IR’s and Digital Commons:

A Brief Primer

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What is an "institutional repository?"
What is an IR?

“A set of services that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members.”

Clifford Lynch, ARL Bimonthly Report 226, Feb 2003
What is an IR?

“…"Institutional repositories…respond to two strategic issues facing academic institutions:

• they provide a central component in reforming *scholarly communication by stimulating innovation* in a disaggregated publishing structure; and

• they serve as *tangible indicators of an institution's quality*, thus increasing its visibility, prestige, and public value.”

Raym Crow, 2002 SPARC White Paper
Digital Commons is:

• An Institutional Showcase - aka: “IR”
  • Collect, manage, then disseminate intellectual output of the institution
  • Vibrant, growing, dynamic…

• Built on a Commercial grade publishing platform
  • Apply structure to content, e.g. create an e-journal
  • Submission management, including workflows
  • Editorial tools, including peer-review workflows
Results in a beautiful place

• Portal for all your content
• Institutional branding
• Unique design for each journal or event
• No limits on size of repository
• Google analytic reports and Monthly reports to authors with download counts for all submission
• Professional backup and fail-over strategy
Digital Commons is:

A Fully hosted *service*, enabling our customers to focus on delivering publishing-related services to campus stakeholders and not a complex set of IT projects!
The Hub of Intellectual Output

Digital Commons

- Collections
- Faculty scholarship
- Student scholarship
- Community outreach
- Institutional life
- Institutional resources
- Scholarly publishing
- Events publishing
Examples of Faculty Scholarship

Articles: (ILR) at Cornell University
E-journals: McMaster University
Conferences: Interprofessional Case Conference
Monographs/Books: Dictionary of Invertebrate Zoology
Datasets: Southern Illinois University - Carbondale
Collaboration: University of Pennsylvania: CUREJ
SelectedWorks: Cal Poly: SelectedWorks

Benefits:
Self Promotion
Collaboration
Access/Discovery
Preservation
Examples of Student Scholarship

ETDs:

Capstone Projects:

Preservation:

E-journals and conferences:
Examples of Community Outreach

External
Babson College: STEP Project
University of Nebraska: Community engagement
University of Massachusetts Amherst: Community engagement

Internal
UTexas Grad School of Biomedical Sciences News
Pacific University: repository annual report
Thomas Jefferson Dept of Surgery: Surgical Solutions
Examples of Collections

Book Chapter with related content
Institutional life
Digital Commons: a full service offering

- **Client Services**
  Free IR managers from the headaches of technically supporting users of the platform

- **Outreach**
  Facilitate the sharing of best practices for IR success

- **Development**
  Provide continuous upgrades and enhancements driven by subscribers
### Why a showcase?

#### Summary of Benefits

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