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Showcasing Student, Faculty and Staff Publications: Promoting, populating and publishing in a small liberal arts college institutional repository

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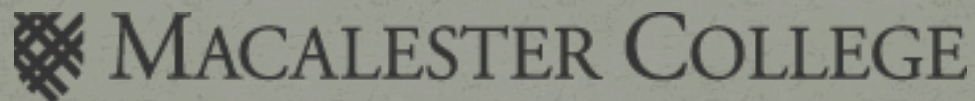
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Showcasing Student, Faculty, and Campus Publications:

Promoting, populating, and publishing in a small liberal arts
college institutional repository

Janet Sietmann & Teresa Fishel



SPARC Digital Repositories Meeting
November 17-19, 2008
Baltimore, Maryland

Overview

- Who we are and what does an IR mean in a small college environment
- Why the library as publisher?
- Planning and populating
- Promoting and outreach
- Preserving to publishing
- Policies and sustainability
- Closing Thoughts

Macalester College

- Liberal Arts college in St. Paul, Minnesota
- 1900 students
 - 32% from the Midwest
 - 57% from other states (48 out of 50 states represented in current student body)
 - 11% international from 68 countries
- 164 fulltime faculty
- 19 library staff
- SPARC member since 1999; Oberlin Group consortium membership

What does an IR mean in a small college environment?

- Showcase for student research and publications
- Preservation as well as promotion of on-campus publications
- Visibility for faculty scholarship
- Opportunities to educate on scholarly communication issues
 - Copyright and author rights
 - Intellectual property
 - Advocacy to increase awareness for OA issues
 - New forms of publishing
- New opportunities for libraries

Why the library as publisher?

- Transformation in libraries to digital materials and content, change in job responsibilities
- Apply and leverage traditional skills in selecting, cataloging, and managing content while addressing key needs for change:
 - “libraries must shift staff efforts from print to digital”
 - “from common to unique materials”
 - “libraries exist to bring value to their host institutions and their users”*

*“Creating the Capacity for Change: Transforming Library Workflows and Organizations” R2 Consulting, MINITEX Workshop, St. Paul, MN Oct. 21, 2008

Change in scholarly work

Horizon Report, 2007 – “New Scholarship and Emerging Forms of Publication”:

- Prepublication releases of scholarly work
 - IR as a means of preserving and making accessible
- Distribution through nontraditional channels
 - OA as a major feature of IR
 - Discovery tools such as Google Scholar as well as WorldCat Local
- New ways to conduct peer reviews using online collaboration
 - OA journal publishing feature available in our IR platform

Planning

- Digital Assets Management group formed in 2005
 - Collaboration with ITS
 - Project teams (Planful Mode)
 - Standards
 - Metadata
 - Outreach
- Original proposal drafted in March 2005 to start with a series of small projects
- Pilot project to make Honors Projects accessible – “jump in” and test (Action Mode)

Planning (cont'd)

- Selected platform and implemented in May 2005
 - Selection factors:
 - Outsourced solution
 - Self-deposit features
 - Included journal publishing features: submitting, reviewing, editing, and managing submissions electronically
- Master Plan written in 2006, “Digital Collections Master Plan: Content, Systems, Access and Comprehensive Framework”
DigitalCommons@Macalester

Promoting

- **Honors Projects**
 - From few to many (8 in 2005 to 59 in 2008)
 - Collaboration with Academic Programs
 - Fall & Spring Instruction Sessions
- **Award Winning Papers**
 - Contacting faculty and students based on Bulletin announcements
- **Faculty support**
 - Library Representatives semi-annual meetings
 - Early adopters

Our faculty as promoters

“This is an important way of sharing your insights with the broader scholarly community (and it is another way of giving back—and moving away from a model of extractive research.) I really hope you will share your honors theses in this format—in addition to the traditional paper copy.”

Professor Bill Moseley, Geography Department

From populating to preserving to publishing

- Honors Projects - produced digitally
- Staff articles and PowerPoint presentations
- Faculty articles – OA funding and Author Rights
- College publications
- Student peer-reviewed journals
 - Macalester Journal of Philosophy – print-based
 - Macalester Islam Journal - born digital
 - SMAC (Studies in Mediterranean Antiquity and Classics) – born digital

Current journals

- Bildhaan: An International Journal of Somali Studies (Institute for Global Citizenship)
- Himalaya, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies
- LMW News (DeWitt Wallace Library)
- Macalester Abroad: Research and Writing from Study Away (Institute for Global Citizenship)
- Macalester International
- Macalester Islam Journal (Religious Studies Department)
- Macalester Journal of Philosophy (Philosophy Department)
- Macalester Today
- Studies in Mediterranean Antiquity and Classics (Classics Department)

Where we are today...

- 350 papers to date
- 68,337 full-text downloads since 2005
- 40,036 downloads in 2008 (as of 11/6/2008)

Digital Commons @ Macalester

Digital Commons @ Macalester

organizing and sharing the creative works of the Macalester College community

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We provide open access to the scholarly and creative works produced by Macalester students, faculty, and staff to increase the visibility of our scholarship, and to encourage collaboration and innovation in order to contribute to the ongoing development of new knowledge.

Please contact [Janet Sietmann](#) if you have any questions.

At a Glance

Top 10 Downloads
All time

Recent Additions
20 most recent additions

What faculty say

"This is an important way of sharing your insights with the broader scholarly community (and it is another way of giving back - and moving away from a model of extractive research). I really hope you will share your honors thesis in this format - in addition to the traditional paper copy."

Bill Moseley - *Geography Department*

"Just a quick note of appreciation: the Digital Commons is an outstanding aid to my teaching. Not only is this form of publication something to which students can and do aspire, but I also assign past student papers as standard readings on my syllabus, all of which is made easy with the Digital Commons."

Paul Dosh - *Political Science Department*

Paper of the Day

Sustainability Planning-Process Overview
Sustainability Office

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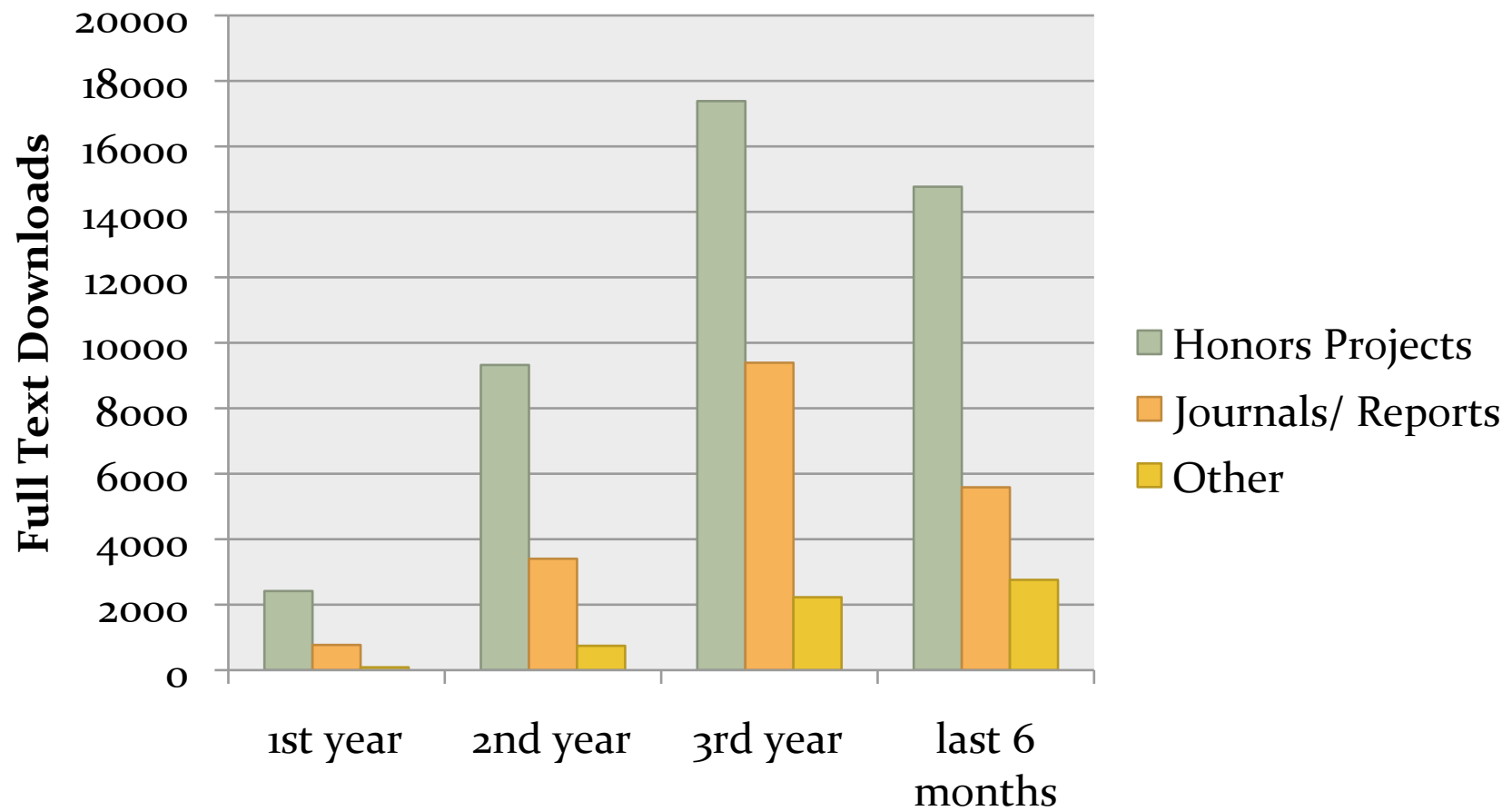
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Statistics



Where we are heading... adding publications, partners, and policies

- Institute for Global Citizenship
 - Roundtable papers
 - Macalester International
- Physics, Biogeography
- Scholarly society journal
- Sustainability Office
- New editorial board – Scholarly Publishing Committee
- Producing policies

Roadmap – or strategies that worked for us

- Apply and leverage traditional skills in organizing and managing content
- Collaborate with effective partners
- Jump in and avoid “death by planning”
- Start with a project that meets a specific need and a specific audience
 - Students – future scholarly producers
- Interject at every opportunity – “elevator speech” at opportune times and everyone promotes
- Success generates success – one enthusiastic department encourages others, one journal leads to the next, new programs/new initiatives /new partners

Final key points

- No additional staff – incorporated into existing work processes
- Has it been easy? Definitely not, but the rewards have made it worth all the efforts
 - Takes time, energy, and persistence
 - Excellent support by our vendor, bepress
- Constant communication – changing personnel, new faculty, OA awareness
- “Eye on the prize” – promotion of library services and value to the institution

Information

- Slides and notes will be found at DeWitt Wallace Library, Staff Publications:

[Digital Commons @ Macalester](#)

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Thank you!



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