SMU Digital Repository

Repository News / November 2011

Overview

The SMU Digital Repository is a searchable online collection of scholarly research and creative work, allowing the faculty, staff, and students of Southern Methodist University to showcase their research and scholarly achievements. It provides access to research, online journals, articles, conference agendas and papers, theses, image collections, and other scholarly works.

Central University Libraries (CUL), the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, and the Office of Information Technology (OIT) have combined resources to create the SMU Digital Repository using the Digital Commons software platform from Berkeley Electronic Press.

The SMU Digital Repository is online at http://digitalrepository.smu.edu. The repository currently hosts 149 papers and other works, and repository materials have been downloaded 95 times. 196 authors have posted their work in the SMU Digital Repository.

News

The SMU Digital Repository is now listed in the Repository of Open Access Repositories (at http://roar.eprints.org/4320/) and in the Directory of Open Access Repositories (see http://opendoar.org/find.php?search=smu+digital+repository). Repository materials are accessible through WorldCat via the OAIster Digital Collection service. The repository was featured on the ROAR website for a period of time, and is one of only five repositories in the U.S. currently mapped at http://www.openaccessmap.org/.

The current issue of the Central University Libraries' *Annotations* newsletter features a front page story on the SMU Digital Repository as a "powerful new tool for academic publishing and archiving." The article lists the strengths of the Digital Commons platform, describes the repository's value to the university, and provides contact information and a link to the repository. It can be viewed online at http://smu.edu/cul/info/annotations/current/01.asp.

The Digital Commons web platform was upgraded (to release 7.0) on the evening of Friday, December 2nd. Despite an initial problem with a "caching server," the upgrade has gone smoothly and offers several exciting new features. The search engine is now powered by SOLR and is noticeably faster than the previous version. This release also features a new dynamic structure for the university "communities" page. An example of this new structure can be viewed here:

http://demo.dc.bepress.com/communities.html. (Note: at the time of this email, this change has not been implemented on the SMU Digital Repository site.) There are also several improvements to the administrative interface that make editing and uploading repository materials more efficient.

On November 14th, the repository website was configured so that users can submit materials to the repository through the site itself. This web interface guides contributors through the process of creating an author profile, uploading their materials, and providing metadata for them. Please note that contributors using the web interface must still accept the terms and conditions of the content release form and that submitted materials are still subject to review by the SMU Digital Repository Advisory Board prior to posting.

A new draft of the SMU Digital Repository Policy statement was completed by Dr. Joshua Lupkin and is available here: http://digitalrepository.smu.edu/libraries_cul_admin/1/. The repository FAQ was also revised and is available at http://digitalrepository.smu.edu/faq.html.

Repository Coordination

65 items were posted to the SMU Digital Repository in November. The majority of these were metadata only record pages for the Global Summit on Ending Corporal Punishment and Promoting Positive Discipline Conference (content was withheld pending the acquisition of content release forms). Seven new items—the presentations at the recent Big iDeas Fall Symposium—were added to the Big iDeas collection after the Symposium was held. Four volumes of the SMU Research magazine were uploaded to the repository.

Site structures for all university schools, departments, and centers have been created. An additional 30 metadata records have been written for *Hilltopics* in advance of final approval.

The SMU Digital Repository Content Release Form was re-formatted and posted to the repository website (it can be viewed here: http://digitalrepository.smu.edu/libraries_cul_admin/2/).
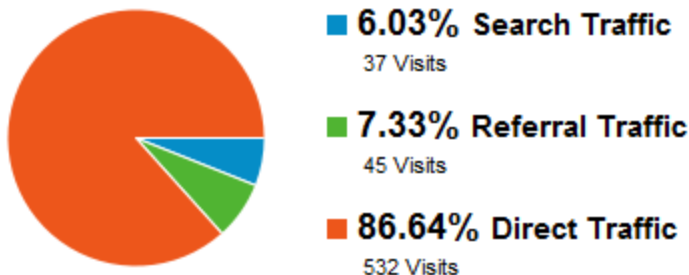
The new and improved design for the FAQ page—featuring dynamic expandable/collapsible answers—was created and coded by repository staff.

Usage Summary

Repository records were accessed 254 times in November and full text documents were downloaded 156 times. 38 unique items were accessed in this timeframe.

The site received 456 unique visitors in November. The majority of traffic this month continued to be direct traffic, reflecting the site's relative newness. Popular search traffic keywords were "smu digital repository" and "www.smudigitalrepository.com". Most traffic was from the U.S., though there were also four visitors from Moscow.

- **6.03%** Search Traffic
  37 Visits
- **7.33%** Referral Traffic
  45 Visits
- **86.64%** Direct Traffic
  532 Visits

Top referring sites are the Digital Commons site (http://digitalcommons.bepress.com), the SMU Digital Repository demo site (http://demo.somu.bepress.com), and the ROAR and OpenDOAR websites.

The following table depicts November usage as reported by Google Analytics:

614 Visits
456 Unique Visitors
3,416 Pageviews
5.56 Pages/Visit
00:04:53 Avg. Time on Site
21.17% Bounce Rate
70.03% % New Visits

Recent Research and News: Institutional Repositories

Howard, J. (2011, November 11). At Open-Access meeting, advocates emphasize the impact of sharing knowledge. *The Chronicle of Higher Education, Wired Campus*. Retrieved from http://chronicle.com/blogs/wiredcampus/at-open-access-meeting-advocates-emphasize-the-impact-of-sharing-knowledge/34226

Repositories Support Project. (2011, November). Survey of academic attitudes to open access and institutional repositories – an RSP and UKCoRR initiative. Retrieved from http://rspproject.wordpress.com/2011/12/02/unlocking-attitudes-to-open-access-survey-results/

Miller, J. (2011, January). Open Access and liberal arts colleges: Looking beyond research institutions. College & Research Libraries News, 72(1), 16-19, 30. Retrieved from http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_facpub/16/

Contact

Questions about the SMU Digital Repository? Please contact the digital repository implementation team at digitalrepository@list.smu.edu.

Wish to unsubscribe from this monthly email newsletter? Please contact Jacob Brown at jhbrown@mail.smu.edu.

Email newsletter written by Jacob Brown, Digital Repository Coordinator.