



DRC sponsored project evaluation workflow: internal phase

The evaluation of sponsored projects occurs in two phases; first during and immediately after a project's sponsorship period, and second in the period spanning from one to three years after completion. These phases serve different purposes. The external phase is designed to offer longer feedback loops to help Digital Research Services and the DRC to evaluate our processes for project selection, management and promotion. The internal phase, outlined here, offers frameworks for accountability, project tracking, and optimizing student and faculty research and teaching outcomes.

Digital research projects have a variety of goals and outcomes, and devising a one-size-fits-all solution to determine whether projects have been successful is impossible. These projects are ways to advance the Library's strategic goals in advancing student success and propagating cultures of research on campus. This is a broad goal. Instead of asking for one particular set of objectives, we ask that projects meet the minimum viable product articulated in their project charters, the three mandatory criteria below, and one of the optional criteria:

Mandatory criteria for project completion:

- Deposit of data in the IR
 - Did the project make a data deposit into the UH Institutional Repository?
 - Is that data OA?

- Collaborative attribution among team members
 - Did the project give attribution among team members?

- Public-facing component available at end of cycle; clear intellectual context for future work in the area
 - Was some component of the project's product publicly and freely available by the end of the funding cycle? Does the project clearly show how its work fits into larger intellectual or disciplinary contexts?

Optional criteria:

- Evidence of uptake in the classroom at UH or elsewhere during project funding cycle
Was the project, its data, or its methods picked up for use in a classroom, whether in the university or by a colleague elsewhere?
- Evidence of public use or engagement
Did the project get discussed in a public forum, either in person (a lecture, a local newspaper, a forum at UH or elsewhere) or online (Twitter, blogs, etc)?
- Circulation of research product among peers or in the campus community during project funding cycle
Was the research product of the project taken up by anyone in the field or on campus as material for further work?
- Pathways for students to undertake independent work
Does the project offer ways for students, especially graduate students, to undertake their own independent research using the project's outcomes as a platform?
- Profile
Does the project raise the profile of UH, the Libraries, or the DRC? If so, how?

These criteria will be given to PIs at the outset of the project funding cycle and used throughout to keep projects on track. Projects must meet the three mandatory criteria to be considered a success and to be eligible for any future sponsorship renewal.