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Digital Commons Report for Fiscal Years 2017-18 Through 2019-20

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Library & Information Technology

Ursinus College

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Contents

Overview

The librarians and instructional technologists in the Library & Information Technology **(LIT)** organization are partners with faculty and students in the primary educational enterprise of the college which is to "enable students to become independent, responsible, and thoughtful individuals through a program of liberal education."

My focus within LIT is in the following areas related to preservation and discovery:

- **Metadata**
- **Digitization**
- **Scholarly Communications**
    - **Open Access**
    - **Author Rights**
    - **Copyright**

These three areas of focus combine in my primary role as the manager of the college's institutional repository.

[DigitalCommons@Ursinus](#) is the **institutional repository** of Ursinus College. It is designed to preserve and showcase the intellectual, creative and scholarly achievements of the Ursinus College community. Administered by the Library, it serves as a permanent digital archive providing centralized access to Ursinus research, publications, local historical materials and special collections. It is intended to promote discovery and sharing on a global scale and to serve as a rich campus resource that will foster interdisciplinary collaboration and serve as a curricular tool to strengthen student scholarship.

Works in the repository have the following benefits:

- Stable link for sharing in CVs, resumes, and social media
- Metrics data including: usage, views, citations, captures, and mentions
- High discoverability via Google and Google Scholar
- Open access option allows anyone in the world with an internet connection to view items, increasing visibility of Ursinus-produced works
- Commitment to long-term digital preservation

The repository is part of the [Digital Commons Network](#) of nearly 600 institutions.

Timeline Highlights

2017 Summer:

- Provided digital resource support for two digital humanities Summer Fellows research projects: [Ursinus Remembers: The Vietnam War](#) and [The Diversity of Social Life at Ursinus College](#).
- Worked with the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life to establish the [Reverend Charles Rice Memorial](#) collection.

2017 Fall:

- Presented as a panelist at the Tri-State College Library Cooperative (TCLC) "**Panel Discussion on Institutional Repositories**" held October 19, 2017 at the Berman Museum of Art, Ursinus College.
- Completed digitization of the Ursinus College **Board Business Meeting Minutes** from 1868 to the present. While not available online to the public, they are now an invaluable resource for current Board members as well as for archival research.

2018 Spring:

- Working in partnership with **Historic Trappe**, the first phase of the [Providence Independent Newspaper](#) project was delivered to Backstage Library Works for digitization.

2018 Summer:

- Served as a mentor for a Summer Fellows project: [Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson: Archives in a Digital World](#).

2018 Fall:

- Presented a Lunch & Learn event for faculty and staff: "**Be a Show Off: Using Digital Commons to Showcase Awesome Stuff in Your Department**."

2019 Spring:

- Completed initial work on the [John Henry Augustus Bomberger Collection](#) in time for the beginning of Ursinus College's sesquicentennial celebration. Worked with a student assistant on a special [Founder's Day Presentation of Highlights from J.H.A. Bomberger's Library, Including Plant Specimens and Memorabilia](#).
- Hosted a Graduate Student Fellow at the Clements Center for National Security (University of Texas at Austin) who traveled to Ursinus to research the [Francis Mairs Huntington Wilson Papers](#) after discovering the collection online.
- Revised an existing Library staff position (**Digitization & Operations Technician**) to provide additional support for repository work.

2019 Summer:

- Revised student assistant job descriptions and posted available positions in Handshake platform: **Digitization Assistant**, **Metadata Assistant** and **Digital Library Curation Specialist**.
- Worked with an intern on the [Ursinus College Theater Production Programs](#) collection.
- Supported two student internship projects at the **Mill at Anselma** in Chester Springs, PA: [The Mill at Anselma Oral History Project](#) and [The Life and Legacy of Sara Louisa Oberholtzer](#).

2019 Fall:

- Worked with alum Lisa Minardi, Executive Director of **Historic Trappe** and the **Center for Pennsylvania German Studies**, on the Ursinus College Fraktur Collection. This collection was launched as a companion piece to the inaugural exhibit "Roots: Ursinus College and the Pennsylvania Germans" and promoted as part of the Ursinus sesquicentennial celebration.
- Organized and presented a Lunch & Learn event for faculty and staff: "**The Value of Open Access & Open Educational Resources**." Guest panelists included Ursinus History Department Chair Susanna Throop, Ursinus Mathematics Department Chair Nicholas Scoville, and alum Erin Pollard, Education Research Analyst, U.S. Department of Education.
- Worked with the Ursinus Theater and Dance Department to preserve and provide access to Domenick Scudera's original sesquicentennial play, The Complete History of Ursinus College [Abridged].

2020 Spring:

- Established, with the **Dean's Office**, a comprehensive method of collecting presentations from the annual Celebration of Student Achievement (CoSA). This allowed the CoSA event to be held in a virtual setting during the initial outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Working with the Collections Manager, created a space in Digital Commons for the **Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College**. The Annual Student Art Exhibition (containing images as well as multimedia works) can now be preserved and interviews such as the Berman Conversation Series are also showcased.
- Implemented a Digital Commons **site redesign** through bepress Consulting Services for a cleaner look that more closely matches the college's website.

Classes Supported

The digitization program and institutional repository support the Ursinus College **curriculum** in a number of ways. In-person instruction is provided in the classroom and the Library (Archives as well as Digitization offices). Multiple instruction sessions are provided for students who are expected to work with metadata and to digitize materials for use in digital exhibits. Sessions are sometimes team-taught with the Instructional Technology Librarian and/or the College Archivist. Another way the repository can benefit courses is through the preservation of class projects. In some cases, no instruction is provided, but consultation occurs with teaching faculty to determine a course of action for preserving and presenting digital class projects. Finally, classes can make use of digitized materials available in the repository as resources for coursework and research. This can occur without instruction or consultation. In most instances, some combination of these methods occurs.

I=Instruction provided in digitization and/or metadata, R=Repository hosts final class projects and/or associated metadata, D=Digitized resources available in the repository were utilized in the class

Common Intellectual Experience (CIE): 2017, 2018, 2019 **(R)**

English/History 212: Bears Make History: Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2020 (**I,R,D)**

English 209: DIY Publishing: Spring 2018 **(D)**

Environmental Studies 332: Urbanization & the Environment: Spring 2018 **(R)**

American Studies 200: Race & the University: Fall 2018 **(I, D)**

Environmental Studies 338: Forests and People: Fall 2018 **(I, D)**

Environmental Studies 366: Ecological Change in Historical Perspective: Spring 2019 **(R, D)**

History 350: Cold War in Europe: Immigrants, Labor & Gender: Spring 2019 **(R)**

AAAS 200: Introduction to African American & Africana Studies: Fall 2019 **(I, D)**

History 250: Oral History: Collecting All Voices: Fall 2019 **(I, D)**

Growth Activity

Current period (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020)

Total Works: 5913   Total Downloads: 262,227   Average: 44 per item

Previous period (September 25, 2014 – June 30, 2017)

Total Works: 1905   Total Downloads: 63, 196   Average: 33 per item

Works posted this period: **4008 (210 % increase)**

Download increase this period: **199,031 (315% increase)**

Average downloads per item increase: **11 (33 % increase)**

Total Works in the Repository

Communities Added to the Repository During This Period: *Community Projects (Historic Trappe & Mill at Anselma), CoSA, Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College, UCARE, Center for Writing and Speaking, Ursinus College Investment Management Company, CIE, Theater Productions.* Breadth of participating departments is a useful indicator of growth.

Readership

Global Readership Distribution Map (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020)
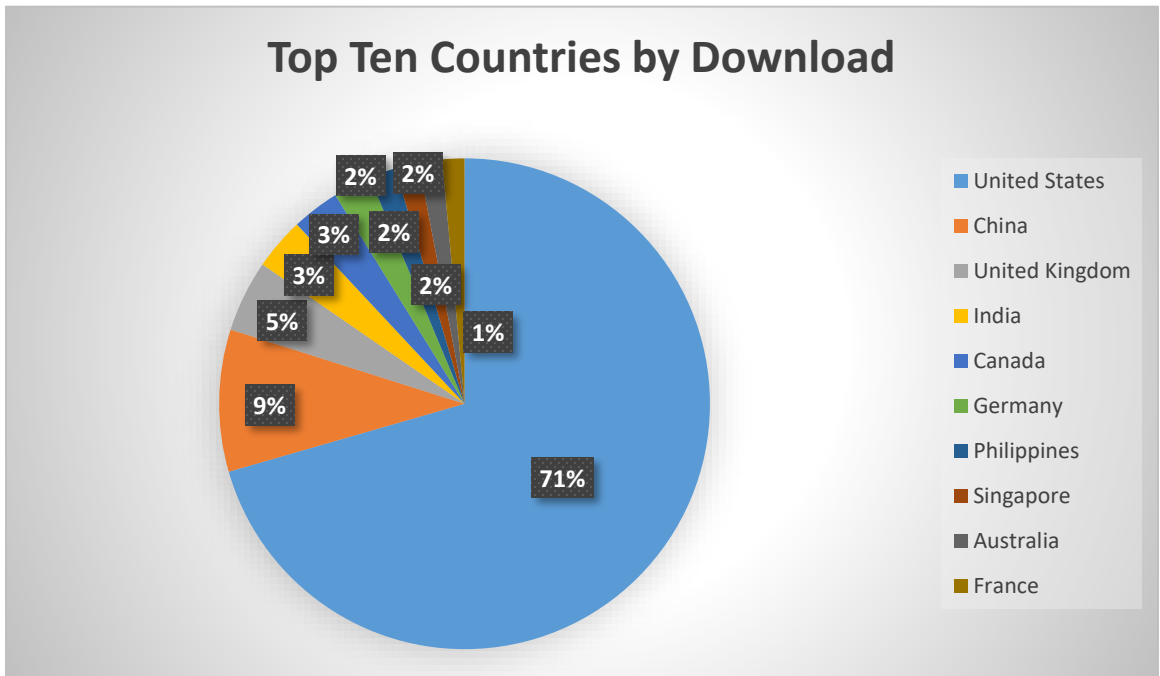
Total Number of Countries Downloading Content: 209

Percentage of Downloads by Institution Type
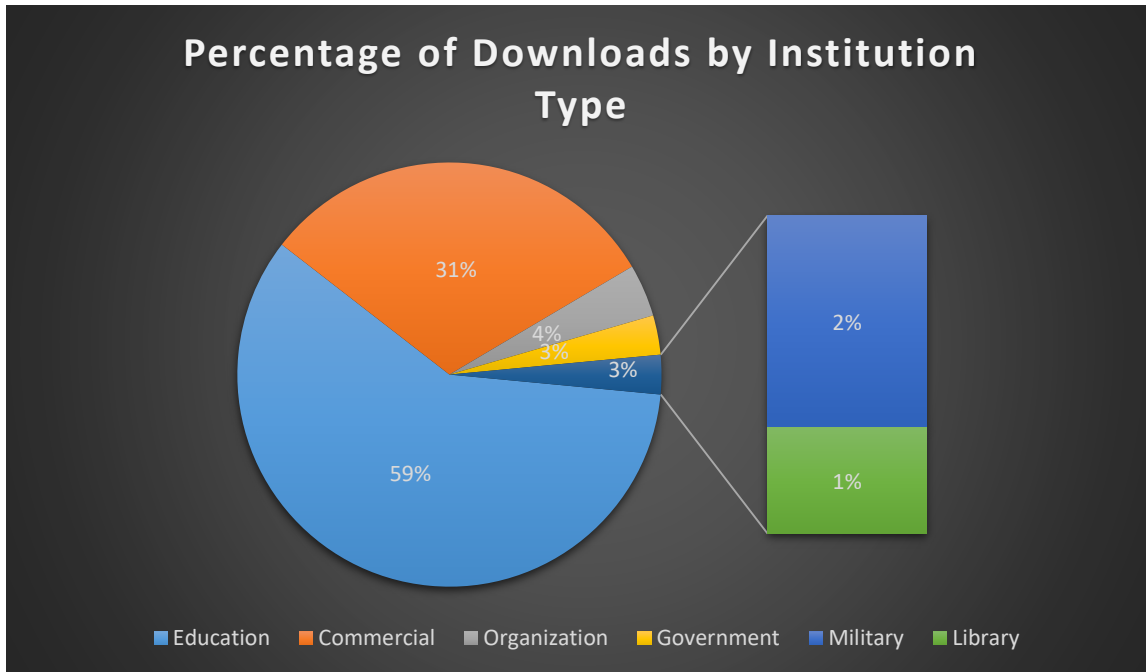
Total Institutions Downloading Content: 8,533

Top 5 Educational Institutions by Download
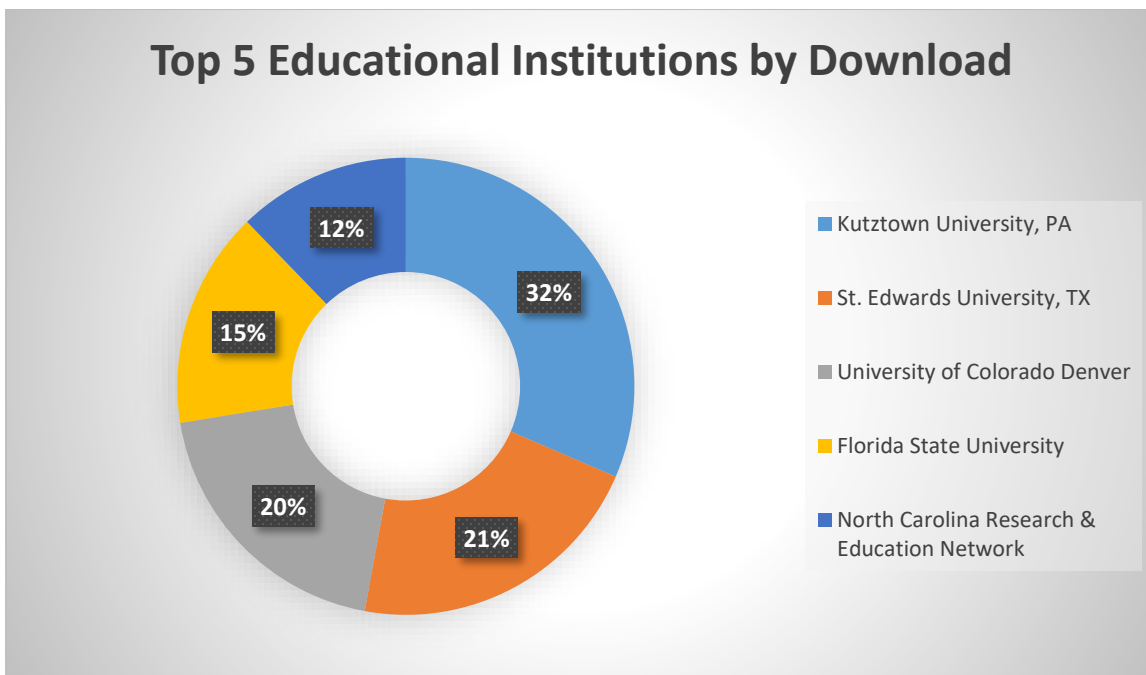
Total Educational Institutions Downloading Content: 2,919

Top Ten Most Popular Collections (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020)

Collection	Downloads
Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine	46,432
Ursinus College Honors Theses	33,242
Transforming Instruction in Undergraduate Mathematics via Primary Historical Sources (TRIUMPHS)	29,975
Ursinus College Summer Fellows Projects	25,633
The Ursinus Weekly Newspaper	22,395
Media & Communication Studies Department: Student Research	17,917
Ursinus College Ruby Yearbooks	16,371
Providence Independent Newspaper, 1875-1898	10,886
The Lantern Literary Magazines	9,885
Business & Economics Department: Student Research	8,557

Top Ten Most Popular Works (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020)

Title	Downloads
Female Moments / Male Structures: The Representation of Women in Romantic Comedies (MCS Student Honors Thesis)	**6,759**
Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine V.26 No. 5 (Summer 1977)	**3,670**
Solving a System of Linear Equations Using Ancient Chinese Methods (TRIUMPHS)	**3,307**
Catalytic Transfer Hydrogenation of Nitroalkenes to Primary Amines (Chemistry Student Honors Thesis)	**2,994**
Do Ugly Criminals Receive Harsher Sentences? An Analysis of Lookism in the Criminal Justice System (Business & Economics Student Honors Thesis)	**2,556**
The Rise of the Alt-Right Movement (MCS Summer Fellows Project)	**2,525**
Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine V.24 No. 4 (Summer 1975)	**2,498**
The Association of Different Types of Bullying With the Mental Health of Children and Teens From the United States, France, and Canada (MCS Summer Fellows Project)	**2,122**
What is Magic to the LaVeyan-Satanist Ideal Type?: A Content Analysis of the Satanic Bible's Descriptions of Magic (Anthropology Summer Fellows Project)	**1,786**
Literary Beasts: Use of Animal Imagery in the Canterbury Tales (English Independent Study Project)	**1,616**

Collection Analysis

Note: For this analysis, data is from September 25, 2014 - June 30, 2020.

This section of the report dives deeper into the major collection categories in the repository, examining usage metrics, ease of discoverability in search engines and prospects for integration into the Ursinus College curriculum (if applicable). It is important to note that download numbers are not the only indicator of usage. Many collections contain images, PDF previews and video content that can be streamed directly from the repository. In these cases, items can be readily viewed online, lessening the need to download. It should also be noted that many student works (particularly in the sciences) have restricted access, which severely curtails downloads.

Collections at a Glance:
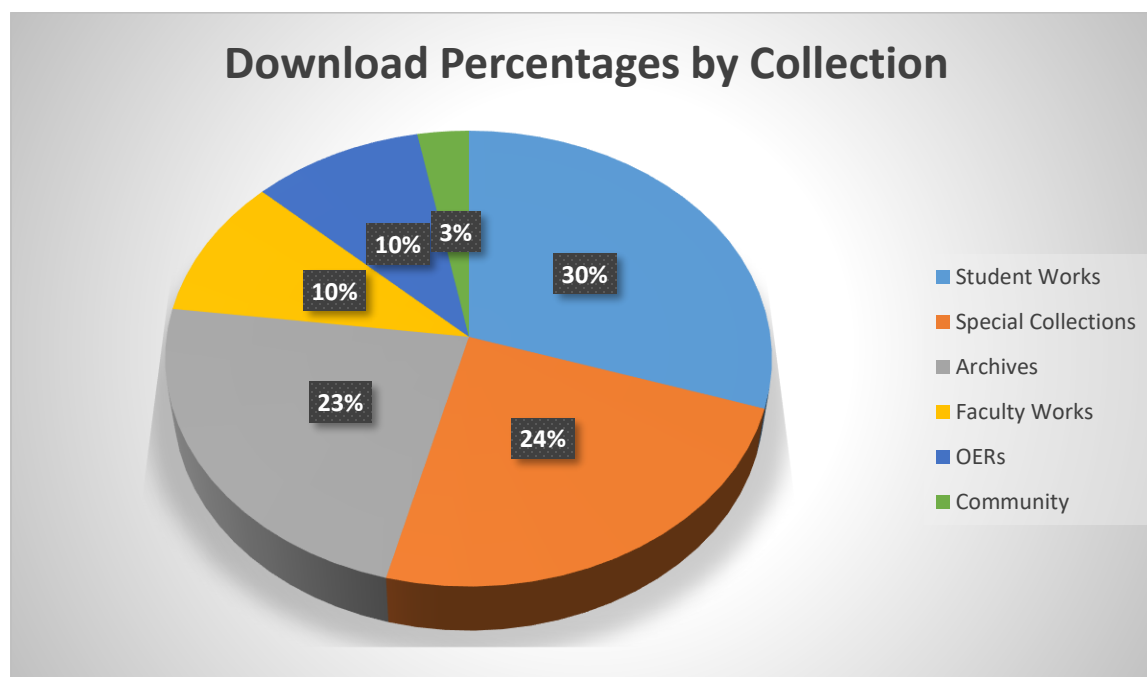
This graph illustrates that the majority of usage of our collections is distributed fairly equally between student works and Library archives and special collections. (All percentages are estimates).

Number of Works by Collection

- Archives
- Special Collections
- Community
- Student Work
- Faculty Work
- OERs
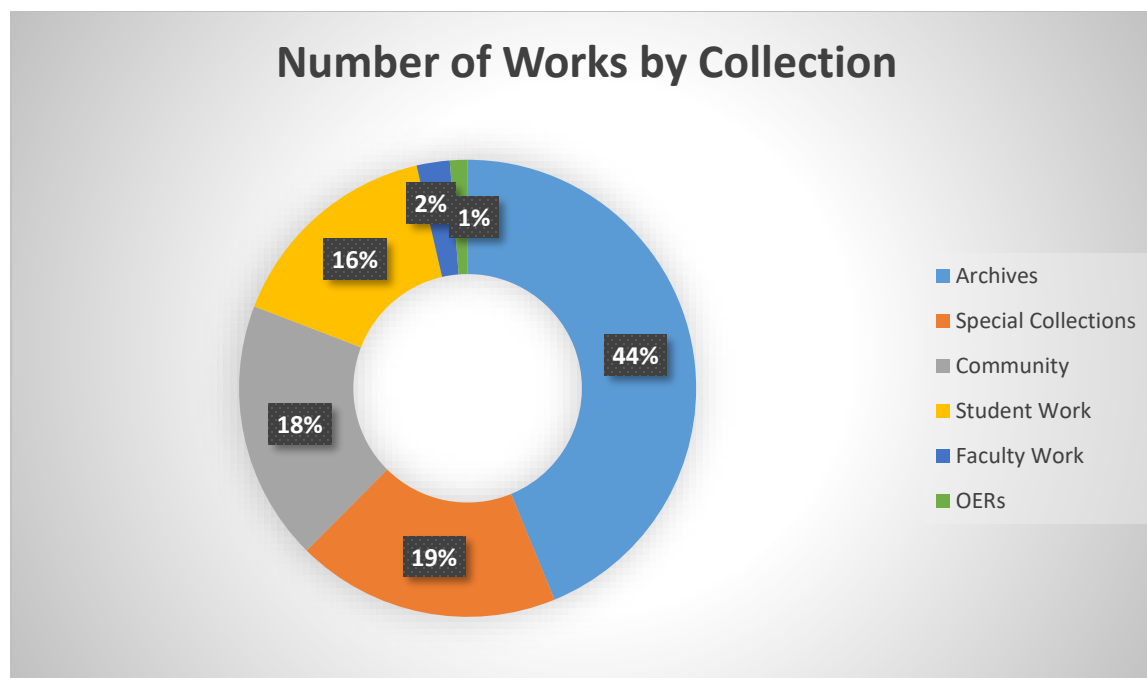
This graph illustrates that the majority of works in the repository consist of items from the College Archives. (All percentages are estimates).

Faculty Scholarship:

Total works: 129   **Total downloads:** 23,079   **Total page hits:** 4,765

Faculty works remain the least represented portion of campus activity in the repository, accounting for only 2% of items and 10% of all downloads. Most works in this category consist of previously published scholarship, for which a publisher-approved version is archived in the repository. The challenge of navigating publisher policies and inquiring whether faculty have kept an approved version of a work is a time-consuming task that often leads to frustration. As participation in the repository is optional and without more direct encouragement or incentives from the Dean's Office, collection of faculty works remains the most challenging aspect of populating the repository.

Note: Faculty works are collected under each participating department. There is not, at this time, any aggregated collection of all faculty scholarship. Presented here are two examples that illustrate the benefits of archiving works in the repository.

Enhancing Autonomy in Paid Surrogacy

Published in final form in Wiley Online Library (behind pay wall) in the journal *Bioethics*, volume 22, issue 5, June 2008. Authors: Kelly Sorensen and Jennifer Damelio.

Accepted version of the article archived in Digital Commons. Below is the "plum print" for this item, showing a range of metrics.
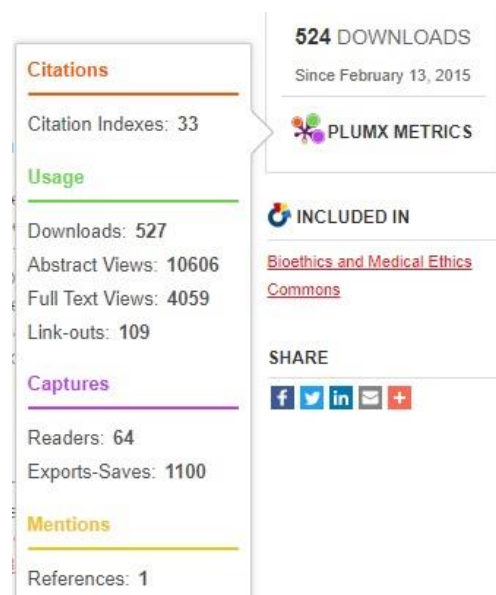
While the article was viewed 4059 times through EBSCO, the repository created the opportunity for an additional 524 downloads or a 13% increase in viewership.

Mirrored Images: The Passion and the First Crusade in a Fourteenth-Century Parisian Illuminated Manuscript

Published in final form online in Taylor & Francis (behind pay wall) in the *Journal of Medieval History*, volume 41, issue 2, 2015. Author: Susanna Throop

Accepted version of the article archived in Digital Commons. The illustration below shows how the repository contributes to the overall usage score through downloads and abstract views.

Student Scholarship:

Total works: 861   **Total downloads:** 88,119   **Total page hits:** 29,290

Total streams: 720

Student works make up a major portion of the institutional repository and account for 16% of all items held and 30% of all downloads. Three major categories of student work examined here are Honors theses, Summer Fellows research projects and CoSA presentations. Other types of student work collected on a smaller scale in the repository include: independent study projects, classroom projects, internship projects, prize-winning essays and art works.

Celebration of Student Achievement

Total works: 99   **Total downloads:** 1,130   **Total page hits:** 3,872

Total streams: 710

Google ranking: #13 result in a search for "Ursinus cosa."

Note: Works in this category have only been comprehensively collected for the first time in 2020.

Honors Theses

Total works: 281   **Total downloads:** 40,846   **Total page hits:** 8,066

Mentions: 3 blog posts related to this thesis: "The consequences of fighting fake news;" "Governments making 'fake news' a crime risk stifling real journalism – accidentally or intentionally;" "Governments are making fake news a crime – but it could stifle free speech." The same thesis is mentioned in 2 news articles at The Conversation and ForeignAffairs.co.nz.

Social media: 22 Tweets, many from students using Twitter to promote their projects. See here for an example.

Citations: This thesis is cited in the annotated bibliography of the National Longitudinal Surveys of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This thesis is cited in the article "The Classical World: An Annotated World History Digital Resource Guide to Research and Classroom Approaches" by John Maunu in the journal *World History Connected*, volume 17, number 2, June 2020.

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus honors theses."

Summer Fellows Projects

Total works: 339   **Total downloads:** 31,511   **Total page hits:** 14,398

Mentions: 3 Wikipedia references to this project: Wolves of Vinland; Dark illustration; Enlightenment of Darkness. 1 blog post related to this project: The Miseducation of Hip Hop Dance.

Social media: 20 Tweets across nine projects. Here is an example related to this project.

Citations: This project was cited in a chapter in the book New Horizons in Positive Leadership and Change, published by Springer in March 2020. This project was cited in an article in the *Law Journal for Social Justice*, "The Kids are Alt-Right: How Media and the Law Enable White Supremacist Groups to Recruit and Radicalize Emotionally Vulnerable Individuals," published Fall 2019. This project was cited in the book The Bullying Breakthrough by Jonathan McKee, published by Shiloh Run Press, 2018. This project was cited in the open access book Global Women's Issues: Women in the World Today, (extended version) published by the U.S. Department of State in 2017.

Google ranking: #4 result in a search for "Ursinus summer fellows."

Open Educational Resources:

At this time the repository contains only one major collection of what could be called "open educational resources," or "OERs." The TRIUMPHS project (Transforming Instruction in Undergraduate Mathematics via Primary Historical Sources) consists of freely available curricular materials for use in the classroom. The project is supported by grants from the National Science Foundation with collaborators from Ursinus College, Colorado State University, Florida State University, New Mexico State University, Xavier University, and Central Washington University. While it currently holds the smallest number of items of any of the major collection types, it is an important category for future growth potential. 10% of all downloads in the repository come from this collection.

TRIUMPHS

Total works: 69   **Total downloads:** 31,338   **Total page hits:** 11,864

Social media: 1 Tweet related to this project. 1 Tweet related to this project. 1 Tweet related to this project.

Mentions: 1 Wikipedia reference related to this [project](): [Formula de Euler]().

User feedback: "It has provided me with a nice argument to prove, using elementary techniques, a wonderful result of Euler concerning the sum of the "square" harmonic series, as well as giving me the opportunity to talk a bit about the history of Mathematics." – Anonymous faculty/instructor, Spain. Qualtrix survey feedback, February 19, 2020. In reference to this [project]().

Ursinusiana Collection:

Total works: 2,419   **Total downloads:** 74,803   **Total page hits:** 31,115

The College Archives, or Ursinusiana collection, is the most significant part of the institutional repository, holding approximately 44% of items and accounting for 23% of all downloads. The goal of the following analysis is to document the various ways these collections are being utilized and to determine their potential use in the Ursinus College curriculum, thus helping to prioritize remaining work. The unique aspect of these collections is their additional appeal to Ursinus College alumni. Major collections for which no digitization work has begun include **faculty meeting minutes** and the **Richard P. Richter papers**. While good candidates for preservation, their appropriateness for public accessibility will need to be addressed. Numerous other discrete collections exist within the Archives that will need to be analyzed as higher priority projects are completed. Some could have moderate to high potential for curricular integration.

[Athletics Archive]()

Total works: 258   **Total downloads:** 1,775   **Total page hits:** 766

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus athletics archive;" #2 result in a search for "Ursinus football programs;" #3 result in a search for "Eleanor Snell."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* The most high-profile part of the collection is probably the field hockey collection, for which there is a vast amount of material to be digitized and evaluated for inclusion in the repository. A history class, "History-250 Oral History: Collecting All Voices" and a "Bears Make History" class have already utilized the [Eleanor Snell]() portion of the athletics archive. Any Humanities or Social Science discipline that studies sports history or gender studies could potentially make use of these materials. There is a tremendous amount of work to be done to build upon this collection in the repository, including scrapbooks,

photographs, programs and other memorabilia from field hockey as well as all other sports played at Ursinus College.

Event Programs

Total works: 63   **Total downloads:** 668   **Total page hits:** 243

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus event programs;" #9 result in a search for "Ursinus theater production programs;" #3 result in a search for "Ursinus cosa schedule."

Curriculum potential: *Low.* These materials are of a very narrow or specialized interest. They could be useful for any project that is studying the history of a particular event on campus, such as the May Day program, theater productions, or commencement ceremonies. There are many more categories of programs still to be digitized and added to the repository.

Memorials

Total works: 9   **Total downloads:** 306   **Total page hits:** 187

Total streams: 31

Google ranking: #2 result in a search for "Reverend Charles Rice."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* Having an online collection of materials dedicated to significant alumni and other college community members who are deceased could serve as a valuable reference for students and faculty and a useful springboard for potential projects.

Student Newspapers

Total works: 1,423   **Total downloads:** 29,612   **Total page hits:** 7,326

Mentions: 1 Wikipedia reference related to this newspaper: John C. McAvoy. 1 Wikipedia reference related to this newspaper: D. Reiner Faringer.

User feedback: "I'm an Emeritus Professor at Temple University. As an undergraduate at Haverford, I studied with Agi Jambor and am gathering material for a celebration in her honor to take place in Budapest. Thank you." – William Fullard, researcher. Qualtrix survey feedback, July 30, 2019. In reference to this newspaper.

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus Weekly newspaper;" #2 result in a search for "Ursinus Grizzly newspaper."

External links: The website for the student newspaper, [The Grizzly](#), contains links to the archived issues of the Ursinus Weekly newspaper and Ursinus Grizzly newspaper in the repository.

Curriculum potential: *High.* The newspapers in these collections have already been utilized in several courses (Bears Make History, Race & the University, Introduction to African American and Africana Studies). The newspapers provide first-hand accounts of events that transpired on the Ursinus College campus and local community and are particularly useful for studying the history of higher education and town-gown relations as well as many other topics including the environment, technology, race relations, gender and sexuality studies, sports, campus safety, and social and cultural trends.

Photographs

Total works: 62 **Total downloads:** 783 **Total page hits:** 1,219

Google ranking: No significant results found for a search of "Ursinus College photographs." #10 result in a search for "Ursinus buildings." *Search engine optimization will need to be addressed for this collection.*

Curriculum potential: *Low to Moderate.* There is a vast amount of photographs that have not been digitized. Photographs would be a good candidate for use in classes like "Bears Make History" or other classes that create digital history exhibits.

Postcards

Total works: 81 **Total downloads:** 1,320 **Total page hits:** 2,964

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus College postcards."

Curriculum potential: *Low.* It is always possible that an image from a postcard could prove useful in a digital history project, but the main audience for these materials would probably be alumni, the general public or collectors.

The Lantern Literary Magazines

Total works: 186 **Total downloads:** 12,866 **Total page hits:** 3,092

Social media: 1 [tweet](#) (with 4 retweets) related to this [issue](#) of the Lantern. 1 [tweet](#) related to this [issue](#) of the Lantern.

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus lantern."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* The early issues of the *Lantern* contain historical information that is not present in later issues that publish only student writing and art. Those could have a broader potential for use in digital history projects. Otherwise, connections could exist to coursework in the English department as we have already seen, for example, in the "DIY Publishing" class.

The Ruby Yearbooks

Total works: 123   **Total downloads:** 22,346   **Total page hits:** 14,441

Mentions: 1 reference to this yearbook in a Wikipedia article: John C. Hedges

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus ruby" or "Ursinus yearbook."

Curriculum potential: *High.* The yearbooks, especially in earlier years, contained much more historical information than they do today. They have already been used widely in the "Bears Make History," "Race and the University" and "Introduction to African American and Africana Studies" courses. They would be of benefit to any class creating a digital history exhibit.

Ursinus College Alumni Journal, 1937-1969

Total works: 23   **Total downloads:** 511   **Total page hits:** 62

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Ursinus alumni journal."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate to High.* The alumni journal, a predecessor of the modern Ursinus magazine, contains many stories and useful information about past graduates as well as other information about the college. These magazines would be very useful to any course studying Ursinus history. Note that there are several iterations of the alumni magazines, sometimes called the "Ursinus bulletin." Very few have been posted online to date. This will be a major priority after the completion of the student newspapers.

Ursinus College Bulletin

Total works: 93   **Total downloads:** 3,326   **Total page hits:** 234

Google ranking: #3 result in a search for "Ursinus bulletin."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* The Bulletins are the precursor to the Ursinus Weekly newspaper. They are full of information, but from the limited time period of 1885 to 1902. They could contain information that would appeal to a variety of disciplines within the Humanities and Social Sciences, so long as the interest pertained to this narrow time window.

Ursinus College Catalogues

Total works: 97 **Total downloads:** 845 **Total page hits:** 231

Google ranking: #5 result in a search for "Ursinus College catalog."

Curriculum potential: *Low.* The catalogs do contain a great deal of information, but would probably only appeal to projects that are studying the history of educational programs at Ursinus or to research specific people involved with the institution. The catalogues were used to research the history of course offerings in the African American and Africana Studies Program for a digital history project in the course "Introduction to African American and Africana Studies."

Yost History of Ursinus College

Total works: 1 **Total downloads:** 447 **Total page hits:** 350

Google ranking: #1 result in a search for "Yost history Ursinus" or "history Ursinus first hundred years."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* This book chronicles the first hundred years of the history of Ursinus College, thereby making it a good starting point for research into Ursinus history of that era. It has been used in the "Bears Make History" classes.

Library Special Collections:

Total works: 1,030 **Total downloads:** 78,996 **Total page hits:** 26,295

Library special collections are a significant part of the institutional repository, making up 19% of all items and accounting for 24% of all downloads. The goal of the following analysis is to document the various ways these collections are being utilized and to determine their potential use in the Ursinus College curriculum, thus helping to prioritize remaining work. Major collections for which no digitization work has begun include: The **Ambassador Hermann F. Eilts Middle East Collection**, **Kenneth W. Grundy South African Collection**, and the **James I. Good Collection** (on permanent loan). All have moderate to high potential for curricular integration, but as they are not yet represented in the repository, they will not be discussed further here.

Ahnenerbe: Documents from Nazi Germany, 1936-1945

Total works: 69 **Total downloads:** 4,368 **Total page hits:** 3,560

Mentions: 1 Wikipedia reference related to this document and this document: Josef Wimmer (Physiker).

Permission request: Talos Films requested permission to use images of documents in a Travel Channel production, "Lost Secrets: Episode 1, Dark Nazi Magic" which aired in November, 2019. *It is not evident that the materials were successfully used.*

Google ranking: #2 result in a search for "Ahnenerbe."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* This collection could be used as primary source documents in the Humanities and Social Sciences. It consists of documents recovered from the managing director of the Ahnenerbe, Wolfram Sievers, at the end of World War II. The Ahnenerbe was the academic/research unit of the SS, charged with studying archaeology, folk culture and artifacts in order to establish the superiority of Aryan culture. While the topic is obscure, it is part of an enormously important period of history that is constantly studied. Fascism, race, "the banality of evil," and the hijacking of research data for political goals are all topics that continue to resonate today. The documents also relate to folk-cultural practices that could be studied in their own right apart from their use by the Ahnenerbe Institute. Language is a barrier.

Artists' Books & Zines

Total works: 33 **Total downloads:** 389 **Total page hits:** 211

Curriculum potential: *Low.* This collection was created purely as a means of promoting use of the physical collection held by the Library to Ursinus students and faculty. It should be marketed toward the Art & Art History, English and Media & Communication Studies Departments.

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson Papers

Total works: 332 **Total downloads:** 3,680 **Total page hits:** 1,214

Mentions: 1 Wikipedia reference related to this document: Huntington Wilson.

Note: 1 scholar research visit as a result of finding the collection in the repository

Google ranking: #2 result in a search for "Huntington Wilson."

Curriculum potential: *Moderate.* This collection could be used as primary and secondary source documents in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Huntington Wilson (1875-1946) was an American diplomat, author and Assistant Secretary of State from 1909 to 1913. He authored an unproduced play about America's lack of preparation for World War I and was involved in the "Fight For Freedom Committee" during World War II. The collection includes correspondence, newspaper clippings, notes, and memoranda as well as a scrapbook of photographs from his early days as a diplomatic representative to Japan. Ursinus College has had a number of foreign service connections (Ambassador Hermann F. Eilts, Ambassador Joseph Melrose) and this is yet another connection to international diplomacy. One possibility could be to market this collection towards the Melrose Fellows (a student who worked on the collection recently was a Melrose Fellow). The collection could be used to explore any number of historical topics related to foreign relations, the State Department, World War I, World War II, American isolationism, Latin America and immigration, to name but a few. Wilson became involved in the worlds of publishing and commerce and has a local connection to Philadelphia (serving as Director of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum and writing for the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* and *Evening Bulletin*. This local connection could potentially tie into an Ursinus PhillyX course.

John Henry Augustus Bomberger Collection

Total works: 92   **Total downloads:** 107   **Total page hits:** 675

Google ranking: #2 result in a search for "John Henry Augustus (or J.H.A.) Bomberger."

Note: It is likely that more items will be added to the "Bomberger Library" and "Bomberger Memorabilia" collections in the future. There are also collections of correspondence and sermons which have yet to be analyzed.

Curriculum potential: *Low.* These repository collections were created primarily to promote the physical collections to the Ursinus community. As the first president of Ursinus College, the collection has great significance to the history of the institution. It would best be marketed towards classes like "Bears Make History." The Religious Studies Department could have an interest in the sermons if those prove to be accessible in terms of language, handwriting and overall fragility of the physical collection.

Linda Grace Hoyer Collection

Total works: 83   **Total downloads:** 149   **Total page hits:** 223

Note: Work on this project began in May, 2020. Scope and accessibility of the project in the repository will depend on cooperation of the John H. Updike Literary Trust.

Google ranking: #3 result in a search for "Linda Grace Hoyer."

Curriculum potential: *High.* Linda Hoyer and her husband, Wesley Updike, are both graduates of Ursinus College – their only child is author John Updike. Apart from potential appeal of her literary papers to the English Department (Linda herself was a published author), her voluminous correspondence touches on many topics that could be useful as primary source documents in the humanities and social sciences. Her letters could be marketed to the History, Gender, Women's & Sexuality Studies, Media & Communication Studies, Religious Studies and Environmental Studies Departments. Her writings document life on a farm, including details of agriculture and the changing use of the land over the years. Linda was a heavy consumer of popular culture (through magazines, film and radio) and the details of her religious life and struggles as a woman and wife seeking to balance domestic duties with aspirations of being a writer are to be found in abundance.

Myrin Library Student Art Collection

Total works: 129   **Total downloads:** 3,283   **Total page hits:** 2,262

Google ranking: #1 result for "Myrin student art", #4 result for "Ursinus student art"

Social media: 1 Tweet. A student artist sent a tweet to promote her work.

Curriculum potential: *Low.* This repository collection was created purely to publicize the existence of the physical collection in the Library. The Art & Art History and Museum Studies Departments, as well as the Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College, should be aware of it.

Pennsylvania Folklife Society Collection

Total works: 292   **Total downloads:** 67,020   **Total page hits:** 18,150

Google ranking: #1 result for "Pennsylvania Folklife Society," and related publications; #5 for "fraktur collection"

Social media: 3 Tweets for this issue of PA Folklife magazine.

Mentions: 5 Wikipedia references related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: Kalona, Iowa; Sleeping Preacher; Noah Troyer; John D. Kauffman; Kauffman Amish Mennonite. 1 Wikipedia reference related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: Old Order River Brethren. 1 Wikipedia reference related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: Tramp Art. 1 Wikipedia reference related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: Ned D. Heindel. 1 Wikipedia reference related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: Susan J. Ellis. 1 blog post related to this issue of PA Folklife magazine: PA Dutch At-Home Companion: Happy Almost Easter!

The Ursinus College Fraktur Collection was mentioned (with a link) in this article on the "Antiques & The Arts Weekly" website.

The Ursinus College Fraktur Collection was featured extensively in the inaugural exhibition catalog of The Center for Pennsylvania German Studies - "Roots: Ursinus College and the Pennsylvania Germans", September 20 to December 31, 2019.

Permission requests: An image from this issue of PA Folklife Magazine was reprinted in the book, Cultures of Memory in the Nineteenth Century: Consuming Commemoration, edited by Katherine Grenier, Palgrave Macmillan Memory Studies, 2020.

Information from this issue of PA Folklife Magazine was requested for use in a Travel Channel show, "Ghost Nation: Season 2, Episode 1: The Witching Tree," first aired April 22, 2020. *It is not evident that the materials were successfully used.*

An image from this issue of PA Folklife Magazine was requested for use in a website under development by Lancaster County saffron farmer Martin Keen.

User feedback: "Oh my gosh, felt like I was back in my grandparents' home in Vestaburg, PA. I am into genealogy, and just reading all the great articles increased my knowledge so much. Going to share with others, thank you so much." – Lori Berdak Miller, researcher, St. Peters, Missouri. Qualtrix survey feedback, April 21, 2020.

"I appreciate the digitized PA Folklife – I make it an assignment every year when I teach Intro to PA German Studies" – William Donner, Professor of Anthropology, Kutztown University. Email correspondence, October 26, 2018.

"I use the digitized Folklife on a regular basis, and find it an extremely valuable resource for research." – Patrick J. Donmoyer, Director, PA German Cultural Heritage Center, Kutztown University. Email correspondence, October 2, 2017.

Metadata partner: The PA Digital Hub of the Digital Public Library of America hosts metadata records for Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine, the Dutchman Magazine and related Indexes. These records link back to the full text items in the Digital Commons repository.

External links: The Goschenhoppen Historians, an educational society dedicated to Pennsylvania German folk culture, provide links to our Pennsylvania Dutchman and Pennsylvania Folklife magazines on their website. Franklin & Marshall College Library provides a link to our volumes of the Pennsylvania Dutchman magazine. The Online Books Page, maintained by the University of Pennsylvania, provides links to our Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine and our Pennsylvania Dutchman magazine in their list of serials. WikiTree.com, a genealogy website, contains multiple links to issues of Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine.

Note: There is still a tremendous amount of material to be added to the repository as well as additional material to be evaluated for digitization and online access potential. Perhaps the most significant collection is the Alfred Shoemaker Folklife Index, a completely unique card file

system that references both Shoemaker's own documents as well as books, periodicals, newspaper articles, and other folk life sources. Shoemaker was a pioneer in Folklife studies. There could be an opportunity here to use the collection as a model of celebrating cultural traditions and apply that across cultures to highlight and celebrate diversity. The range of topics is vast, but features food, plants, animals, remedies, holidays, superstitions, magic, humor, anecdotes and more.

Curriculum potential: *High.* Both primary and secondary source materials are part of this collection, which has the potential to be used by a variety of departments in the Humanities and Social Sciences. Some of the many topics covered include agricultural practices, architecture, art, cookery, costume, dance, dialect, emigration, folk customs, medicine, religion, superstition and transportation. Issues of Pennsylvania Folklife Magazine available in the repository were used by Patrick Hurley's "Environmental Studies 338: Forests and People" class to research how settlers in Pennsylvania utilized native plant species for cooking, medicines, and building materials.

Community Projects:

Total works: 1,016   **Total downloads:** 11,289   **Total page hits:** 2,958

Community projects make up a significant portion (about 18%) of the repository's content, but it remains to be seen if they will have broad usage, accounting for just 3% of all downloads as of the time of this report. The importance of these projects, however, lies in their value as a way for Ursinus College to partner with the local community. By offering digitization and repository services to help preserve and share local history, the college offers a stable, curated home for collections that might otherwise remain hidden and inaccessible. The potential for growth is large. At the moment, we have only partnered with two organizations: **Historic Trappe** and the **Mill at Anselma**. Other possible partnerships could include: Augustus Lutheran Church, Trinity Reformed Church, the Collegeville Fire Company and the proposed Collegeville Historical Society, to name just a few. As we have seen with the Mill at Anselma, connections between organizations, businesses and student internships could produce fruitful projects that could find homes in the repository. Work also needs to be done to market such local collections to Ursinus faculty and students for use in the curriculum.

Providence Independent Newspaper, 1875-1898

Total works: 946   **Total downloads:** 10,886   **Total page hits:** 2,314

Google ranking: #1 result for a search of "Providence Independent newspaper" and "Independent newspaper Trappe." #3 result for a search of "Independent newspaper Collegeville."

Mentions: Metadata from this project is used as an example in a presentation from Murray State University, "Local History Unbridled: Anecdotal Reflection in Bringing Digitized Microfilm to Digital Commons," May 13, 2019.

Metadata partner: The PA Digital Hub of the Digital Public Library of America hosts metadata records for the Providence Independent newspaper. These records link back to the full text items in the Digital Commons repository.

Curriculum potential: *High*. The newspapers can provide primary and secondary source material on any number of events or topics local to the area as well as on a broader scale. These early newspapers in particular contain much information about agricultural practices and local industries (as well as advertisements pertaining to these areas). Topics covered could appeal to many disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences, such as woman suffrage, transportation, religious practice, crime, politics, race, education, and Prohibition. Images from the digitized newspapers were used in two digital Storymap projects in the class "Environmental Studies 336: Ecological Change in Historical Perspective": Collegeville in Transition: A Look at Landscape Change on the Ursinus College Campus and Beyond and Northern Star Dairy Farm: A Case Study of Ecological Change in Trappe, Pennsylvania.

The Mill at Anselma

Total works: 70   **Total downloads:** 403   **Total page hits:** 644

Total streams: 64

Google ranking: Page two for a search of "Mill at Anselma." #3 result for "Sara Oberholtzer"; #1 result for "Mill Anselma oral history."

Curriculum potential: *Low*. The student projects contained in this collection are on very specialized topics that will probably not be used by others in the curriculum. However, the relationship with the Mill could provide the opportunity for other students to build upon these projects or create new projects related to other topics at the Mill.

Opportunities and Challenges

- The repository is growing in several important directions. **Community** partnerships, the increasing participation of **campus partners** (like the Berman Museum of Art, Theater and Dance Department and UCARE), and the increasing collection of digital **class projects** are all good signs that mesh with current trends in repository growth across all Digital Commons IRs (see below image from a bepress webinar). Developing and supporting community partnerships (on and off-campus) is a guiding principle of the college's master planning.
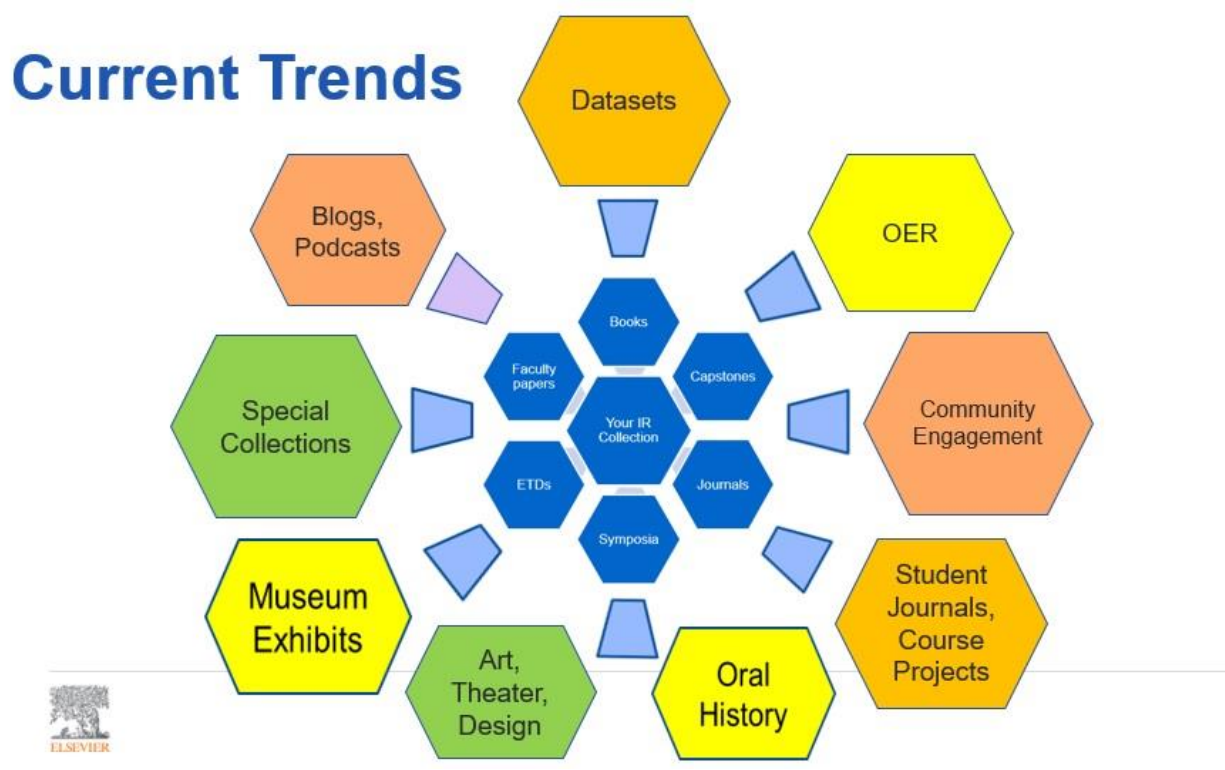

Image from "20 Cool Things to Do with Digital Commons" by Christine Yang, February 26, 2020

- Current **students** and **alumni** can benefit from having their scholarship available in the repository. Ursinus College can benefit from this opportunity to engage with alumni regarding the preservation and access of their academic works and can stay connected with young alumni whose work becomes utilized and cited by other scholars. Building such lifelong connections is a key component of the college's strategic plan.

- Digitized **archives** and **special collections** can be useful to the curriculum and could potentially alleviate some questions directed to the College Archivist and other Librarians (which can be answered by searching the IR). This could provide an opportunity to free up time to engage with more specialized projects in these departments and partner with faculty on using the items in their classes.

- More needs to be done to engage **faculty** with the IR. There may be opportunities to engage department administrative assistants with some of the work of tracking faculty scholarship or perhaps creating new student positions (something akin to the Biology Department's Communications Outreach Associate) to assist in this work.

- More needs to be done to engage faculty with **open educational resources**. Encouraging faculty to adopt open textbooks for courses could provide a significant cost savings for students. This is another opportunity for Ursinus College to engage with students and look for ways to help ease financial burdens. OERs are also a wonderful publishing opportunity for faculty and yet another way to increase awareness of Ursinus.

- **Publishing** remains a missed opportunity. The IR is built upon a platform that incorporates a mechanism for peer reviewed publishing and editing. Through this platform, other institutions have published books, student journals, literary magazines and other content. Creating a new undergraduate research journal, perhaps tied to a course and/or one of Ursinus' distinctive centers or institutes, could be a fantastic opportunity for the college.

- **Staffing** remains a challenge. At present, one full time librarian is tasked with digitization efforts, cataloging, instruction and managing, populating and promoting the IR. One library staff member devotes partial time to assisting with some digitizing and metadata tasks. Student workers are hired to assist and help fill gaps. In an ideal world, one additional full-time librarian, perhaps in an outreach position with an OER focus, would be added to this team.

Vision for an Engaged Campus

What would the institutional repository look like if the entire campus community truly engaged with it?

- **Faculty in all academic departments would archive their work**

    o Published articles

    o Book chapters

    o Conference presentations

    o Baden lectures

    o Data sets

- **More exceptional student work (in addition to Honors and Summer Fellows projects) would be included**

    o Capstone projects

    o Independent study projects

    o Conference presentations

    o Prize work (i.e. Robert Rifkin Prize for best original music composition)

    o Reflective essays (including Study Abroad and Internship experiences)

    o Dance, Music and Theater performances

    o Art works

    o Podcasts

    o Watson Fellows and Charles Rice Research Fellows projects

    o Diversity monologues

- **Departments, Clubs and other Student Organizations would take advantage of the repository**
    - Event photos
    - Newsletters
    - Scrapbooks and other historic materials
    - Interviews and oral histories
    - Collections (i.e. Dr. Lee Porter & Paul J. Lazar rock and mineral collection in Pfahler Hall)

- <u>**Distinctive Programs, Centers and Institutes would be featured**</u>
    - Science and the Common Good and Melrose Center lectures
    - Bear Innovation proposals / contest winners
    - Institute for Inclusion & Equity events, activities
    - Philly X student work

- <u>**Alumni would be contacted for permissions to include their work**</u>
    - Honors theses
    - Summer Fellows projects
    - Other faculty-nominated works

A truly integrated institutional repository provides opportunities to showcase the best of Ursinus College and fits well with several of its strategic objectives. Engaging students and alumni about their work helps **build lifelong connections** to the college. It allows the college to **intensify its commitment to diversity and inclusion** by showcasing the works and histories of underrepresented or marginalized groups. And it provides a platform which **celebrates Ursinus College – past, present and future**.