

Providing Research Support through an Integrated Library Research Consortium



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Acknowledgment

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Outline

- Background and relationship with CCNY
- Role of the Library in research support
- Relationship to other consortia
- Project components
- Implementation
- The way forward – extending the project

Background and relationship with CCNY

- Carnegie's International Dev Program in SA from 2005 – focus on social, political and economic change
 - Training and retention of primarily black and female SA academics, and
 - Transformation of post-apartheid institutional culture
- Call for proposals in 2004 “to train and retain the next generation of academics and to transform the higher education system to serve a new social order”
- Three universities submitted successful proposals - UCT, UKZN and Wits
 - Cover a range of projects on transformation and equity
 - Institutional culture surveys

Carnegie Libraries Project

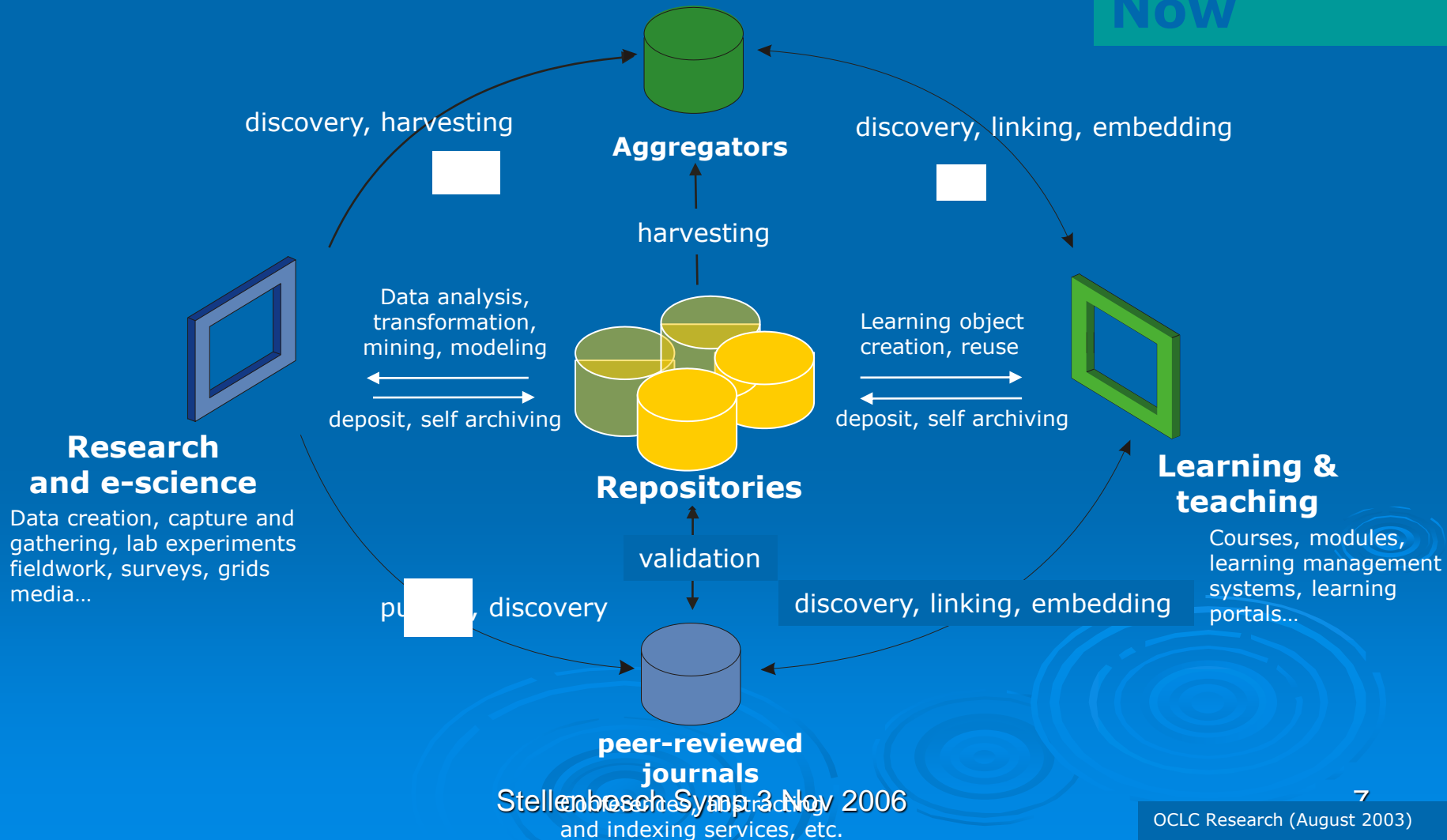
- IDP supporting academic libraries in partner universities – projects which encourage replication of models
- Carnegie invited 3 partner institutions to submit a proposal for development of their libraries
 - Could bid separately in competition, or jointly
 - Could submit own ideas
- Agreed to
 - Work together on one proposal
 - Form a research libraries consortium
 - Develop a model project which could be rolled out to other HE institutions in SA and Africa

Role of the Library in Research Support & Transformation

- Cohort of aging White male researchers
- Blacks and women not entering academia in proportional numbers to population
- Institutions not meeting throughput targets for PGs and publications
- Many PGs and young researchers have little basic research skills and exposure to culture of enquiry, technology or libraries

Scholarly information flow

Now



Relationship to other Library Consortia in SA

- 5 library consortia in SA are geographically based
- Set up with Mellon funding in 1990s for library systems and resource sharing
- TENET set up by donors partly in response to libraries' bandwidth needs
- Now possible to consider other criteria for library consortium building
- Increased e-collaboration among researchers

Library Consortia and Carnegie Project Partners

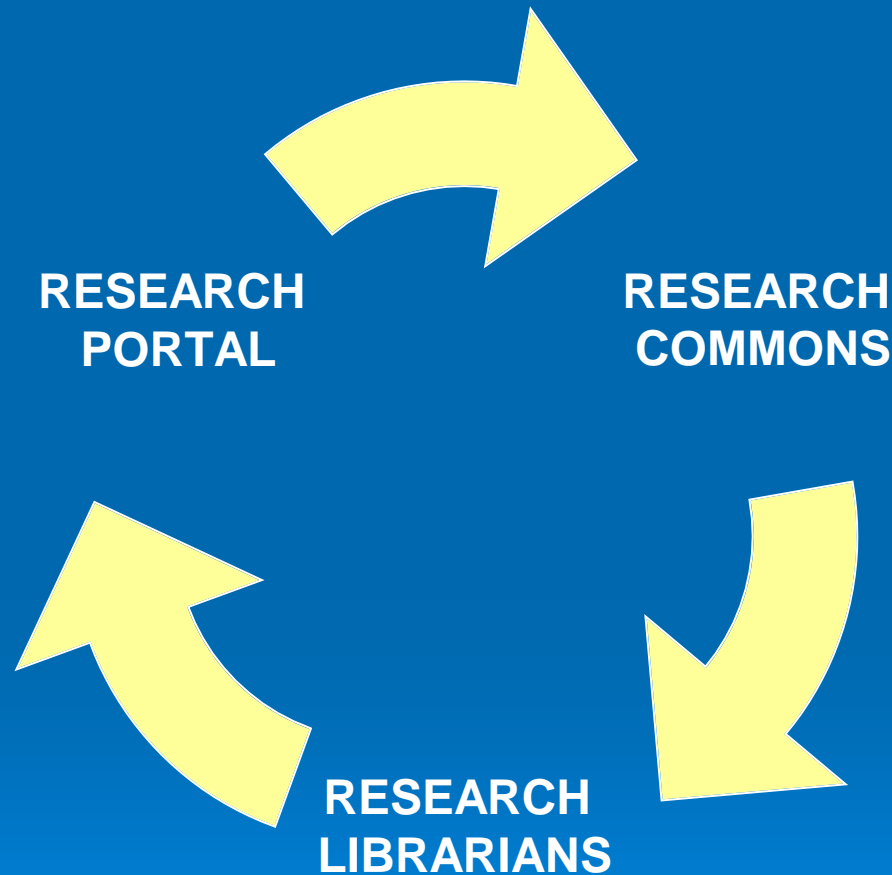
- Library Consortia
- Carnegie Project Partners



Project Potential



Project Components



Research Portal



Research Portal

Commercial
Databases

Library
Catalogues

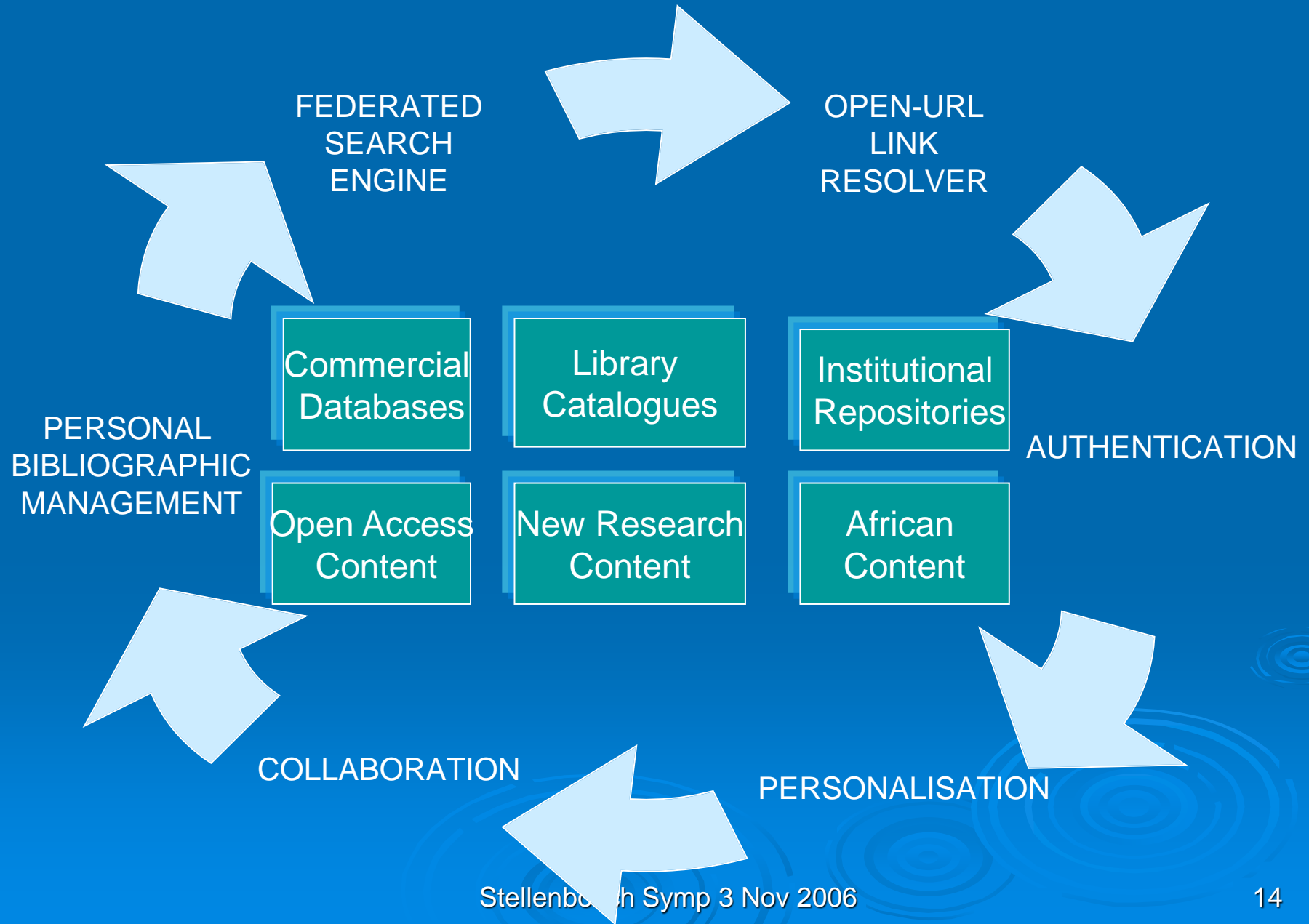
Institutional
Repositories

Open Access
Content

New Research
Content

African
Content

Research Portal



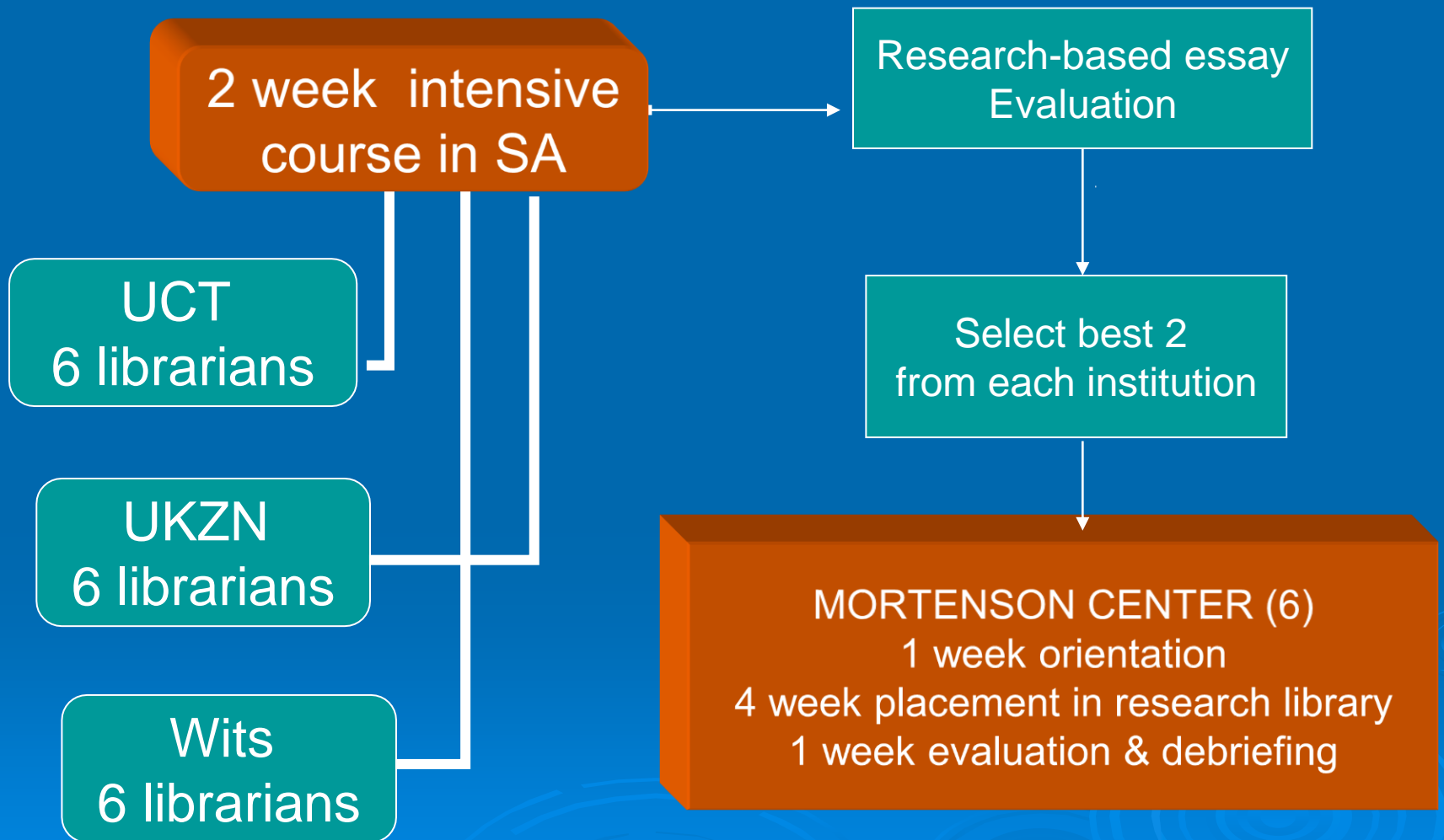
Research Commons

- Designated physical space in each Library
- Extension of Information Commons
- Reserved for PG students and staff
- Refurbished and equipped with new technology
- Staffed by specially trained librarians –
 - In-depth assistance to researchers
 - Comfortable areas for small group work
- Each library will have a different design and IT configuration

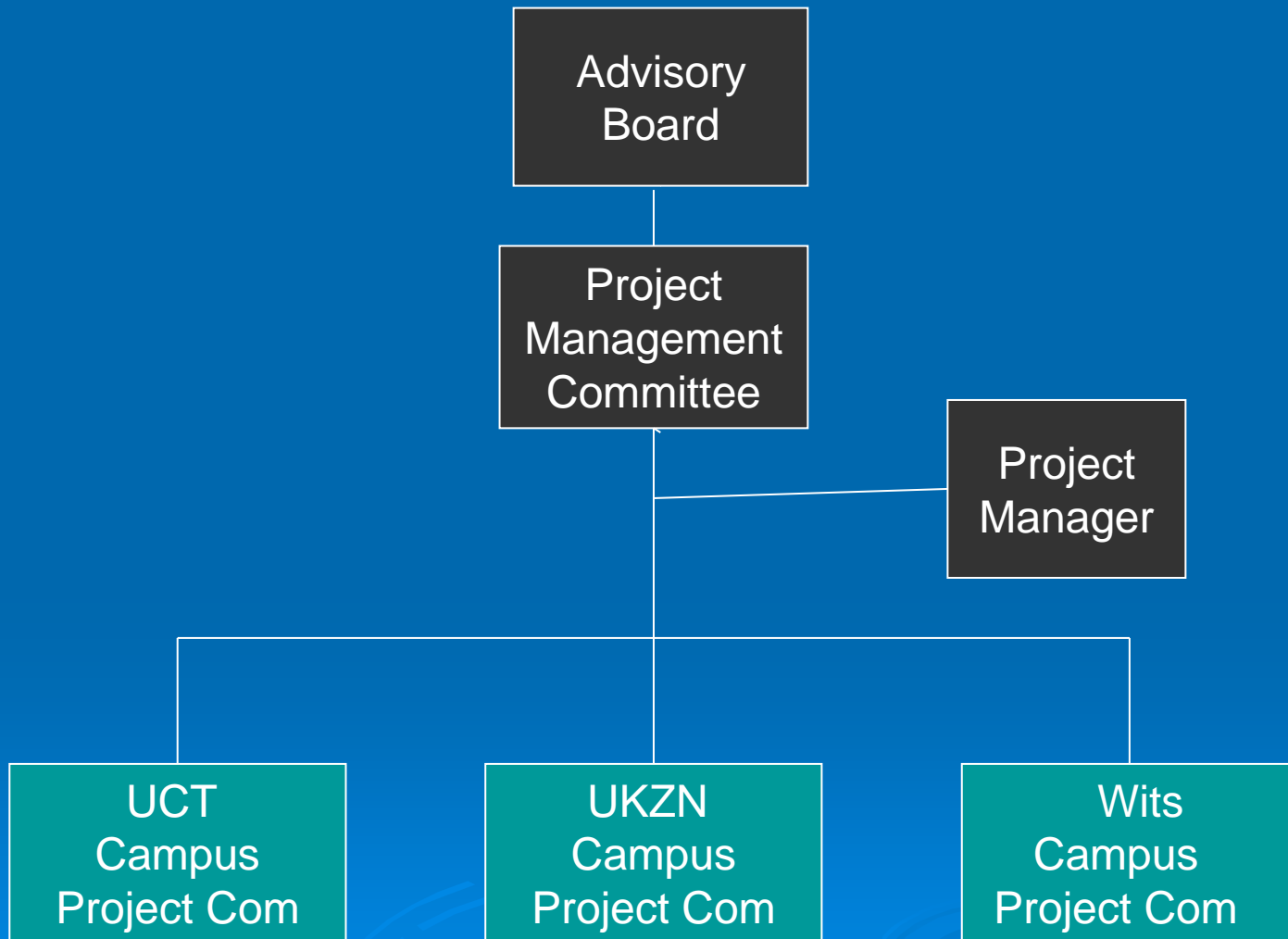
Academy for Research Librarians

- Researchers want to work with librarians who have
 - Domain / subject expertise
 - Can provide in-depth assistance
 - Knowledge of research methodology
 - Awareness of publishing trends & channels

Selection & Training Process



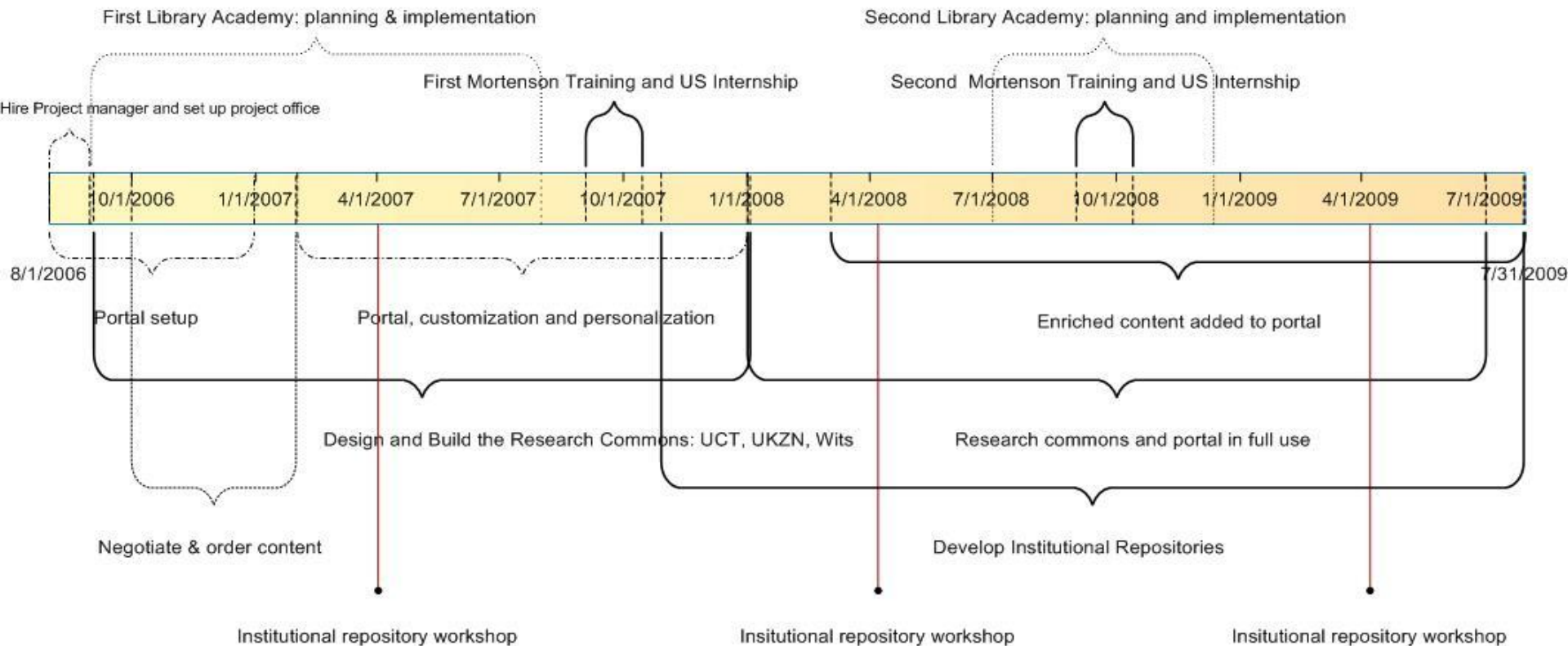
Governance & Project Management



Integrating Skills, Scholarship and Technology in a South African Consortium Timeline of main activities

Project starts

Project Ends



Carnegie proposal 30 January
2006

The Way Forward

- Carnegie's plan to roll out project to other universities in South Africa and rest of Africa
 - Pressure to be successful for benefit of others
 - Have to think beyond three institutions
- External evaluation
 - Part of project budget
 - To be conducted at the end of each year
 - External evaluator who is an expert in electronic library services
- Lots of hard work lies ahead

Thanks to University of Stellenbosch Library