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Open Access Books and the Lever Press

Charles Watkinson
The University Of Michigan

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Open Access Books and the Lever Press

Macalester College, March 2, 2016

Charles Watkinson

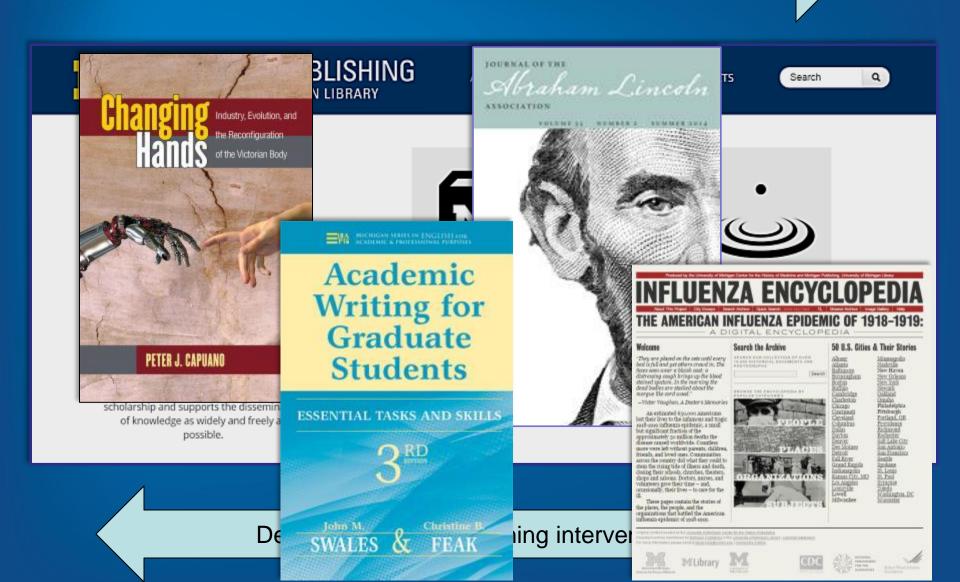
AUL, Publishing, University of Michigan Library

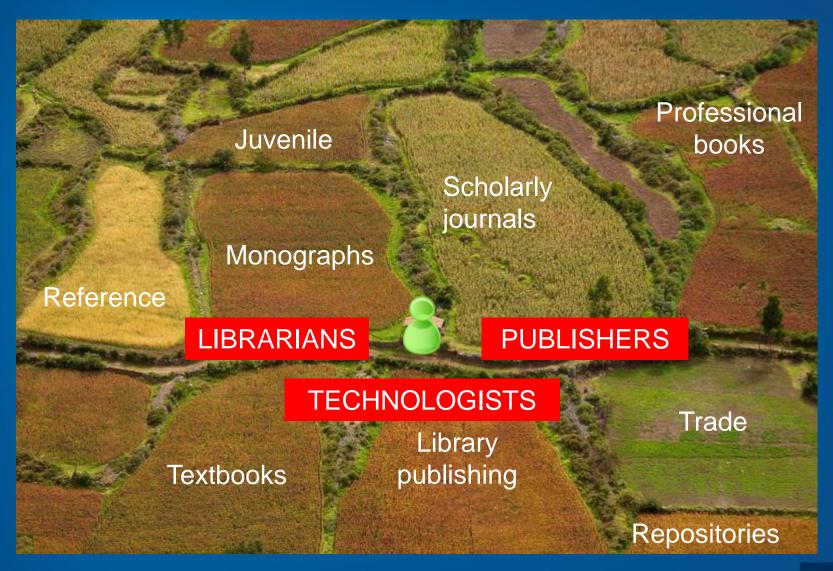
Director, University of Michigan Press





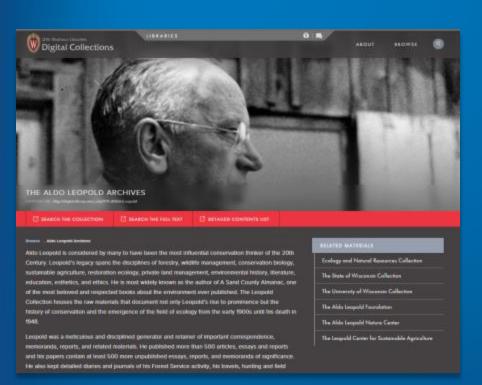
Degree of institutional (vs. disciplinary) focus







The "Edge Effect" or Ecotone







"In environmental parlance, the ecotone is the zone where two habitats merge. It's where species from both sides converge, rendering it a place of complex interaction and diversity.

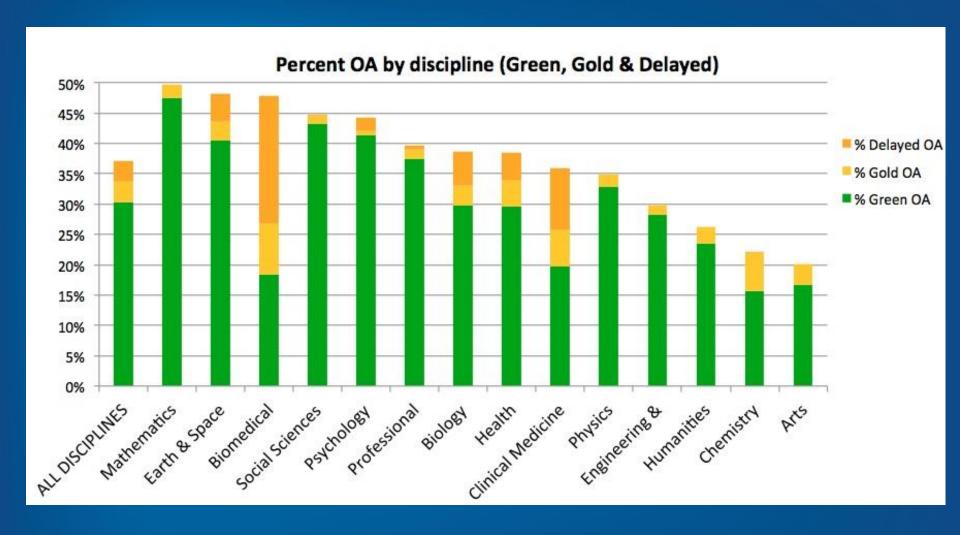
Humans, too, have some primal appreciation for this piece of environmental real estate. We seem to know that the edge is where the action is, or the place you push things to for the best results.

When you understand the periphery's purpose and significance in ecology, it gives you another way to understand different edges in human society and how their energy is created."



Open Access for Articles





Overall, about 30% of the academic and scientific literature is OA (2/3 via green and 1/3 gold). Around15% of journals are OA. OA revenue (\$290 m) accounts for only about 4% of STM journals market (\$6.8 bn)



Gold Open Access





A peer-reviewed, open access journal



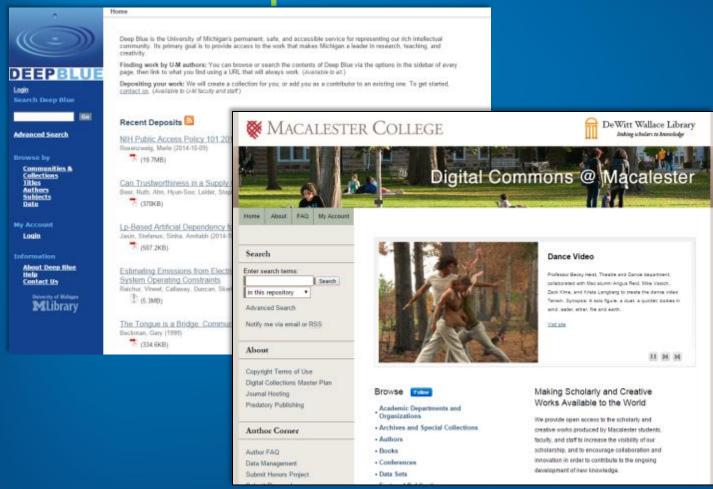
WILEY Open Access



Open Access publishing at Cambridge



Green Open Access







PubMed Central: 3.8 million articles



Social Sciences Research Network: 548,000 full text articles



> 1.1 million e-prints in Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Quantitative Biology, Quantitative Finance and Statistics



Over 9.5 million papers

ResearchGate

Over 19 million full texts







The Obama Administration is committed to the proposition that citizens deserve easy access to the results of scientific research their tax dollars have paid for. That's why, in a policy memorandum released today, OSTP Director John Holdren has directed Federal agencies with more than \$100M in R&D expenditures to develop plans to make the published results of federally funded research freely available to the public within one year of publication and requiring researchers to better account for and manage the digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. OSTP has been looking into this issue for some time, soliciting broad public input on multiple occasions and convening an interagency working group to develop a policy. The final policy reflects substantial inputs from scientists and scientific organizations, publishers, members of Congress, and other members of the public—over 65 thousand of whom recently signed a *We the People* petition asking for expanded public access to the results of taxpayer-funded research.



Open Access for Monographs The New Edge?



What is a Monograph?

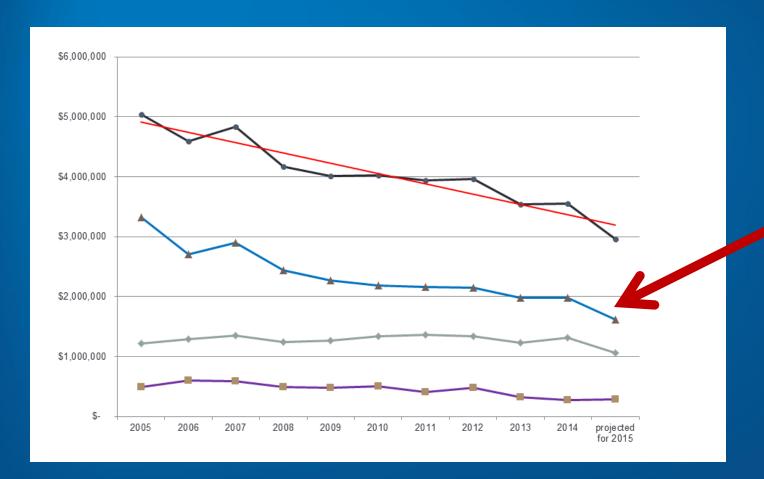




- "a work of scholarship on a particular topic or theme which is written by a scholar or scholars and intended for use primarily by other scholars" Thompson (2005).
- US university presses collectively publish 14,600 books/year.
- Omit OUP and CUP, new editions of existing books, trade books, regional titles, collections of essays, books designed for classroom use, and reference books – and 5,000 of them are monographs.
- Of those 5,000 monographs, 4,000 are in the humanities, as defined by BISAC codes.
- A monograph can have more than one author, but it has to be a sustained argument. No collections of essays or books designed specifically for classroom use.



The Academic Monograph Problem





Bad for Everyone . . .

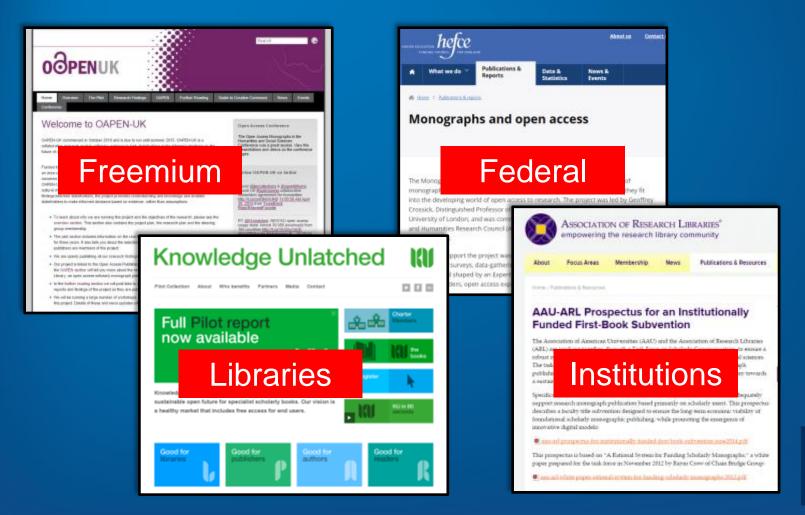
- Publishers: Average \$10,000 loss on every book is unsustainable
- Librarians: Increased prices of books
 & extended digital rights management
- Authors: Impact of research affected by lack of circulation of copies



Is There a Better Way?



2013-14: Explorations into OA books





DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

11,275 Journals 7,015 searchable at Article level 136 Countries 2,199,738 Articles

> 2,000,000 articles

Interacting with DOAJ

Open Access Information

Best Practice

Download metadata



Our members

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Our volunteers



4256 Academic peer-reviewed books from **139** publishers

News Register for newsletter

 2015-06-17 DOAB wins the 2015 IFLA/Brill Open Access award

<4,500 books

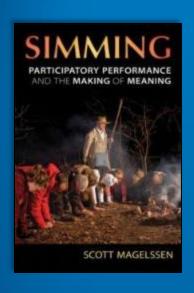
DOOKS III DOAD

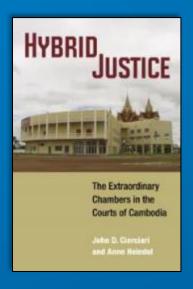
• 2014-12-17 OpenEdition Partnership

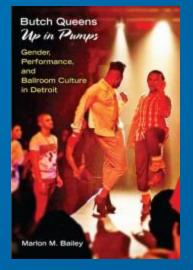
Archive



Cost of producing monographs is high







\$25,226

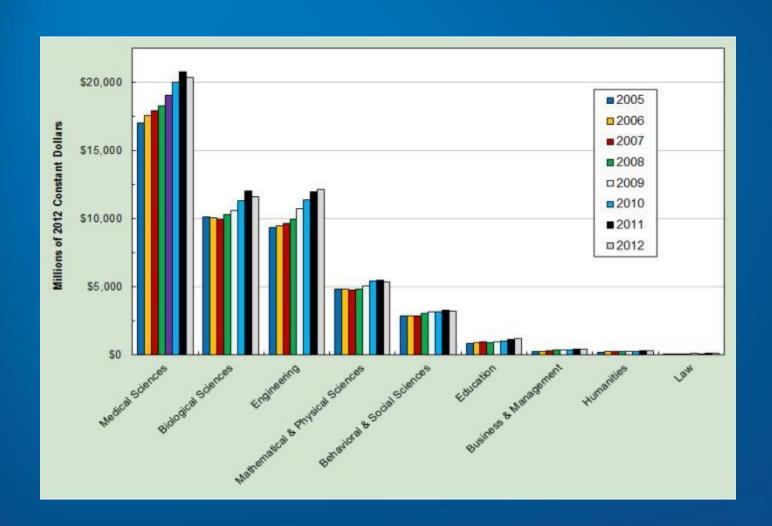
\$27,210

\$34,556

http://www.sr.ithaka.org/publications/the-costs-of-publishing-monographs/

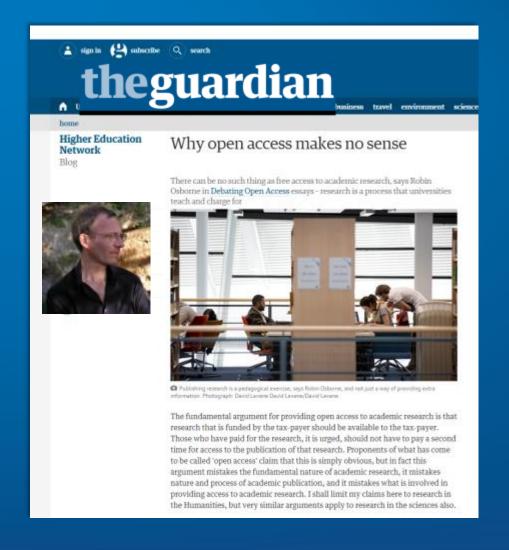


Funding for humanities research is low





Many scholars are nervous





2014-15: Business Models Emerge

expectation of payment by authors















Knowledge Unlatched



number of funders involved

2014-15: Refocus on Author Needs

The Future of the Monograph in the Digital Era: A Report to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation by Emory University (July 1, 2015) https://pid.emory.edu/ark:/25593/q4fd0

A Study of Direct Author Subvention for Publishing Humanities Books at Two Universities: A Report to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation by Indiana University & University of Michigan (Sept 15, 2015) http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/113671



OA Monographs: Challenges

Authors worry about . . .

- lower perceived value
- loss of royalties
- disenfranchising authors from less wealthy-institutions
- increased risk of plagiarism or use out of context / without authorization
- the effect on academic freedom of funding consolidation
- undermining the university press tradition of quality.

Plus issues that are more broadly digital in nature:

- ephemerality of electronic media
- the pedagogically sub-optimal nature of online reading
- the death of print.



OA Monographs: Opportunities

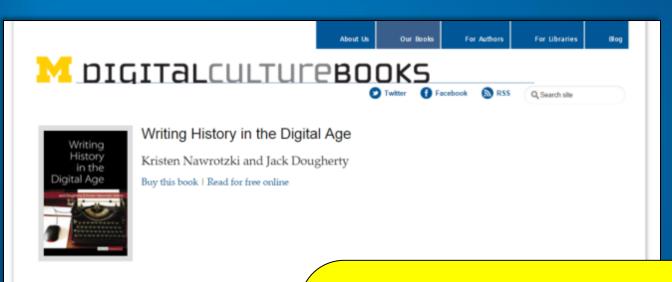
Authors are interested in . . .

- The philosophical rightness of an open approach
- Extended impact for their work
 - with a social justice motivation
 - with a public accountability motivation
 - with a desire to target particular specialist publics
- Facilitation of data sharing and reuse

with level of enthusiasm most correlated with disciplinary background.



Philosophically Right



About the Book

With our unique focus on writing, our innovative web-born for ways humanities scholars – and historians in particular – have t delivered in advance of his forthcoming book, The Ivory Tower a "to impose traditional ivory tower genres on the web" rather th would happen, Cohen asks, if we reversed this flow and "embr. norms of scholarly work, particularly in how we generate and c explore in our Writing History volume.

About the Authors

Jack A. Dougherty is Associate Professor of Educational Studie

Kristen D. Nawrotzki is Lecturer, Faculty for Social Sciences, P. Germany, and Senior Research Fellow, Early Childhood Research

"The most principled reason for academics to publish is to share ideas and engage with the ideas of others, as part of a larger process of enriching the body of knowledge. We embrace the arguments that open-access scholarship is more widely discoverable, useful, and consistent with the principles of our scholarly societies."



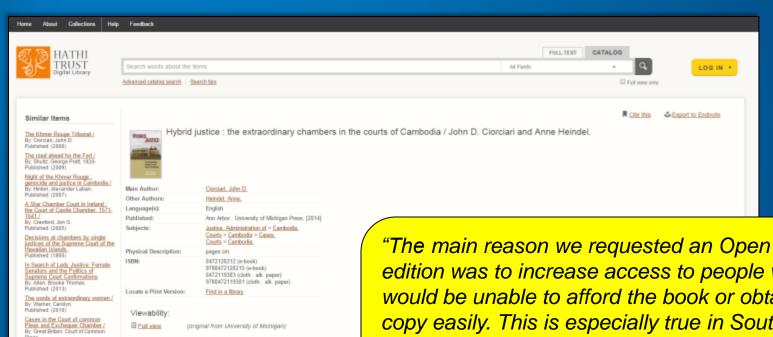
Extended Impact

Published: (1835)

Published: (2009)
Cambodia, the justice system and violations of human rights /

Published (1992)

Hybridization of MNE subsidiaries : the automotive sector in India / By: Becker-Ritterspech, Florian A. A.,



edition was to increase access to people who would be unable to afford the book or obtain a copy easily. This is especially true in Southeast Asia, where we expect many interested readers to be. The top priority is on sharing our message with as many readers as possible."



Data Sharing and Reuse

Heroic Offerings will be of interest to student archaeology, to those interested in ancient re inspired by Athens' chief political rival, Sparta

This volume received financial support from the



Large terracotta relief

depicting seated man with pomegranate.

SEA 171 (614671)

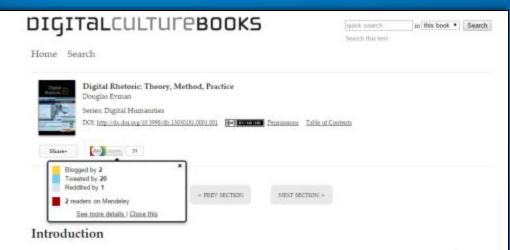


Design principles for OA monograph platforms

- Emphasis on accessibility (broadly defined)
 - e.g., responsive design, readable by machines, quick-toload files
- Focus on discoverability, with success measured through by rich quantitative and qualitative analytics
 - e.g., use of standard identifiers, integration into information supply chain, quantitative and qualitative metrics of use
- Integration with data curation infrastructure
 - e.g., selective access restriction possible, participation in preservation networks
- Hybrid funding models that reduce any direct cost to the author through "magpie" revenue approaches



digitalculturebooks



A common exercise in the first-year composition course is the literacy narrative—an autobiographical reflection upon the paths, interests, and practices that led the writer to the very moment of writing the narrative, focusing in particular on reading and writing as the pillars of literacy. A variation on this assignment, first introduced to me by Dickie Selfe (see Kitalong, Bridgeford, Moore, & Selfe, 2003), is the technology literacy narrative, which shifts focus from reading and writing to using and producing digital texts and the ways in which the writer has



I have chosen to begin this introduction with lieve that it is particularly unique or an writing teacher to digital rhetorician and in loper of this project and acknowledging that e lenses of theory, method, and practice are which I've traveled. III

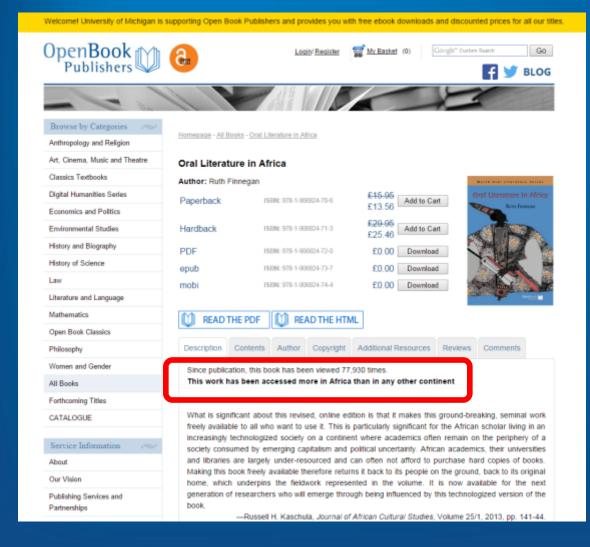
academic discipline and intellectual tradition orked to make sure that I don't let my own most familiar. In fact, I believe that digital ed in departments of communication or established fields, like media studies, and dies (the relationship between digital rhetoric "Defining and Locating Digital Rhetoric"). Disciplinarily focused

Accessibility, metrics, linkage to data

Freemium funding model - print and ebook income plus institutional support



Open Book Publishers



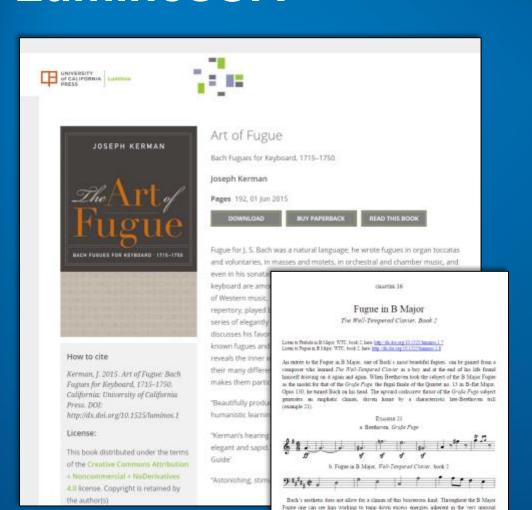
Disciplinarily broad

Accessibility, metrics, linkage to data

Freemium, library memberships, and grants



LuminosOA



tracectory of his material. A melody that spayes up an octove, from law tonic to high tensor.

Disciplinarily broad

Accessibility, metrics, linkage to data (cf. Captive Audiences, Captive Performers)

Mainly author charges, subsidized by library members and other sources.

So What Does The Growth of OA Monographs Mean for Macalester and Neighboring Schools?



Opportunities

- Born digital research and teaching resources can be richly published in a multimodal format
- Better reach for the scholarship produced, impacting communities beyond the Academy
- More useful feedback for authors in the form of usage metrics as well as just sales reports

Challenges

- Promotion and tenure norms need to recognize the worth of nontraditional outputs
- Funding may need to be made available by institution to support author payment requests
- Preservation commitment to complex digital resources needs to match that in the world of print



2016: Liberal Arts Colleges intervene in the move to OA monographs

Agnes Scott

Allegheny

Amherst

Atlanta Univ Ctr

Bard

Bates

Berea

Bowdoin

Carleton

Claremont Colleges

Coe

College of St. Benedict/St. John's

Denison University

Depauw

Earlham

Furman University

Grinnell

Hamilton

Haverford

Kenyon

Knox

Lafayette







Lake Forest

Macalester

Middlebury

Oberlin

Rollins

Sewanee

Skidmore

Smith

St. Olaf

St. Lawrence

St. Norbert's

Susquehanna

Swarthmore

Trinity University

Union

University of Puget Sound

Ursinus

Vassar

Washington & Lee

Whitman

Williams

College of Wooster



Lever Press's 3 Commitments

Alignment with mission and ethos of LACs

- Created and governed by LAC librarians and other faculty
- A powerful voice for the publishing needs of LAC faculty

"Platinum" Open Access

- No author charges, ever. Thanks to LAC library support
- Publications selected solely on basis of merit, not ability to pay

Digitally native

- Optimized for the publication of multimodal scholarship
- Speedy, digitally-enabled, workflows



Thank You

watkinc@umich.edu publishing.umich.edu leverpress.org



