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Digital Commons - Information and Tools

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PowerPoint Presentation on the UNL Digital Commons, 12/01/05

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Digital Commons

digitalcommons.unl.edu

Digital Commons is:

- a new project started by the Libraries in June 2005
- an “institutional repository” (IR) = an electronic archive for UNL–related documents
- an opportunity for electronic publishing

Applications

- UNL units can archive electronic records and documents
- Faculty can publish electronically on the Internet in full–text, free–access versions
- Library can build and manage digital collections

The “institutional repository” (IR)

- receives and archives one electronic copy
- preserves this copy permanently in the UNL Libraries collections
- creates a stable URL with a unl.edu address
- provides and controls electronic access
- migrates the data as formats evolve

Electronic Publishing

- places scholarly publication tools directly in the hands of the faculty
- publishing online requires only: 1) MS Word, 2) a browser, 3) an email address
- each publication “series” is controlled by its own editorial board or administrator
- no limits on article length or number, size, or colors of illustrations

Benefits: online work is

- accessible immediately, 24/7, worldwide
- visible to common search engines (such as Google)
- viewed and cited more frequently, especially by students
- stamped with author’s name and date of submission
- collected in one convenient accessible place
- permanently housed, even after you retire or move to another institution or different “plane of existence”

Who controls the copyright ?

- the author or author–entity
- the party to whom copyright may have been sold or licensed by the author
- not the library
- not the university (unless by separate agreement)

Rights to published works

- 92% of journals allow pre–publication posting to an IR
- 60% of journals have blanket policies allowing post–publication deposit
- most publishers will grant permission to authors for deposit in their home institution’s repository

Publishers who allow some form of self–archiving:

- | | |
|---|--|
| •American Economics Association | •Elsevier |
| •American Institute of Physics | •Geological Society |
| •American Mathematical Society | •IEEE |
| •American Psychological Association | •John Wiley |
| •Am. Soc. of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology | •Johns Hopkins University Press |
| •American Society of Plant Biologists | •Kluwer |
| •Annual Reviews | •National Academy of Sciences |
| •Arnold Publishers | •Nature Publishing Group |
| •BioMed Central | •Oxford University Press |
| •Biophysical Society | •Royal Society |
| •Blackwell | •Sage |
| •BMJ Publishing Group | •Springer Verlag |
| •CAB International | •Taylor & Francis |
| •Cambridge University Press | •University of California Press |
| •Ecological Society of America | • |
| • | •See http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/index.html |

What the IR wants: CONTENT

- all of your published articles, or as many as you can muster
- any unpublished materials you wish to disseminate or store for future use
- any departmental documents you wish to share with the faculty, scholarly community, general public, or prospective students

Content: Published

- articles
- chapters
- books (out of print)
- patents
- reviews
- conference proceedings
- interviews
- NebGuides & NebFacts

Content: Unpublished

- manuscripts or working papers
- presentations or speeches
- colloquia, seminars, and conferences
- theses and dissertations
- field notes, data sets, updates
- teaching materials

Content: Records

- department review documents
- grant proposals
- press releases, newsletters and announcements
- course offerings and schedules
- department guides and handbooks
- committee reports
- program descriptions and requirements
- department & faculty web pages

Page/URL structure diagram/schematic

Site structure diagram/schematic

A “community” can be a:

- college
- school
- department
- program
- laboratory
- institute
- center
- publication
- collection
- other

Access to work can be:

- open to the public
- restricted to a subscription list
- completely restricted (*i.e.*, not available, but archived for safe-keeping)

How do I get started ?

- Identify an existing “series”; or establish a new one (1–page questionnaire)
 - Log in to register and receive a password at <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/myaccount.cgi>
 - Begin uploading files
- Submitting an article takes less than 2 minutes.*

To establish a new “series”

- Decide its affiliation or sponsoring “community” (department, school, college, etc.)
- Give the series a name
- Recruit or volunteer the series administrator(s)
- Decide who may view materials
- Email the information to proyster@unl.edu

Costs

- There are **no costs** to the publishing unit.
- Hardware, set-up, programming, maintenance, and support costs are paid by the UNL Libraries.

Why put work online?

- Widest possible access—delivered right to the screen of any computer anywhere
- Full-text is linkable from any web page, email, vita, or hypertext document
- Build or enhance an online presence, identity, and reputation
- In the near future: “You are who you are online.”

“But my article is already online . . .”

Is it . . .

- Free? Or behind a wall—for paid users only?
- Available off-campus, in hotels, airports, internet cafes?
- Available in Delhi, Lagos, Beijing, or Bagdad?
- At its own linkable URL, or at the end of a Java search syntax?
- Indexed by Google?
- Contributing to the unl.edu domain?
- Accessible to your mother?

A cybernetic experiment:

- “Google” your article title and see what you get.
- Is there a free-access, full-text version listed in the top 10 results?
- If not, then the Digital Commons can possibly help put one there.

Contact

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Places to visit:

Front door: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/>

Main directory: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/communities.html>

ODIZ: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/onlinedictinvertezoology/>

Music Performance: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/musicperform/>

Podcasts: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/podcast1/>

Ornithology: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/biosciornithology/>

Vert Pests: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/vpcthirteen/>

Library Faculty Pubs:

Timoleon, Etc. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience/16/>

De bestiis marinis <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience/17/>

Pynchon chronology <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libraryscience/2/>

Google searches

<http://www.google.com/>

Ultraviolet Birds of Nebraska

Joshua Scottow

primase structure and function

Canteen Cultural Event Center, North Platte, Nebraska

Haemophilic Factors Produced by Transgenic Livestock

androsynhesmia (= "A group of males gathered together during mating season.")