Who Educates the Educators?
The Research Support Ambassador Programme at Cambridge University

Claire Sewell
Research Support Skills Coordinator
Office of Scholarly Communication
Cambridge University

@ces43
@ces43@cam.ac.uk
Nature of the academic library is changing
Open Access

RDM

Digital theses

Research

Training

Institutional repository
Supporting Researchers in the 21st Century

- Year round
- Variety of topics
- Open to all

Research Support Ambassadors

- Once a year
- Intensive sessions
- Smaller groups
Anticipated benefits

- Enhanced level of scholarly communication literacy
- Increased confidence for participants
- Research support in every library
- Greater visibility for library research support services
100+ libraries
600+ library staff
Geographically spread
Diverse range of needs
Participant led

Focused on creating a tangible output

Experiential learning

23 participants
More structure needed

Focus on content

Time commitment was a problem

Most wouldn’t recommend
You said, we did

- Clearly defined goal
- Clearly defined outcomes
- More structured format
- Narrower scope for projects
- Publicity
Three strands

- Scholarly communication in context
- Transferrable skills
- Group project work

Self-assessment of skill level

Stronger leadership

16 participants
Mixture of workshops and lectures

Basics of scholarly communication

Inclusive
I now feel better able to talk to researchers when they have questions.

I have an increased level of confidence when it comes to dealing with scholarly communication issues.

Great way to develop & update my knowledge in a short space of time.
67% rated the taught sessions as useful

83% rated the scope of the group project as about right

88% of Ambassadors would recommend the programme
Increased communication between libraries

Learning about research in different library contexts

Stronger staff networks
Continue refinements
Focus on network building
Look at impact assessment
Time invested in proper planning is never wasted

Acknowledge failure

Control vs freedom

Importance of continuous evaluation
Any questions?
THANKS
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