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The Nebraska IR: How We Make It Work

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The Nebraska IR: How We Make It Work

Paul Royster University of Nebraska-Lincoln

ProQuest Team Meeting
June 14, 2018

proyster@unl.edu @paulroyster

Digital Commons @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Established 2005

Contents 98,000 items

Downloads 50 million to date

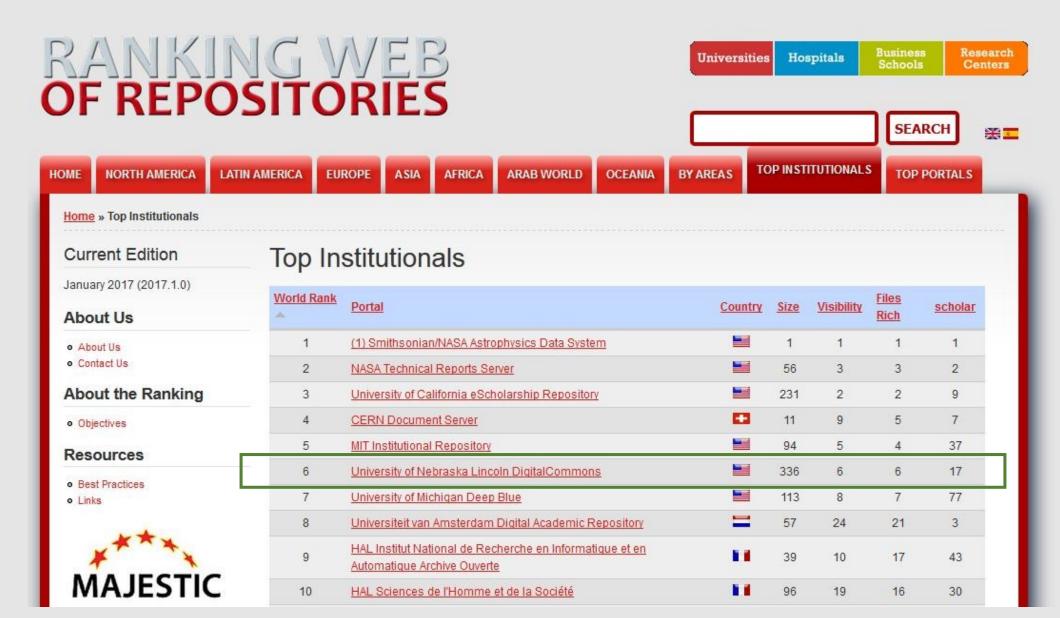
Annual downloads 6.5 million (18,000/day)

Rank in USA (size) #3 (UCal 199,000; UMich 120,000)

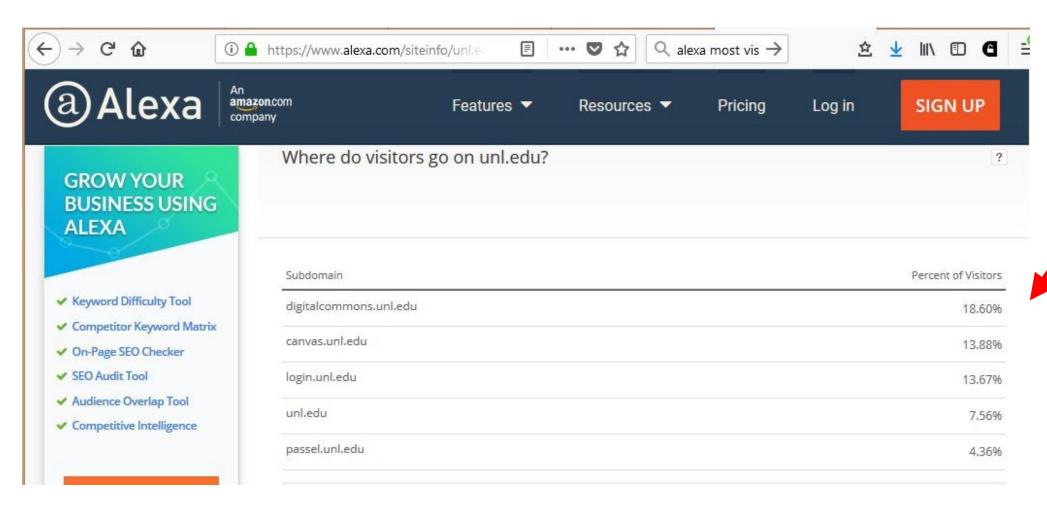
Rank in USA (downloads) #1

https://digitalcommons.unl.edu

#6 Institutional; #3 University



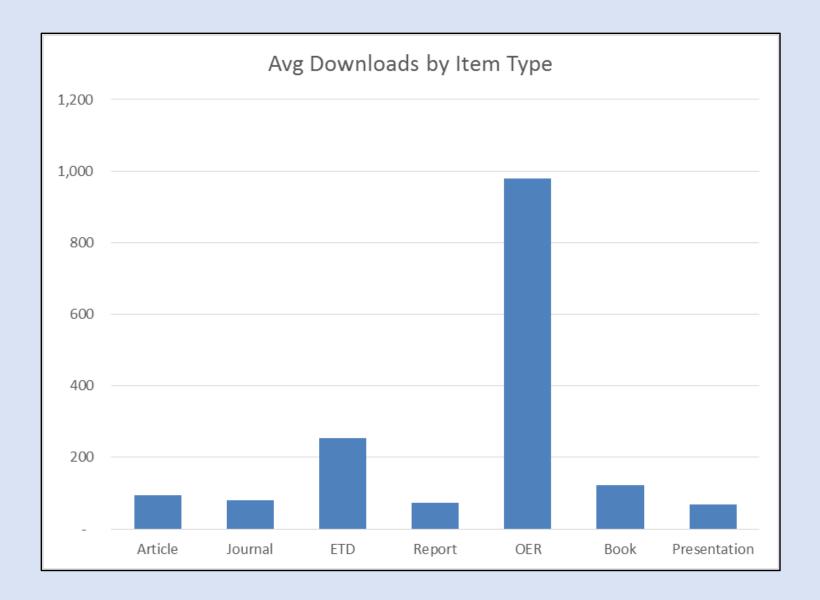
The university's most-visited site: 18% of all web traffic!



Type Content % Download %

Research articles	44	40
Journals	30	23
ETDs (open)	6	15
Documents/reports	17	12
Open Educ Res	0	3
Books	1	1
Presentations	1	1

Average downloads by item type



Rule #1: Make it easy.



ITS AS EASY AS...







How do I get my articles into the repository?

1. email me your vita (or publication list)

proyster@unl.edu

(There is no 2 or 3)





Services provided:

permissions & copyright clearance hunting & gathering scanning typesetting metadata uploading & posting usage reporting promoting POD publishing



"Beyond Mediated Deposit"

Basic policy:

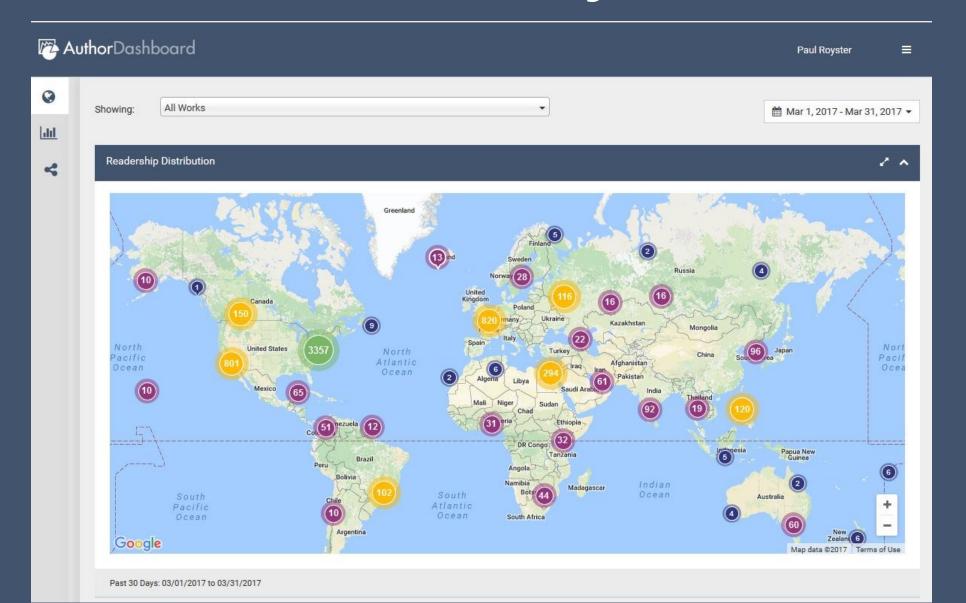
I • I

The IR belongs to the faculty.

1 1.

The trust of the faculty is the one essential and irreplaceable asset.

Rule #2: Give timely feedback



We are 100% voluntary

No mandated deposit policy (Harvard model).

Usage reports are our best recruitment tool.

We are 99.9% full-text

No linkouts to commercial pay-walled sites.*

* Except ProQuest ETDs, for which we don't see or count downloads.

SEO: Top traffic referrers

Google	72%
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Google Scholar 8%

IR internal 7%

Bing 2%



Downloads, by continent, 2017



North America*	2,706,352	44%
Asia	1,536,934	25%
Europe	1,064,515	17%
Africa	573,329	9%
Oceania	164,717	3%
South America	139,227	2%
Total	6,185,074	100%

^{*} USA – 39%, Canada – 4%, Mexico – 1%



2017 Elsevier buys bepress

- Widespread concern over commercial ownership of scholarly communications infrastructure.
- Attempts to organize community-based consortial builds of platforms and governance.
- Like all bepress installations, we are pressured to bail for "blue sky" alternatives.
- Our plan: Stick with a 13-year reliable supplier.





Digital Commons assets:

1. Software

2. Service

- 3. Separation
- 4. Strength in numbers









Q: What can ProQuest do in this ScholComm environment?

1. Aggregate original "open" content and re-direct it to library catalog systems.



2. Create federated discovery system for (non-bepress) repositories' contents.

