A Place to Stand: Fulcrum and Lever Press

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A Place to Stand: Fulcrum and Lever Press

Rebecca Welzenbach
Program Manager, Lever Press
University of Michigan Library
June 9, 2016
● Five-year pilot funded by a consortium more than 40 liberal arts college libraries
● Governed by representatives of participating libraries
● Implementation via Amherst College Press and Michigan Publishing
The press is...

- Guided by the mission and ethos of liberal arts colleges
- Platinum Open Access (no author fees)
- Born digital scholarship

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- Show a deep commitment to interdisciplinarity
- Engage with major social issues
- Blur the lines between research and teaching

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“While this scholarly infrastructure was built over centuries,” Waters says, “the cyber infrastructure is being built much more quickly. At the Mellon Foundation, we want to help accelerate the next stage of this dynamic change and make the digital environment a natural place to do scholarship.”

https://mellon.org/resources/shared-experiences-blog/are-you-ready-revolution-scholarly-communications/
All scholarship is digital.
Future home of Michigan Publishing content + University of Michigan Press Ebooks

White-label platform for client publishers (e.g., Lever Press)

Beta launch: 4 UP case studies - supplemental materials only

U-M Press case study: digital-only monograph + 3D model + data set

Begin co-development with DCE

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2015

Requirements gathering, develop personas, user stories, and wireframes

2016

Begin co-development with DCE

2017

Beta launch: 4 UP case studies - supplemental materials only

2018

U-M Press case study: digital-only monograph + 3D model + data set

Scope of grant: 
- Requirements gathering, develop personas, user stories, and wireframes
- Begin co-development with DCE
- Beta launch: 4 UP case studies - supplemental materials only
- U-M Press case study: digital-only monograph + 3D model + data set
- Future home of Michigan Publishing content + University of Michigan Press Ebooks
- White-label platform for client publishers (e.g., Lever Press)
Press in the front!

Library in the back!
Flexible

By adopting an agile development approach and working in partnership with the Hydra open source community, Fulcrum is responsive to the changing needs of digital scholars.

Durable

Built on research university library infrastructure specifically designed to curate digital objects, Fulcrum is a trusted steward committed to preservation and stability.

Discoverable

Interoperable with other publishing tools and integrated into the information supply chain, Fulcrum ensures that content is discovered by readers and impact is tracked.
Flexible

rich media support
active development community
accommodates other web-based Resources & formats
Durable

open source repository framework
research library infrastructure
persistent identifiers
Discoverable

metrics for impact, credit
clear, machine-readable licenses/copyright info
integration with information supply chain(s)
Thank you!

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Archimedes and the lever, public domain, https://www.math.nyu.edu/~crorres/Archimedes/Lever/LeverIntro.html
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