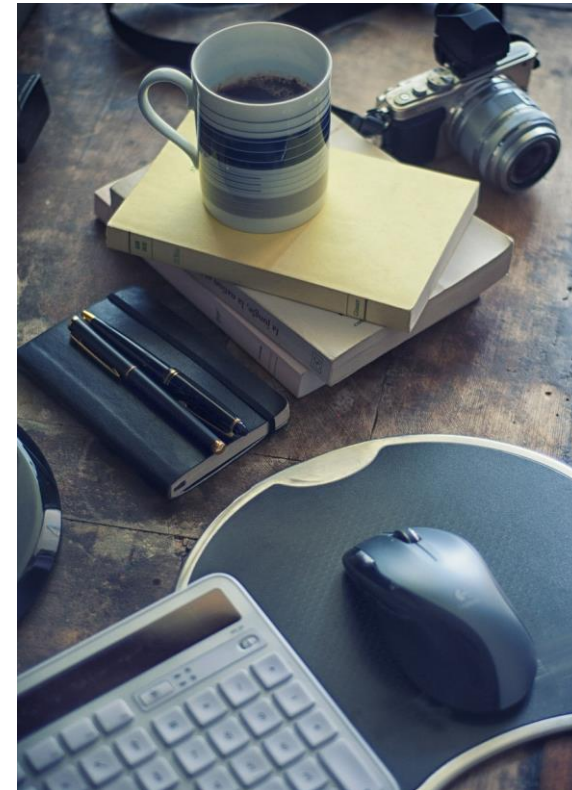- Status updates
- Deadlines
- Freshen up

Be prepared to address problems.

- Missed deadlines
- Lack of participation
- Poor quality
- Different vision
- How to say "no"
- Maybe it's you...

Post-Success Considerations

- Faculty Information System entry
- Submit to Institutional/Data Repository
- Rejections
- Retractions
- Promotion of work

Post-Project Debrief

- By yourself and as a team
- Review overall project
- What was successful?
- What would you change?

Tales of Collaboration

Success stories?

Horror stories?

Questions?

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