# Radical Collaboration: Forward Together

Nancy Y McGovern
GALILEO/GUGM in Macon GA on May 16, 2019

she/her/hers mcgovern60@gmail.com @mcgovern60

**Research Library Issues**
RLI 296

2018

ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH LIBRARIES

…radical collaboration means coming together across disparate, but engaged, domains in ways that are often unfamiliar or possibly uncomfortable…to achieve more together than we could separately

**RLI 296**
https://publications.arl.org/rli296/

Association of Research Libraries

## In This Issue


**Why Does Research Data Management Need Radical Collaboration?** 3

**Radical Collaboration and Research Data Management: An Introduction** 6
- Radical Collaboration: Framing the Concept
- Using Working Definitions to Build Understanding
- What Makes Collaboration Radical?
- Coming Together
- Sharing the Table
- Emerging Distributed Digital Practice
- Building (an Inclusive) Community
- Some Guiding Principles for Radical Collaboration

**The Radical Collaboration of RDA and What It Means for Developing Institutional Data Management Services** 23
- The Evolution of Collaboration
- Encouraging Radical Collaboration
- Bringing Everyone to the Table

**Archives and Data Management: The Purdue Story** 33

**Barriers to Collaboration: Lessons Learned from the Data Curation Network** 37

**What is Open Science, and How Can Radical Collaboration Facilitate It?** 44
- Example 1. Radical Collaboration in Support of Open Science: Software Citation
- Example 2. Radical Collaboration to Preserve Informal Astronomical Communications

**Seeking Sustainability and Inclusivity with Transparent Practices for RDM** 49
- Making Research Data Management a Social Activity

**Radical Collaboration: An Archival View** 53
- Disambiguating Digital Archives and Digital Preservation
- Digital Practice and Research Outcomes
- Considerations for Radical Collaboration That Engages Archives and Archivists

**Forward Together** 62

# Archives, History, and Technology: Prologue and Possibilities for SAA and the Archival Community

Roots and future of distributed digital practice

American Archivist: Spring/Summer 2018, Vol. 81, No. 1, pp. 9-22

https://americanarchivist.org/doi/abs/10.17723/0360-9081-81.1.9

# Digital Practice Roundtable

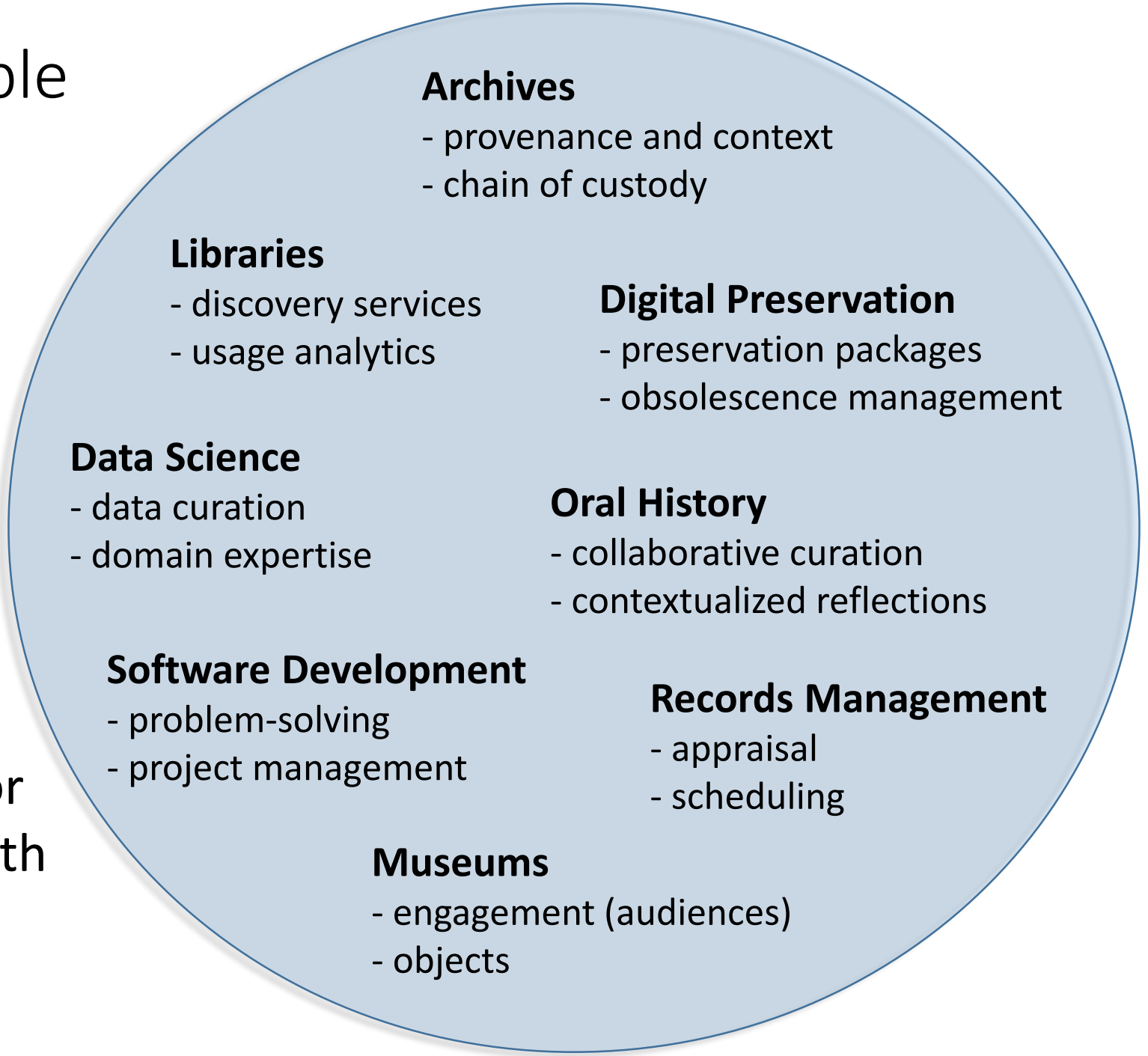
No head – determine together

Reset table for different needs

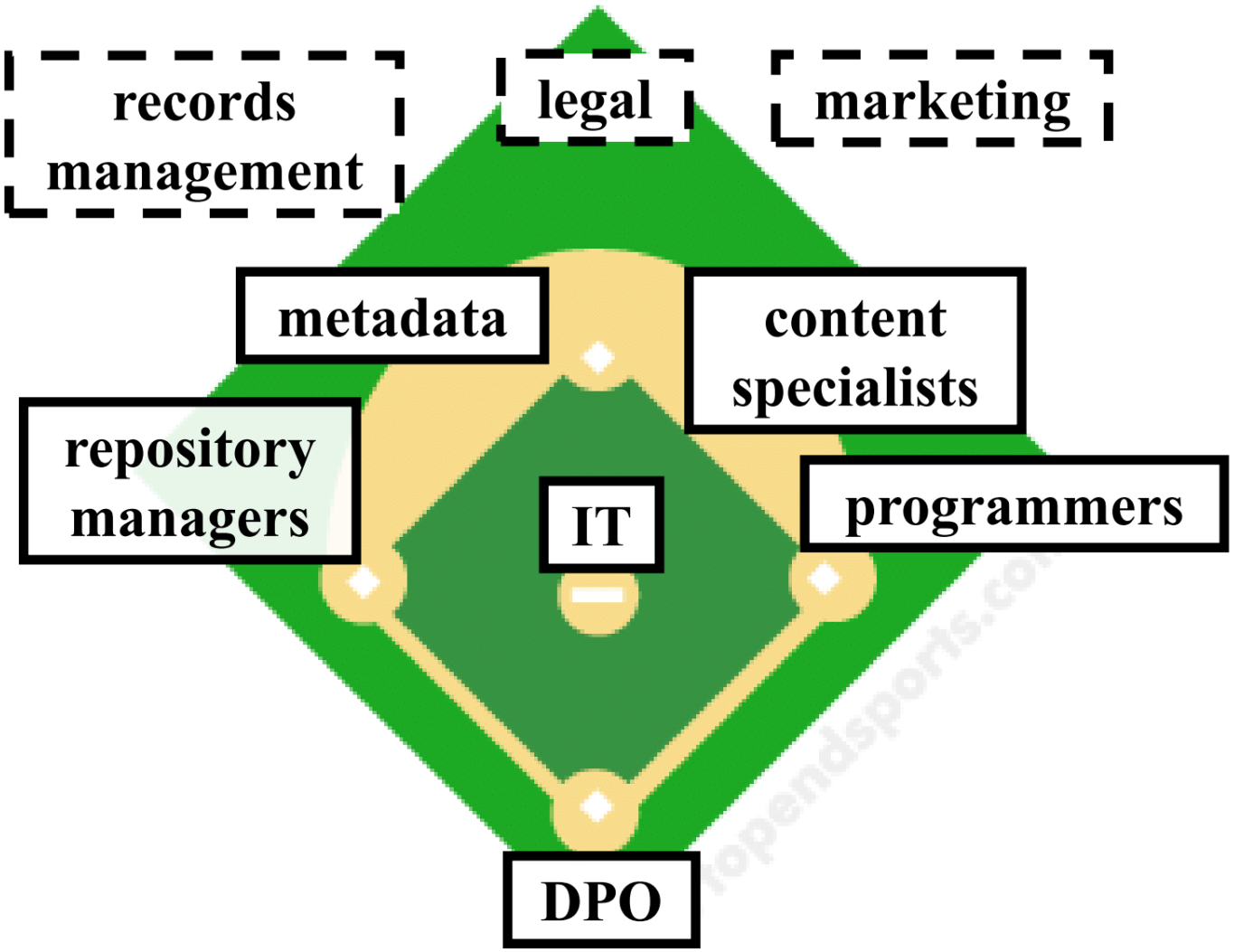
Add and change seats

Leverage cumulative strengths

Radical collaboration allows for greatest cumulative impact with awareness of needs and contributions of whole table



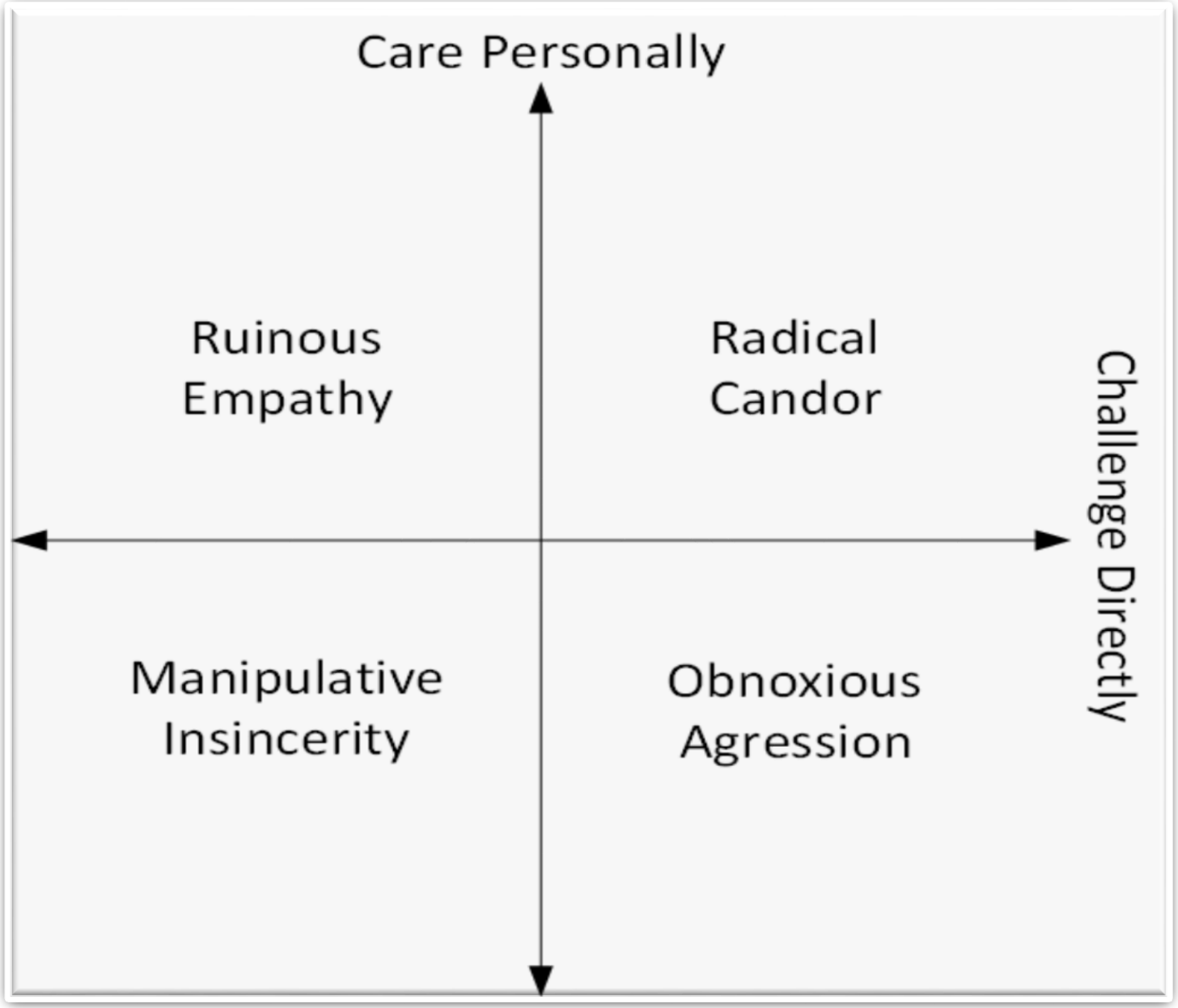
# DP Dream Team




NOTE: the Dream Team refers to the ‘67 Red Sox - of course

# Adapt Radical Candor …

An approach for encouraging constructive feedback

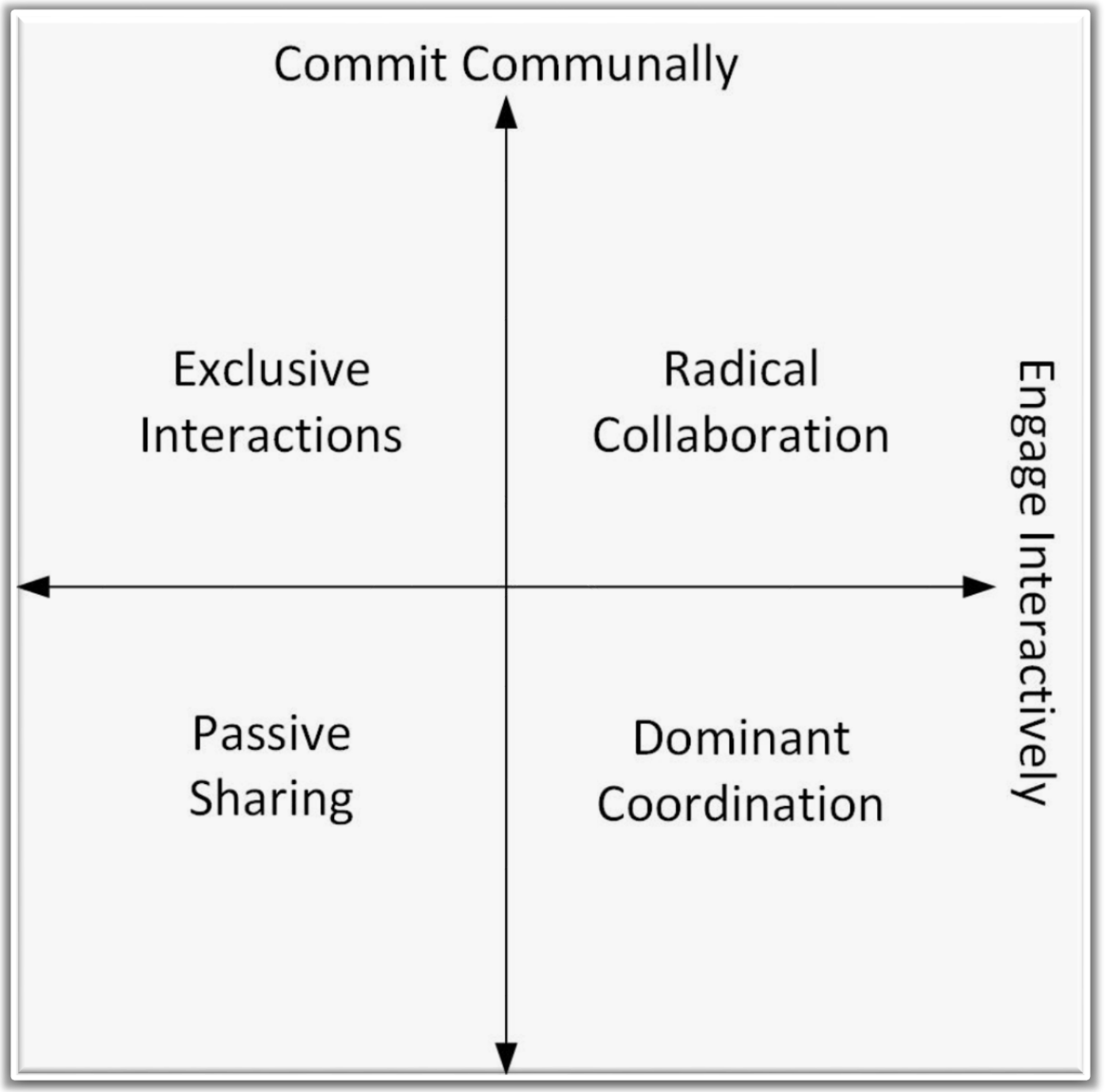



Kim Scott, www.radicalcandor.com

Explanatory video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yj9GLeNCgm4

# To Radical Collaboration

An approach for encouraging
Collaborative work across domains



# Working Definitions

To build and ensure shared understanding core concepts

**Collaboration**: to rely on others to do agreed upon things for or in concert with you and to be relied upon to do agreed upon things for or in concert with others

Collaboration is not:

- letting someone know what you did after you did it;
- basic information sharing with no measurable impact; or
- simply allowing someone to be present or observe without means to inform and influence

# Inclusion Framework

## Social and demographic inclusion

i.e., not excluded based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, or on any other characteristic or preference

Showstopper: first and foremost ensure that people are safe

## Professional  inclusion

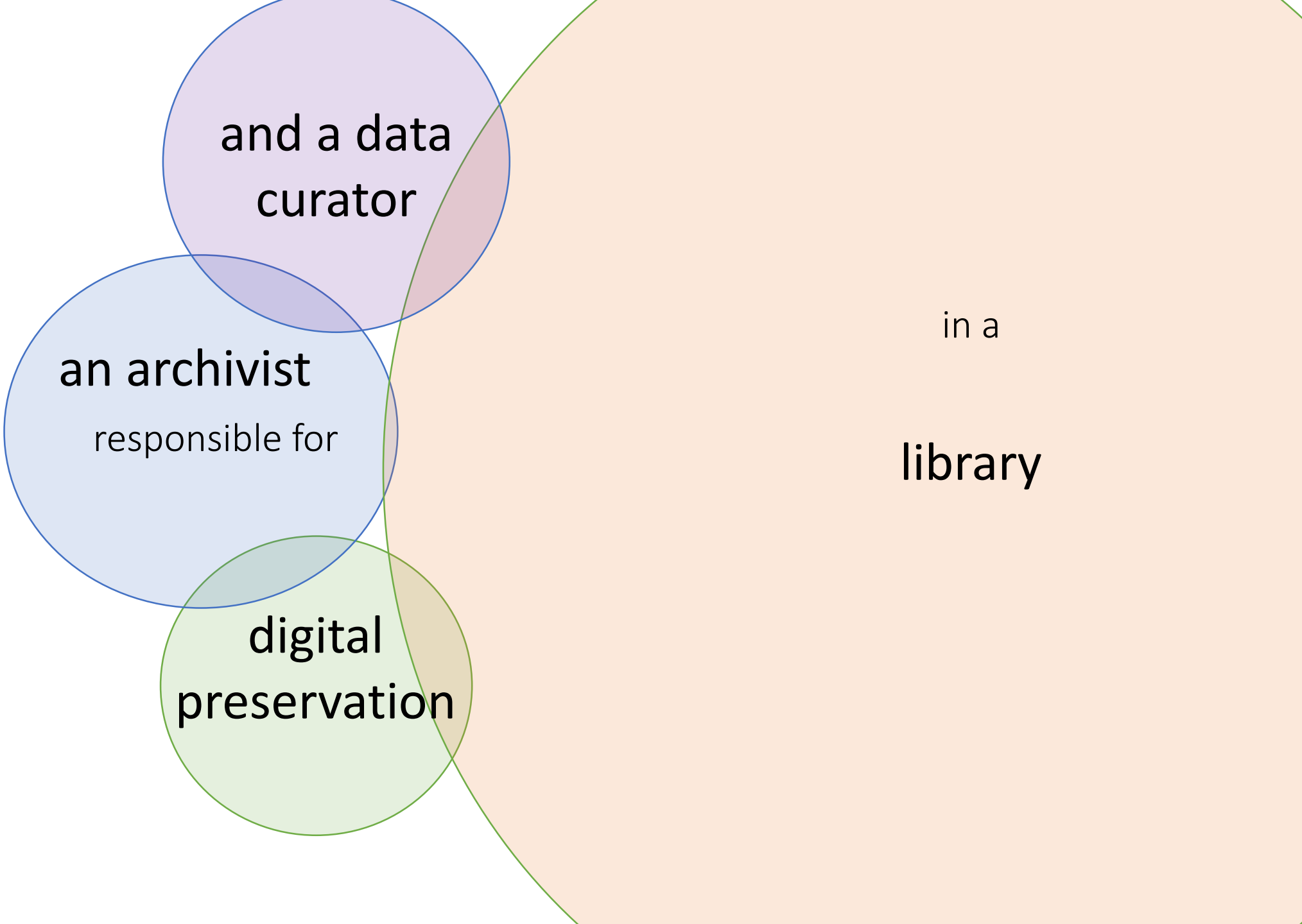
People from all impacted or related professions and domains are included openly and equitably

## Technical inclusion

Technical is not limited to technological

Technology (skills, tools, capabilities) should be available to all

I am …


and a data curator
an archivist
responsible for
digital preservation
in a
library

# Archives example – words are important …

To an archivist:

Archives:

- an **organization** that collects the records of individuals or organizations;
- professional **discipline** of administering such archival collections and organizations – adhere to **archival principles and practice** (e.g., SAA Code of Conduct and Ethics)
- **building** (or portion thereof) housing archival collections

IT use of "archives" and "archiving": often refers to **aggregations** of content, storage of content – is typically not archival from an archivist's perspective and does not equate to preservation (more robust and collaborative concept) e.g., Twitter archives

"digital archivist" may refer to work by anyone on digitized or other digital content of any kind not someone who manages digital records

Historians and other researchers may refer to archiving to mean (see also documentation strategies) ***capture, document, or record*** history and milestones

# Forward Together: collaborating across communities

Be sure everyone who should be or wants to be at the table is there

Welcome unanticipated guests

If you are in the majority, consider what inclusion looks like

Ensure holistic communication for those not at the table

Come to the table with questions not answers – balance inquiry and advocacy

If you haven't learned something at the table, sit longer, ask more questions, and continue to listen…

# Forward Together: collaborating across communities

Reset the table as needed to include different perspectives and evolving issues

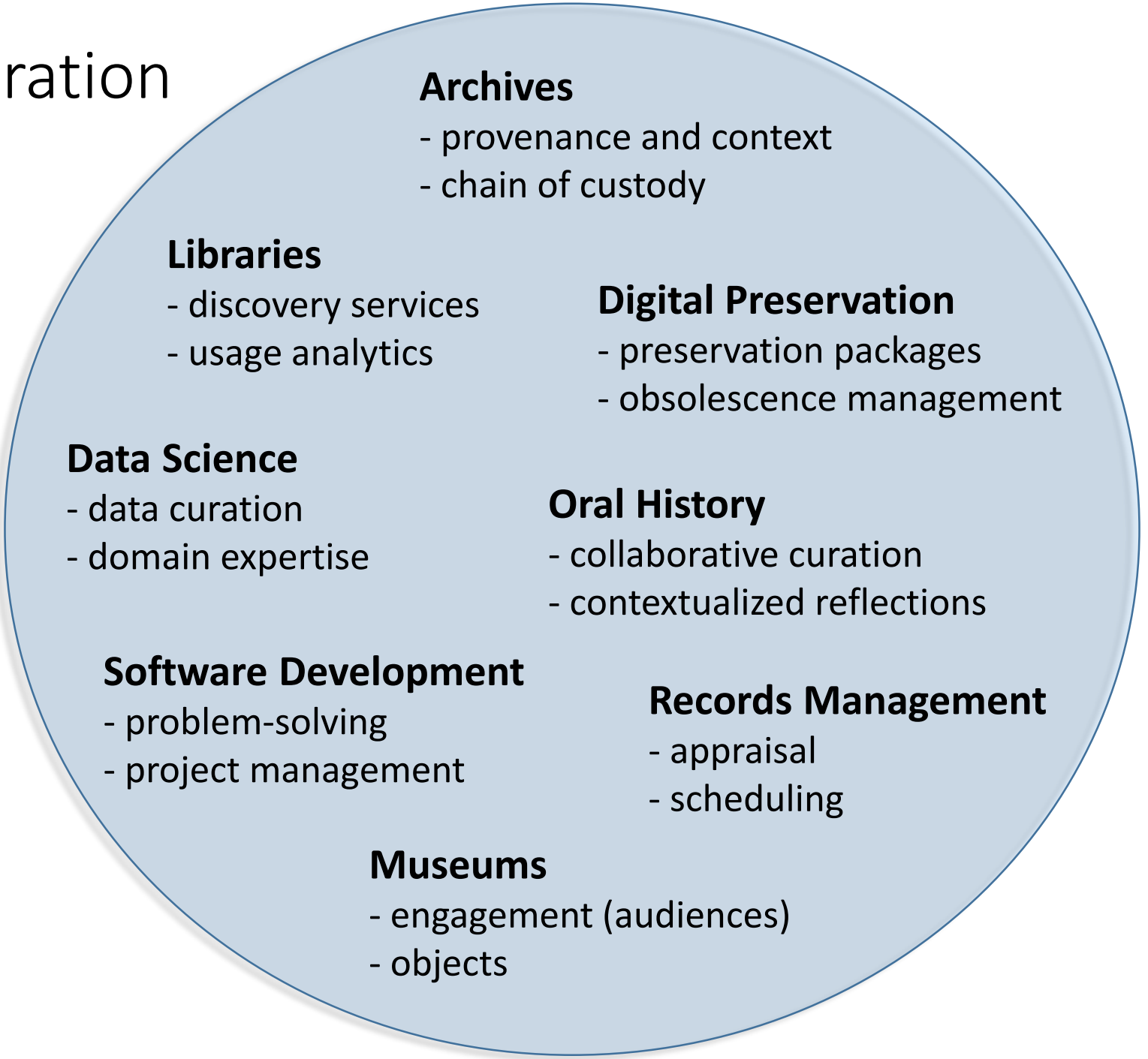
Never assume you're chairing even if you sent out the invite

Value your knowledge and that of others; bring your whole self and be courageous

Prioritize the common goal over any single "right" approach

# Digital Practice + Collaboration

**Who would you bring to the table?**

- examples of domain strengths
- round table (with no head)
- stronger together
- professional inclusion
- common interests
- overlapping members
- overlapping objectives

**Who's not at the table and why?**