# Developing Media & Information Literacy Competencies through Scholarly Communications

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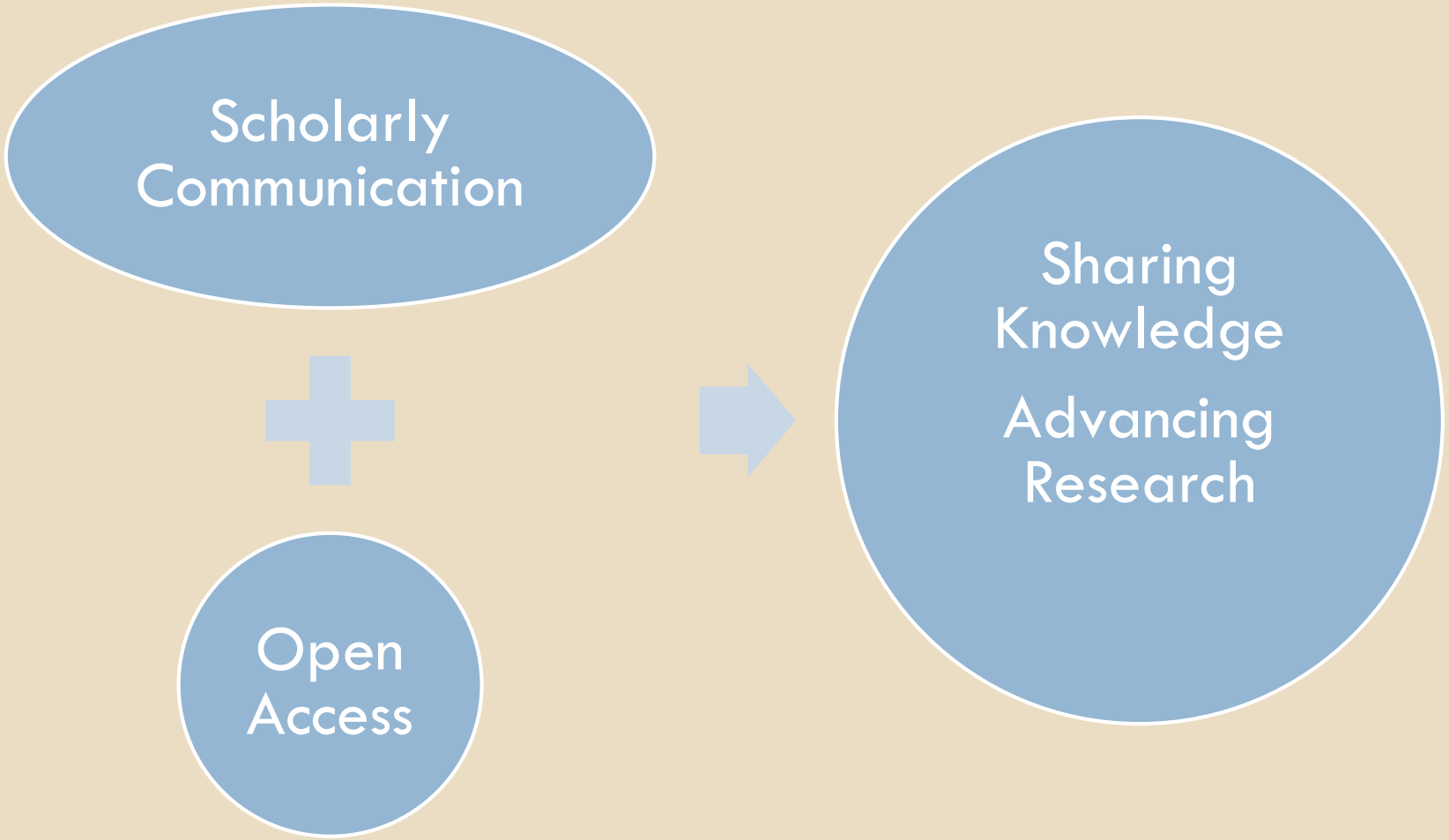
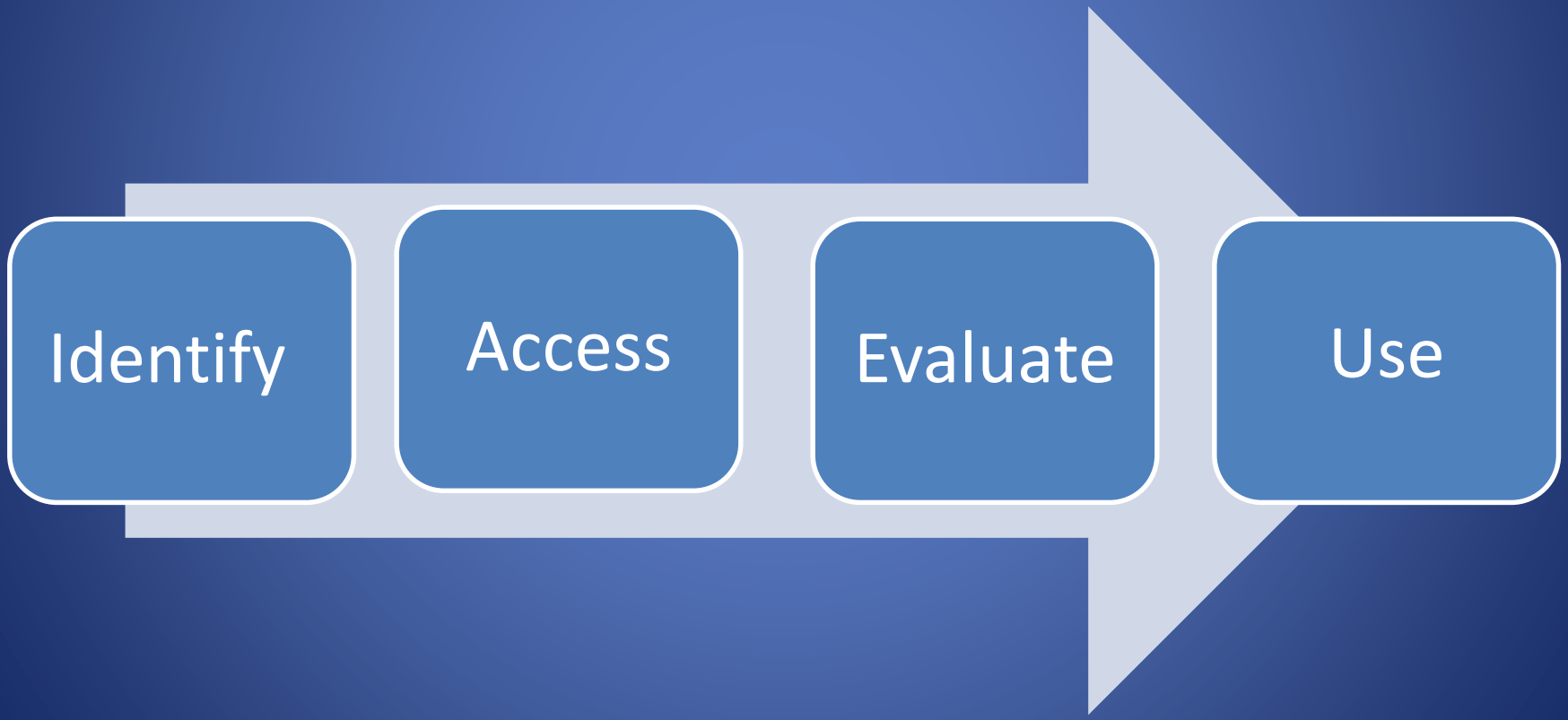
# The transformation



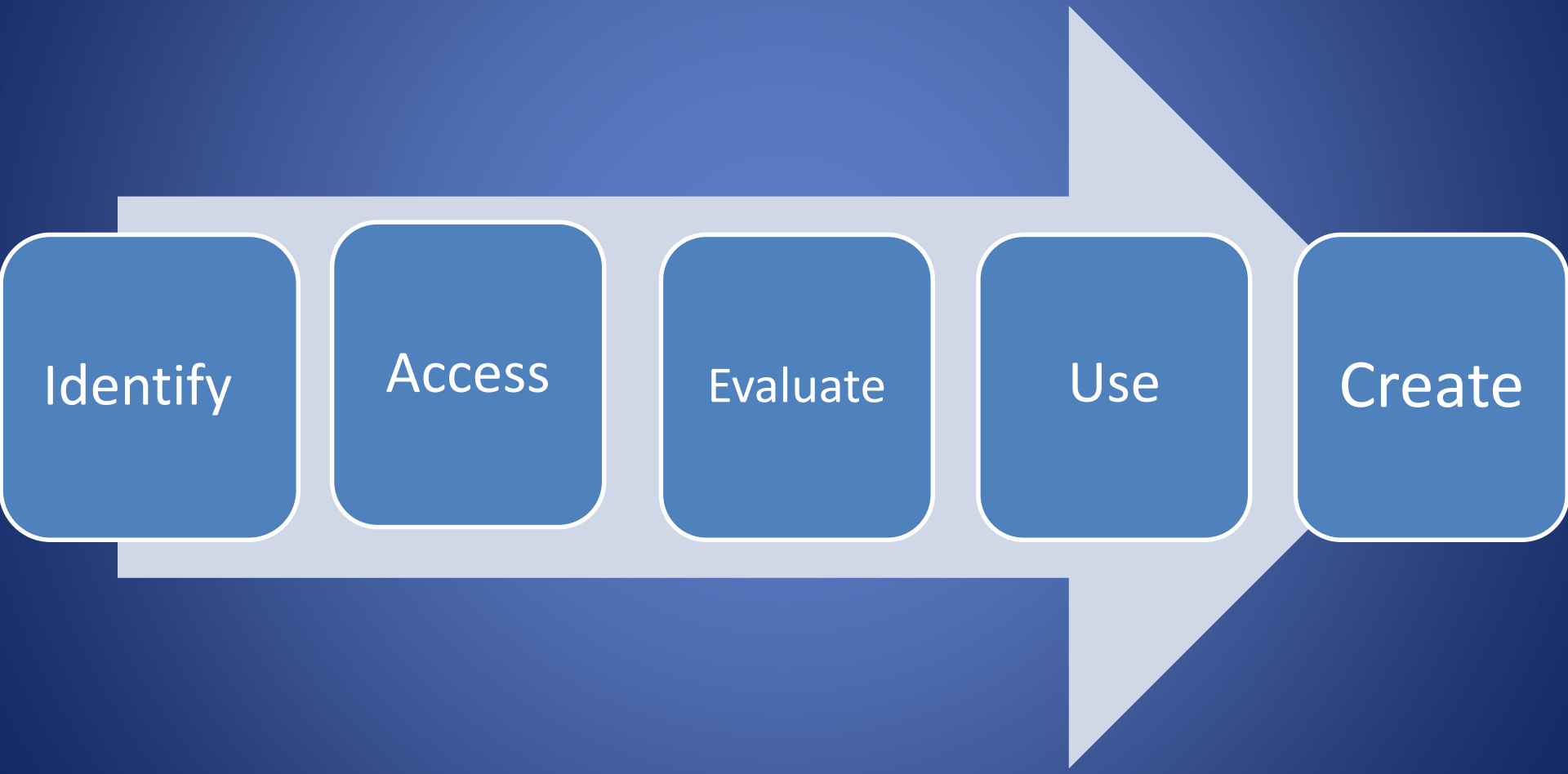
# The role of universities & other stakeholders

- To provide learning opportunities for students to develop the necessary media & information literacy competencies for shaping and leading the new face of scholarly communications

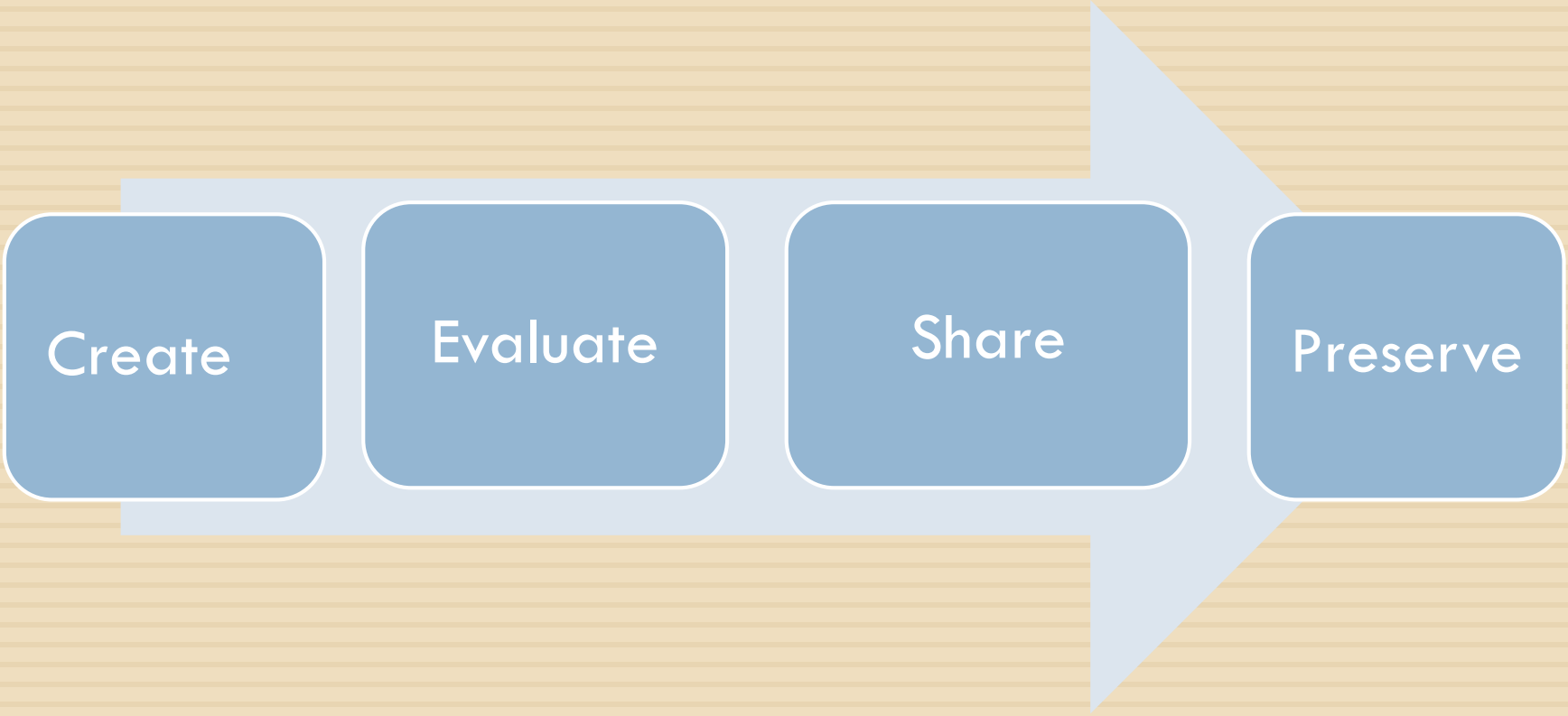
# IL competencies



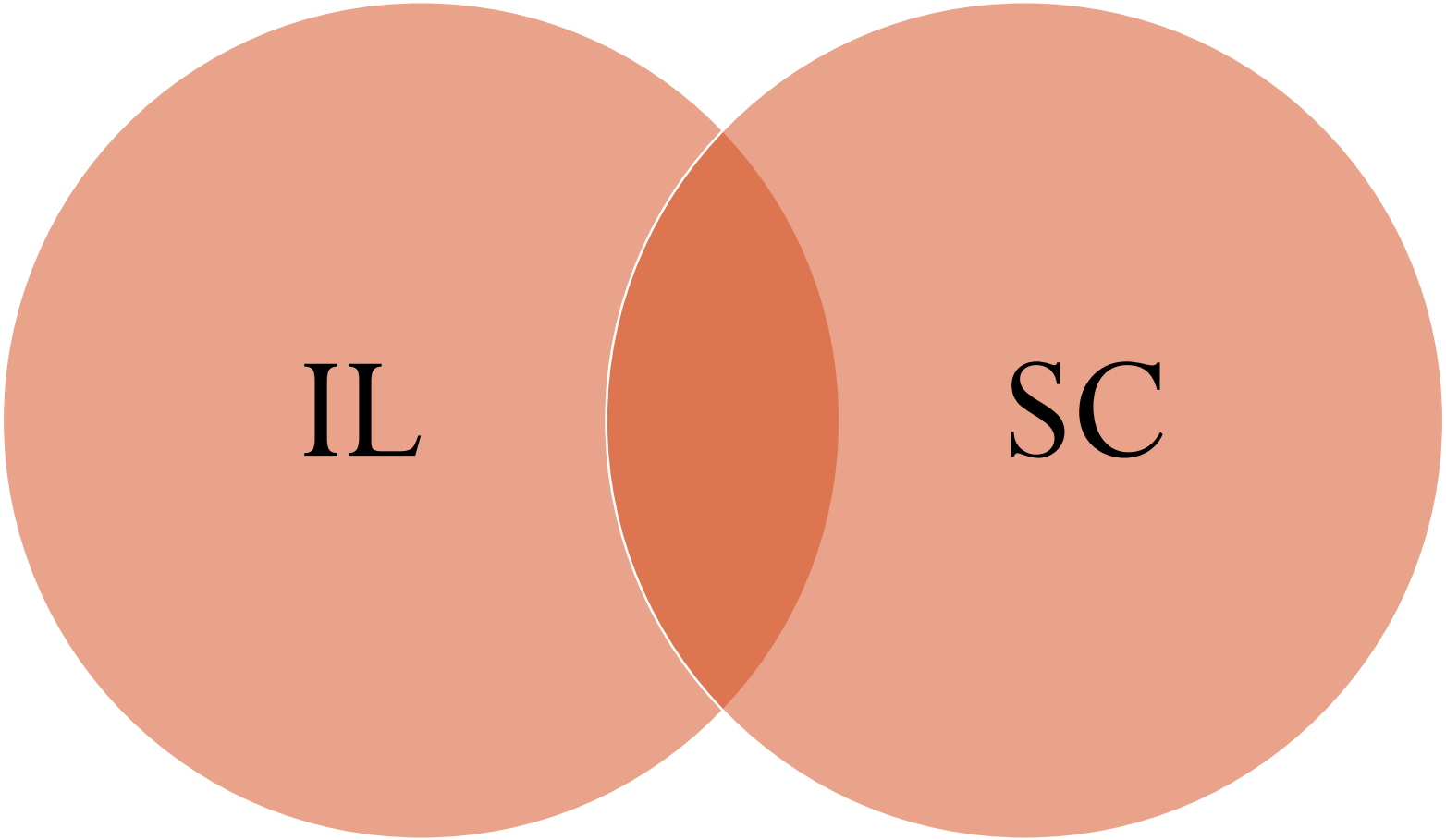
# IL competencies



# Scholarly Communication



# The Convergence



# The Undergraduate Research Experience

Mentorship

Originality

Acceptablity

Dissemination

# Learning Gains -Undergraduate Research Experiences

- Understanding of the research process
- Skill in interpretation of results
- Ability to analyze data
- Understanding how knowledge is constructed
- Becoming part of the learning community
- Understanding primary literature
- Assertions require supporting evidence
- Understanding how scientists think
- Self-confidence
- **Oral & written communication skills**
- **Learning ethical conduct (lowest mean score)**

# A Proposal:

That one means of developing media and information literacy competencies will be…

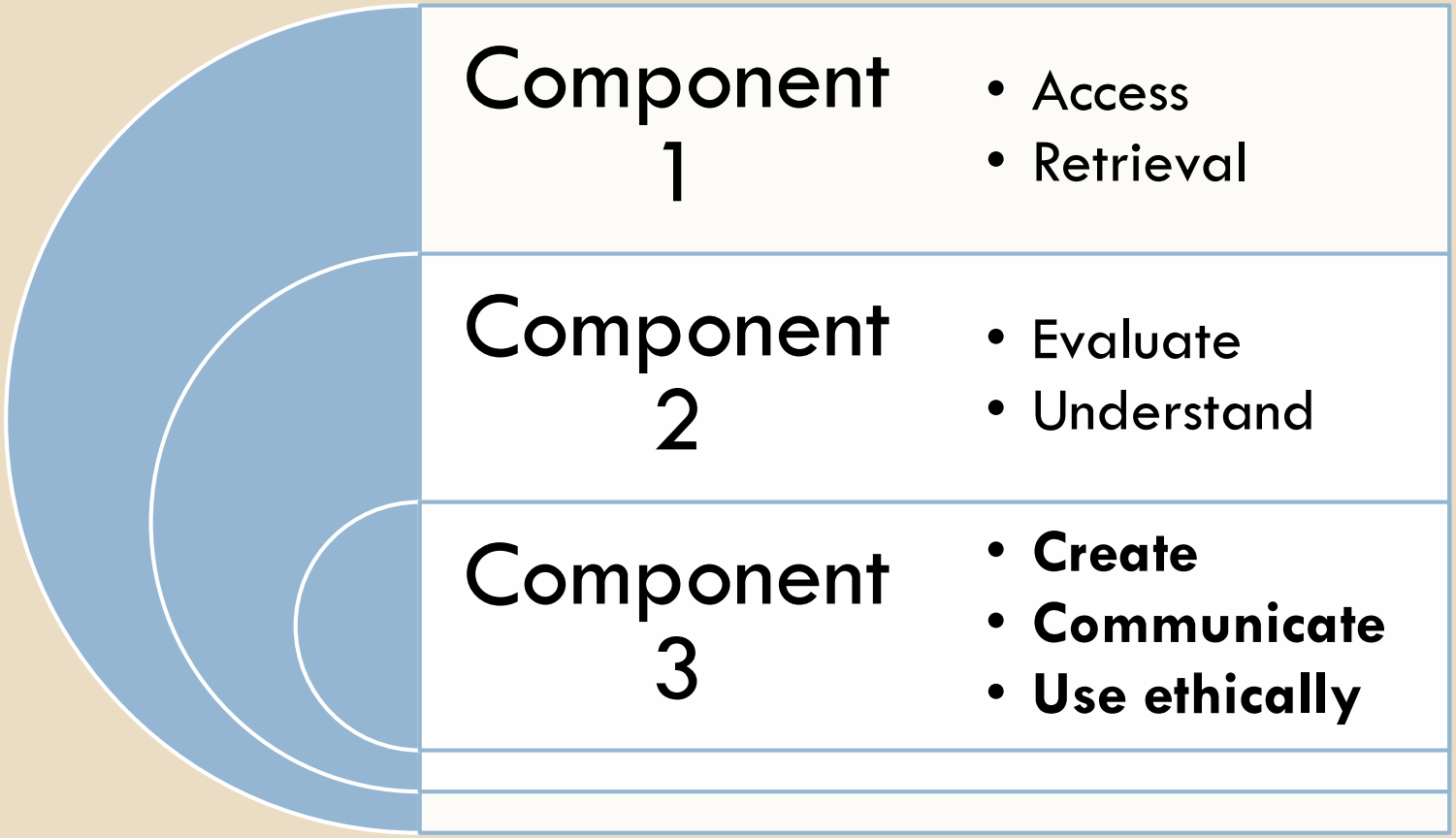
For university students to become active participants in the scholarly communication process

As producers and distributors of their research and that of others through digital institutional repositories

# How do students participate in IR's?

- Award-winning papers
- Undergraduate research fairs & conferences
- Electronic theses and dissertations
- Student research journals
- Data management & curation

# Media & Information Literacy Competencies (MIL)




*Towards Media and Information Literacy Indicators (Moeller, Joseph, Lau, & Carbo 2011)*

# ACRL IL Competency Standard Five

The information literate student understands many of the **economic, legal,** and **social** issues surrounding the use of information, and accesses and uses information **ethically** and legally.

- **Economic**
  - The cost & control of information
  - The academic publishing process & academic traditions
- **Legal**
  - Author's rights
  - Intellectual property
  - Copyright
- **Social**
  - Collaboration & global sharing
  - Open access
  - Increased discovery not diminished credibility

# IL/Scholarly Communication Competencies

- **Ethical**
  - Plagiarism
  - Attribution and citation of sources
- **Intellectual**
  - Peer review process
  - Data management
  - Understanding how knowledge is constructed
- **Cultural**
  - Becoming part of a community & a discipline

# IL/Scholarly Communication Competencies

# Threshold Concepts

Transformative

Irreversible

Disruptive

The stumbling blocks on the scholarly path….

# A Proposed Study

Students can develop essential information literacy & scholarly communication competencies through active participation in digital student research journals in institutional repositories.

**Population:**

- Students and supervising faculty participating actively in student research journals using the Digital Commons institutional repository platform in the U.S., Canada, & Australia (90 journals at 55 institutions).

**Purpose:**

- to determine which IL/SC competencies can be gained through the student research journal experience and to compare the assessments of students and faculty in order to identify gaps, improve learning outcomes, and facilitate librarian/faculty collaboration.

# Methodology

- Develop list of competencies from research studies on outcomes of UG research experiences and expand to include IL/SC competencies (economic, legal, social, ethical, intellectual, cultural)

Ask both students and faculty to rank on a 5-point scale:

- "To what extent have you (or have your students) developed these competencies through participation in producing this digital student research journal?

And:

- Did you (or did your students) experience other learning gains and benefits in addition to those on the list?

# IR's as a powerful vehicle for transforming students to scholars

- Move students from users to creators
- Move students to the other side of the research process
- Use IL/SC competencies to transform scholarly communication