

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

ScholarWorks@UARK

Institutional Digital Repository Annual Progress
Report

Libraries

1-2018

The University of Arkansas Institutional Digital Repository annual progress report, January 2018

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Libraries

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ScholarWorks@UARK
The University of Arkansas Institutional Digital Repository
Mid-Year Progress Report for FY 2018
(1 July - 31 December 2017)
Submitted January 2018

Executive Summary

ScholarWorks@UARK showcases the research, scholarship, and creative work of the U of A Fayetteville community. By making this content open access, the institutional digital repository offers the knowledge produced by faculty, staff, students, and affiliates to users around the world without charge. The repository is managed by the Office of Scholarly Communications (OSC) and jointly sponsored by the University Libraries and the Office of Research and Innovation. This report documents the repository's growth and the increasing use of its contents from 1 July through 31 December 2017.

During this six-month period, the number of items in ScholarWorks increased by 18% (from 6186 items on 1 July to 7288 items on 31 December). This period also saw a significant increase in usage: 190,817 downloads and 26,232 hits, compared to 69,685 downloads and 9819 hits for 1 July through 31 December 2016. The world map (Figure A) illustrates the geographic distribution of readers; the pie chart (Figure B) shows their institutional affiliation by category, i.e., educational, commercial, government. Figures C through F show holdings and use for the major collections. For in-the-moment data, please see the map and the colorful graphics on the [ScholarWorks@UARK](#) home page.

Supporting the Guiding Priorities

Through ScholarWorks, the University Libraries and the Office of Research and Innovation support the [Guiding Priorities](#) related to educating students and fulfilling our responsibilities as Arkansas's premier university.

Priority: Reaffirming Our Land-Grant and Flagship Responsibilities

ScholarWorks makes the research, scholarship, and creative work of the U of A community available to citizens of the state, the region, and the nation. At the same time, by partnering with organizations such as the Arkansas Academy of Science and the Arkansas Natural Resources Law Institute, we extend two-way channels into every corner of the state.

Priorities: Advancing Student Success; Strengthening Graduate Education; Promoting Innovation in Teaching and Learning

ScholarWorks offers open education materials, produced by U of A faculty and affiliates, in a variety of media, which help to reduce students' costs. The opportunity to publicize their achievements in the repository gives students incentive to excel whether they are writing an honors thesis or shooting photographs during a Study Abroad trip. The student research journals give undergraduates experience with writing, peer review, and publishing. Students can then provide the ScholarWorks URL on a CV, inviting employers and graduate school admissions officers to view their accomplishments. At the same time, by showcasing the achievements of current students, the repository assists in attracting the most promising prospective students to the U of A.

Collections

The repository houses four categories of collections: 1) teaching material, 2) student research and creative work; 3) research and creative work produced by U of A centers and departments, and 4) scholarly journals published by the U of A and other Arkansas organizations.

Teaching Materials

In support of the University Libraries' effort to promote the development and use of open education resources, we are recruiting teaching material produced by U of A instructors and affiliates. Currently, the collection includes the video [Chemistry at Work](#) produced by Prof. Wesley Stites, the video [Communicating with Color](#) produced by Prof. Sam King, and 14 documentaries about Arkansas history and the Arkansas environment produced by the award-winning film-makers and journalism professors, Dale Carpenter and Larry Foley. We plan to include materials created through the [Open Education Resources Incentive Program](#), sponsored by the University Libraries and the Office of the Vice Provost for Distance Education.

Student Research and Creative Work

The repository now houses the complete run of undergraduate honors theses for 2005-2017 and the complete run of graduate theses and dissertations for 2009-2017, for departments which require deposit. Please refer to Graphs E and F. Other collections of student work include:

*[Discovery: The Student Journal of the Dale Bumpers College of Agriculture](#) Currently, ScholarWorks contains the two most recent issues. Over the coming months, we will upload the complete run of back issues; we will also provide a complete editorial management system for future issues.

*[Inquiry: The University of Arkansas Undergraduate Research Journal](#) Fred Spiegel, Director, Office of Undergraduate Research, serves as the editor for this semi-annual journal. We host the back issues, from Fall 2000 through the present, and Prof. Spiegel has begun using the management system for submission and peer review.

*[Study Abroad Photo Contest](#) Study Abroad and International Exchange sponsors this annual contest for students; web visitors can view all the winners from 2014 through 2017.

We also welcome students who contribute work on their own initiative. For example, Jonathan Carlson, a student in the Journalism Department, submitted the documentary on environment-friendly burial practices, [Green Grass above Me](#).

Research Produced by U of A Centers and Departments

Showcasing the U of A's productivity and contributions to economic development, ScholarWorks boasts a [directory of patents](#) granted to faculty, researchers, and staff from 1976 through the present. Since July 2017, we've added collections from three premier research centers:

*[Arkansas Water Resources Center, Technical Reports](#): 153 reports, dating from 1973 through the present

*[Office for Education Policy, Briefs](#): 58 briefs, dating from 2011 through the present

*[Department of Education Reform, College of Education and Health Professions, Working Papers](#): 72 working papers, dating from 2010 to the present (links to papers posted on SSRN)

[School of Law, Faculty Profiles](#): profiles created in the SelectedWorks Gallery populate the [law faculty directory](#)

Scholarly Journals Produced by Arkansas Organizations

As with the student journals *Discovery* and *Inquiry*, ScholarWorks hosts the back issues of the following journals; for some, we also provide an editorial management system.

*[Journal of the Arkansas Academy of Science](#) This annual, peer-reviewed volume advances the Academy's goal of promoting science within the state and broadly disseminating the work of Arkansas scientists in disciplines ranging from the biomedical and natural sciences to math and computer science. The repository contains the complete series from 1941 through the present.

*[Arkansas Law Review](#) The *Review* publishes scholarly and authoritative articles on significant state, national, and international legal issues. The repository currently hosts the 2016 and 2017 issues; we will add new issues as they become available.

*[Annual of the Arkansas Natural Resources Law Institute](#) This publication contains papers presented at the annual meetings of the Institute (formerly the Arkansas Oil and Gas Institute). To date, with the assistance of the U of A School of Law Library and the University Libraries' Digital Services Unit, we have posted 111 articles published from 1962 through the present. We will continue posting new articles as well as the remaining articles as we clear permissions for them.

Holdings and Usage Statistics

From 1 July through 31 December 2017, the number of items in ScholarWorks increased by 18% (from 6186 items on 1 July to 7288 items on 31 December). This period also saw a significant increase in usage: 190,817 downloads and 26,232 hits, compared to 69,685 downloads and 9819 hits for 1 July through 31 December 2016. The world map (Figure A) illustrates the readers' (i.e., web visitors) geographic distribution. During this period, we had readers from 213 countries. Not surprisingly, the greatest number were located in the US and the rest of the Anglophone world. The pie chart (Figure B) shows the readers' institutional affiliations (i.e., educational, commercial, government). We had readers from 11,187 institutions; 59% of these were educational institutions but a surprising 29% were commercial organizations. As Figure C shows, per month usage rose over 25,000 hits and downloads in August and remained above this point throughout the rest of 2017. We saw peak usage in October and November. Figure D, showing the total usage of holdings by college, reveals that Arts and Sciences took first place in usage (50,645) and in the number of items in our holdings (1231). Second place in usage and holdings went to Engineering.

Figure E shows life-to-date downloads and holdings for graduate theses and dissertations by college. Arts and Sciences again took first place in the number of downloads (50,025) and in holdings (1015). Engineering took second place in downloads (28,849), followed closely by Agriculture, Food, and Life Science (28,610). Yet Agriculture, Food, and Life Science took second place in holdings (510) with Engineering trailing in third place (459). Finally, Figure F shows life-to-date downloads and holdings for undergraduate honors theses by college. Here, Engineering took a strong first place in both downloads (3706) and holdings (466). Business took second in downloads (3165); Education and Health Professions took a distant second in holdings (191).

For in-the-moment data on holdings and usage, please see the map and the colorful graphics on the [ScholarWorks@UARK](#) home page.

Promotion

In collaboration with the Libraries' faculty and staff, we promote ScholarWorks and encourage all members of the campus community both to use the collections and to deposit their own work. In August 2017, the OSC hosted a table at the New Faculty Orientation, the Graduate Student Orientation, and the International Students Orientation; in November, the OSC participated in the first Honors College Research Conference. Khandi Gordon, an OSC staff member, created attractive posters and handouts for these events. In October, OSC personnel gave presentations for the Research Committee of the Computer Activities Council, the College of Education and Health Professions, and both the faculty meeting and the staff meeting at the University Libraries. During the fall semester, the *Newswire* published the following four articles on repository collections:

[Journalism Professor's Documentaries Now Available](#), 9 October 2017

[Arkansas Water Resources Center Materials Available](#), 28 November 2017

[New Exhibit in Mullins Library Showcases Study Abroad Photo Contest](#), 21 November 2017

[Communicating With Color: An Open Access Week Presentation](#), 25 October 2017

Continuous Improvement

The success of ScholarWorks requires continual upgrading and improvement of systems and procedures to ensure cost-effective, efficient, and user-friendly operations. It also requires continual monitoring to ensure that systems and procedures align with the profession's best practices, U of A policies, and all applicable laws. For example, we added captions (or, in some cases, transcripts) to the instructional videos mentioned above in order to make them accessible to the hearing impaired. As another example, this past summer, Cedar Middleton, Institutional Repository Coordinator, collaborated with administrative assistants in the Honors College to perfect the undergraduate honors thesis submission process. She also collaborated with Graduate School administrative assistants to revise the thesis/dissertation submission forms and provide an explanation of how these forms align with ProQuest's forms. Ms. Middleton also took on the task of correcting name authorities within the Digital Commons system, called the "author merge tool," to ensure that all of the articles or items are connected to the correct author.

Most importantly, in October, we formed the Scholarly Communications Advisory Committee, composed of representatives from the campus academic community and the Libraries, which will participate in designing programs, provide feedback on program performance, and assist with publicity.

In 2018, the OSC will continue to expand the volume and scope of the holdings in ScholarWorks by forging partnerships with organizations dedicated to research and teaching both across campus and around the state.

Melody Herr, Head, Office of Scholarly Communications
Cedar Middleton, Institutional Repository Coordinator
Khandi Gordon, Institutional Repository Assistant

Figure A
 ScholarWorks@UARK Readership: Geographic Distribution
 1 July through 31 December 2017



Countries represented: 213

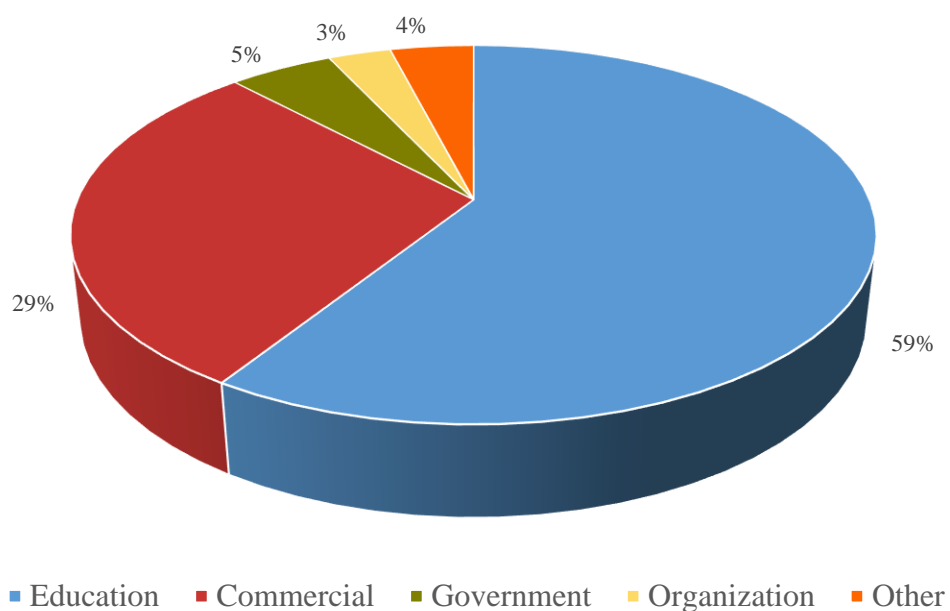
Total usage: 217,034

Total Usage – downloads plus hits

Download – web visitor downloaded the file

Hit – web visitor viewed the description of the item but did not download the file

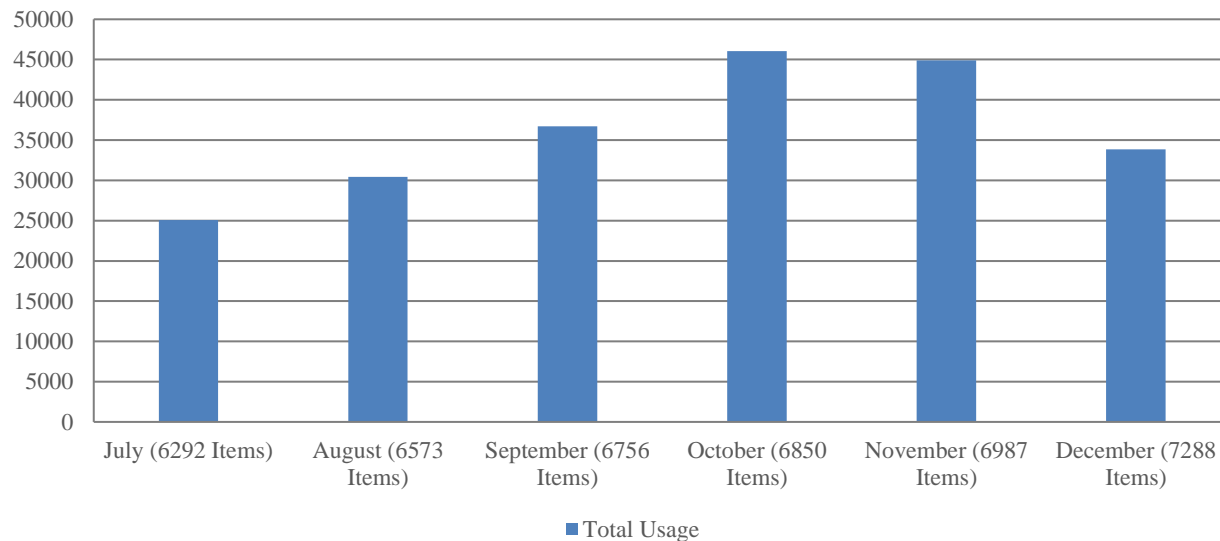
Figure B
ScholarWorks@UARK Readership: Institutional Affiliation
1 July through 31 December 2017



Institutions represented: 11,187

Figure C

ScholarWorks@UARK Total Usage of All Holdings by Month
1 July through 31 December 2017



Month	Total Items	Total Usage
July	6292	25062
August	6573	30443
September	6756	36706
October	6850	46069
November	6987	44909
December	7288	33845

Items – includes all items in ScholarWorks and SelectedWorks; each journal article counts as an individual item

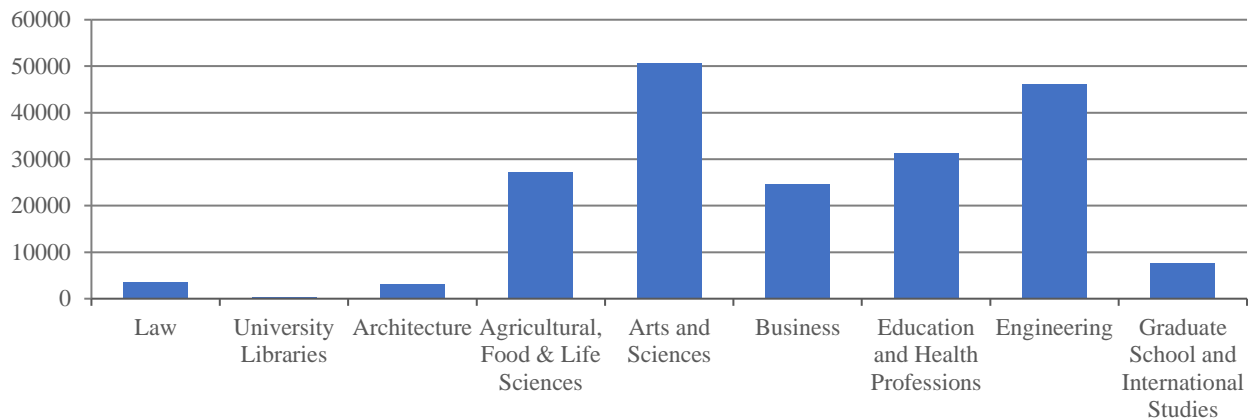
Total Usage – downloads plus hits

Download – web visitor downloaded the file

Hit – web visitor viewed the description of the item but did not download the file

Figure D

ScholarWorks@UARK Total Usage of Holdings by College
1 July through 31 December 2017



Colleges/Departments	Total Items	Total Usage
Law	147	3539
University Libraries	24	423
Architecture	37	3158
Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences	735	27234
Arts and Sciences	1231	50645
Business	223	24601
Education and Health Professions	610	31379
Engineering	1028	46189
Graduate School and International Studies	239	7671

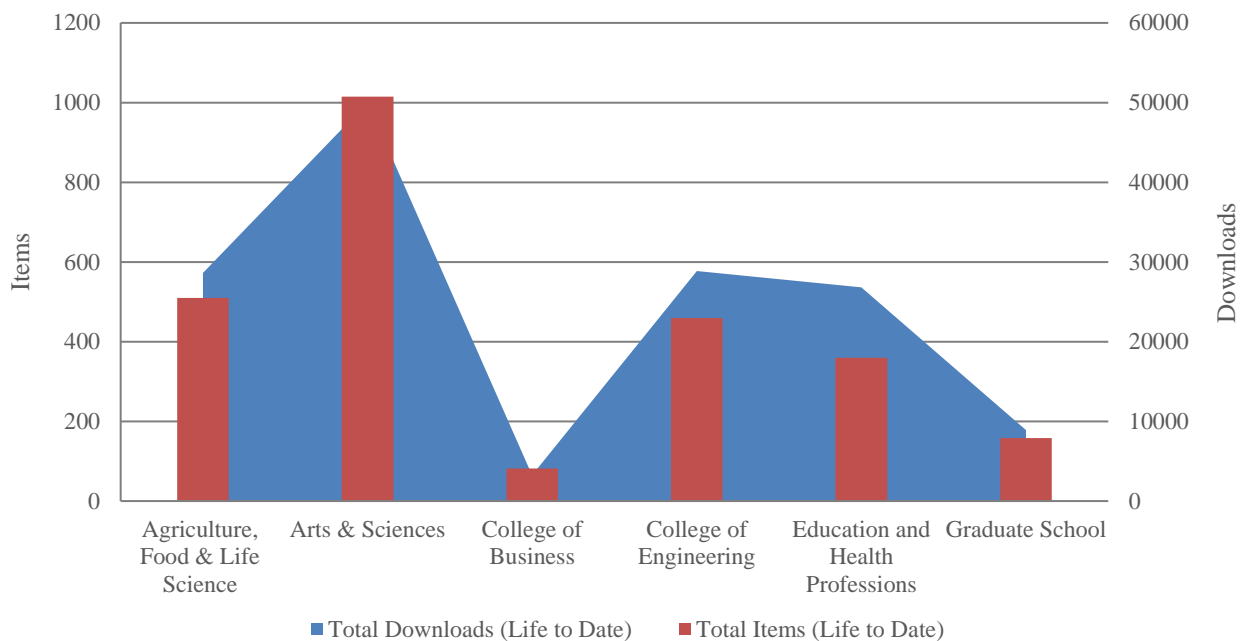
Items – includes all items in ScholarWorks

Total Usage – downloads plus hits

Download – web visitor downloaded the file

Hit – web visitor viewed the description of the item but did not download the file

Figure E
 Graduate Theses/Dissertations by College
 Life-to-Date Holdings and Downloads as of 31 December 2017



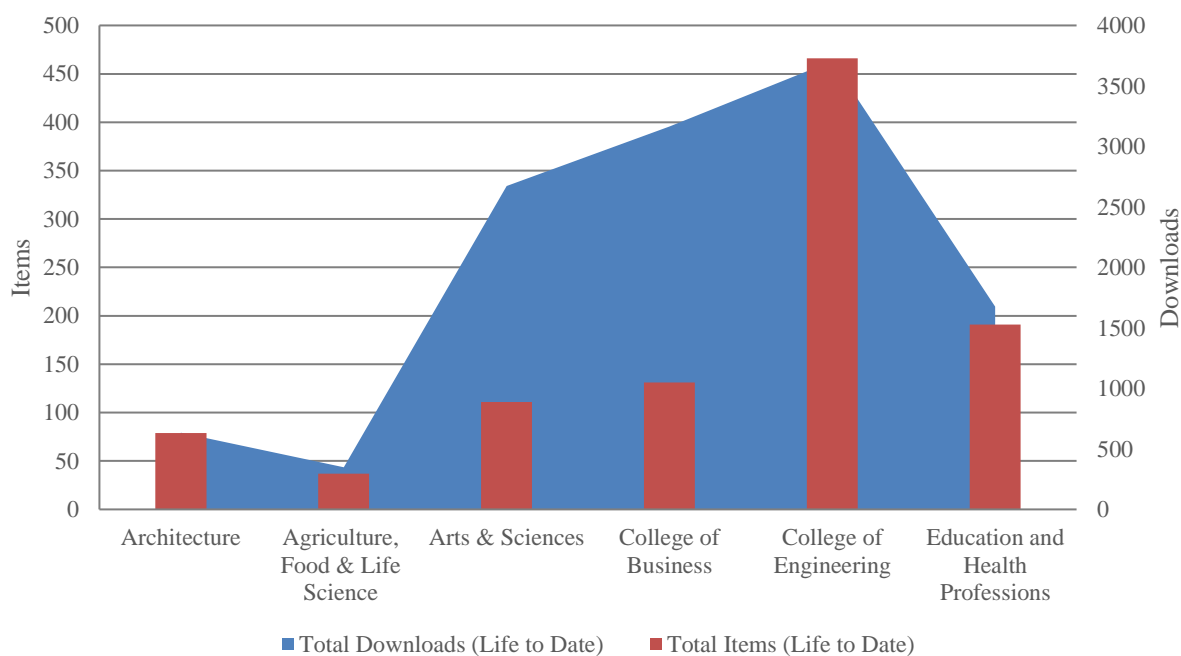
College	Total Downloads (Life-to-Date)	Total Items (Life-to-Date)
Agriculture, Food & Life Science	28610	510
Arts & Sciences	50025	1015
College of Business	3255	82
College of Engineering	28849	459
Education and Health Professions	26810	360
Graduate School	8922	158

Items – includes only graduate theses/dissertations

Download – web visitor downloaded the file

Figure F

Undergraduate Honors Theses by College
Life-to-Date Holdings and Downloads as of 31 December 2017



College	Total Downloads (Life-to-Date)	Total Items (Life-to-Date)
Architecture	634	79
Agriculture, Food & Life Science	347	37
Arts & Sciences	2673	111
College of Business	3165	131
College of Engineering	3706	466
Education and Health Professions	1676	191

Items – includes only undergraduate honors theses

Download – web visitor downloaded the file