

Lever Press: Why?

Denison University
October 27, 2016




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Why are we here?




ABOUT PUBLICATIONS SERVICES PROJECTS Search




University of Michigan Press

In partnership with their authors and series editors, the Press publishes in a wide range of humanities and social science disciplines. With a rich history of publishing expertise, the Press leads in the development of digital scholarship and supports the dissemination of knowledge as widely and freely as possible.



Michigan Publishing Services

As experts in scholarly publishing, we provide a suite of publishing-related services to the University of Michigan to help increase the visibility, reach, and impact of scholarship.



Deep Blue

University of Michigan's permanent, safe, and accessible service for representing our rich intellectual community. Its primary goal is to provide access to the work that makes Michigan a leader in research, teaching, and creativity.



Navigation: DENISON, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, CAMPUS LIFE, NEWS & EVENTS, DENISON A-Z

SEARCH DENISON.EDU

LIBRARY

Denison University Libraries inspire and educate the Denison community to become lifelong learners and active citizens. Denison Libraries offer comprehensive services that foster creativity and collaboration and support diverse learning styles.



LIBRARY HOME

Contact Us
FIND US

MAIN PHONE: 740.587.5735

SEARCH

Summon Consort OhioLINK Reserves

WHAT'S HAPPENING

OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS TO LIBRARY RESOURCES

Remember: No matter where you are, as long as you've got Internet access, you've got

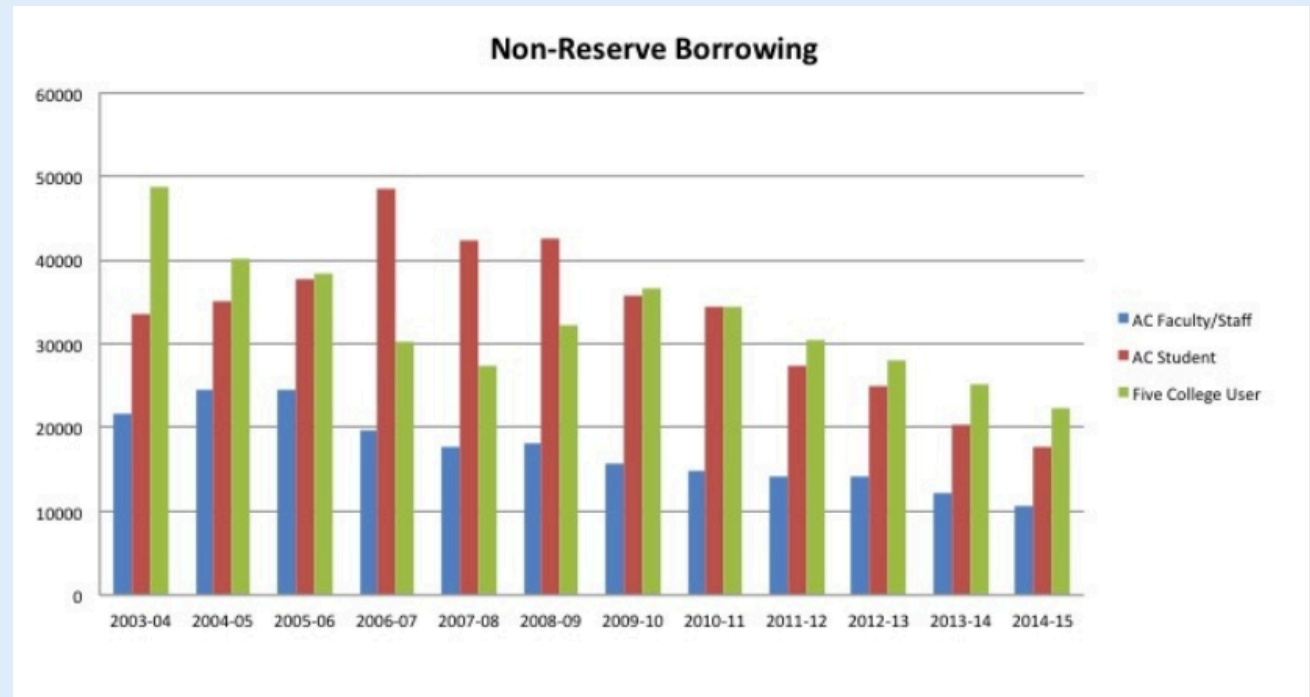
What's going on with monographs?

1. We're spending more

YBP Fiscal Year	YBP Approval Titles Treated	% Change	Avg. List Price (USD)	% Change
2013/14	66,395	3.0%	\$90.33	3.0%
2012/13	64,376	0.0%	\$87.68	4.9%
2011/12	64,383	0.8%	\$83.59	3.2%
2010/11	63,871	1.1%	\$80.61	5.2%
2009/10	63,145	-2.1%	\$76.58	2.3%
2008/09	64,473	2.8%	\$74.83	4.0%
2007/08	62,705	5.0%	\$71.92	5.2%
2006/07	59,732	4.6%	\$68.36	0.4%
2005/06	57,093	8.1%	\$68.10	3.0%
2004/05	52,794	-3.7%	\$66.11	3.5%
2003/04	54,835	-6.7%	\$63.88	8.7%
2002/03	58,766	9.9%	\$58.76	3.5%

What's going on with monographs?

1. We're spending more
2. On stuff we're using less



What's going on with monographs?

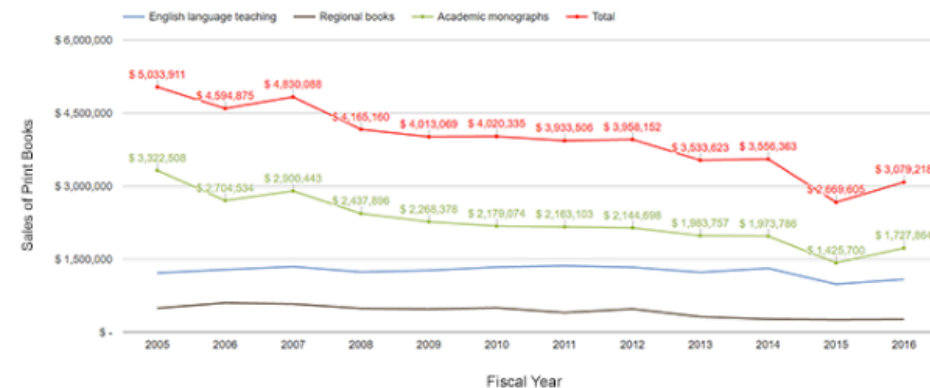
1. We're spending more
2. On stuff we're using less
3. Liberal arts colleges:
especially affected/excluded?



It's 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

While the press has seen declines across all its print products, Watkinson pointed to the "collapse of the market for print monographs" as the main reason why the press finds itself in its current situation. Its academic monograph division in 2004-5 generated more than \$3.3 million in revenue on its own but made barely half that – \$1.7 million – this past fiscal year, which ended in June.



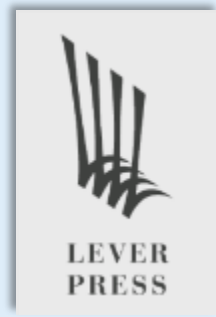
University of Michigan Press print sales revenue, 2005-16.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/08/01/>

amid-declining-book-sales-university-presses-search-new-ways-measure-success

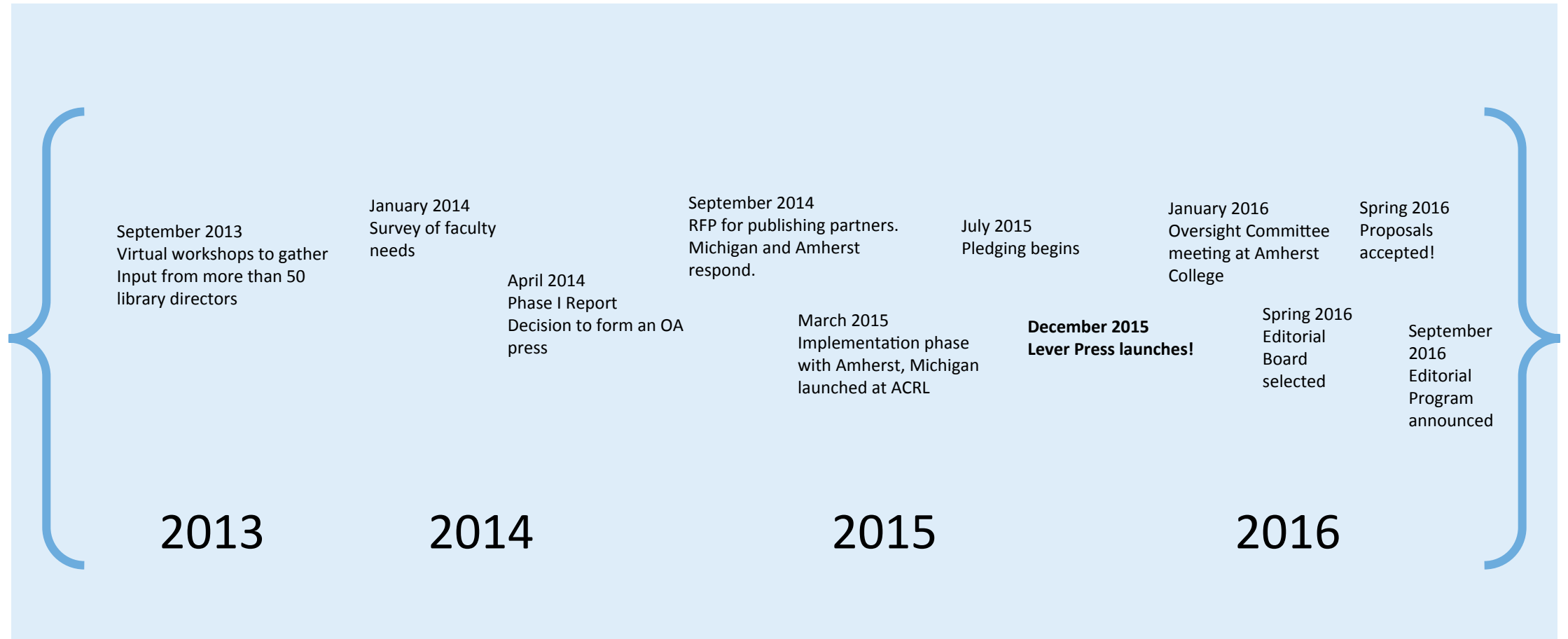
Is there a better way? Probably *many*

expectation of payment by authors



number of funders involved

Lever Initiative -> Lever Press, 2013-2016



What makes Lever Press unique?

- **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

Alignment with mission and ethos of LACs

Governance

- Oversight Committee
 - Heads of libraries from committed institutions
 - Nominated and elected by representatives of pledging institutions
 - Responsible for strategic direction, financial accountability, etc.
- Editorial Board
 - Faculty nominated from participating institutions
 - Selected by the Oversight Committee
 - Responsible for evaluating and approving or rejecting individual works—establishing and sustaining a reputation for high-quality, rigorously reviewed scholarship

<http://www.leverpress.org/oversight-committee/>

Alignment with mission and ethos of LACs

Editorial Program (1/2)

Lever Press publications will:

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

<http://www.leverpress.org/the-lever-press-editorial-program/>

Alignment with mission and ethos of LACs

Editorial Program (2/2)

Five Areas of Focus:

- **Great questions and grand challenges:** brings diverse perspectives to bear upon pressing issues of social, moral, political, and scientific concern
- **Lever texts:** makes frequently taught works available in a useful, open-access format that both reflects the ethos of the liberal arts college and challenges traditional canons.
- **New frontiers in the digital liberal arts:** features works of original research that take advantage of digital formats and methodology to offer scholarship impossible to convey adequately in print form.
- **Special Collections:** features interdisciplinary studies of liberal arts college museum or library special collections, or thematic studies across institutional collections, with a focus on communities, movements, and populations that have been marginalized and excluded.
- **Teaching, learning, and leading in the liberal arts college:** highlights excellence in teaching and in the strategies that enable transformational student development, as well as critical reflections from academic leaders on the present and future state of liberal arts colleges.

<http://www.leverpress.org/the-lever-press-editorial-program/>

Platinum Open Access

- Funded by a consortium of more than 45 liberal arts college libraries
- No author charges
- Author honorarium! (\$1,000)
- Cost of doing business separated from selection of titles

Digitally Native

- Optimized for the publication of multimodal scholarship
 - Fulcrum platform
- Speedy, digitally-enabled, workflows
- Consideration for born-digital scholarship from contract through publication

Fulcrum



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

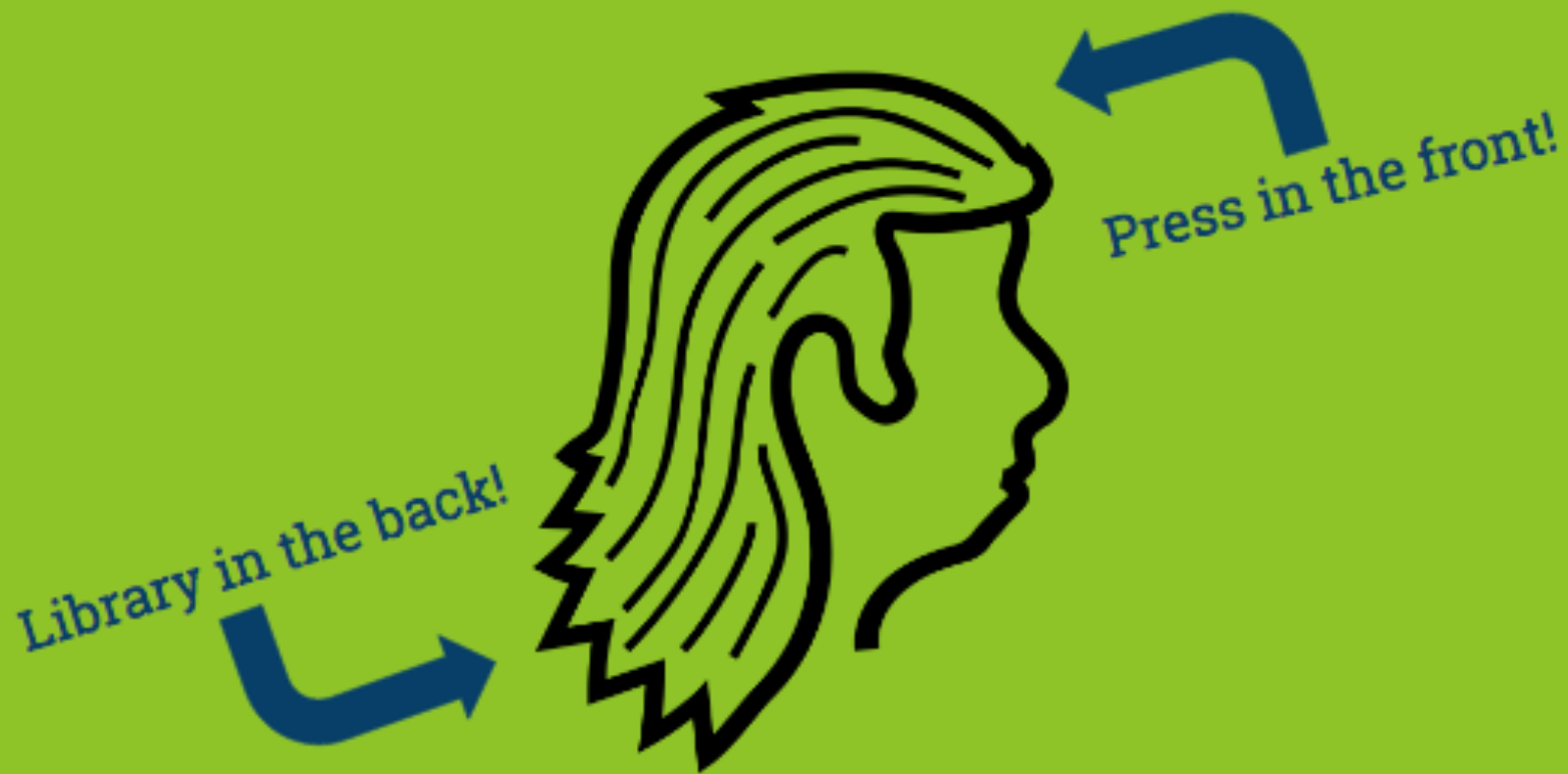
Built on research university library infrastructure specifically designed to curate digital objects, Fulcrum is a trusted steward committed to preservation and stability.



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.

Fulcrum



Fulcrum

Northwestern University Press

Type keywords in here



Filmed scenes (episode 3, "The Unicorn," episode 5, "Full of Most Tender Love," and episode 7, "Behind a Bottle of Tolstobriushka") from *Inspector General*, based on the play by Nikolai Gogol, adapted by Vsevolod Meyerhold and Mikhail Korenev, directed by Vsevolod Meyerhold, Meyerhold Theatre (GosTIM), Moscow (premiere: December 9, 1926). HB 2544/17. Copyright © A. A. Bakhrushin State Central Theatre Museum, Moscow.

Filmed scenes from *Inspector General*

From *The Director's Prism: E. T. A. Hoffmann and the Russian Theatrical Avant-Garde* by Dassia N. Posner

Info Permissions Technical Info

This series of interspersed film clips from episodes 3, 5, and 7 of *Inspector General* reveals the production's precise choreography of exaggerated movement, ranging from Khlestakov's sweeping gestures to the tiny movements of Anna Andreevna's eyes.

Episodes 3 and 5: Anna Andreevna (Raikh) flirts with Dobchinsky (Mologin), pretending to faint in his arms, only to be interrupted by the stealthy entrance of her daughter (Babanova), whose head is bedecked with ridiculous looped braids. Anna dreams of many suitors, who materialize in her room to serenade her en masse with imaginary balalaikas before shooting themselves.

Episode 7: Khlestakov (Garin) and his alter ego, the officer-in-transit (Kelberer), sit on opposite ends of a little table at the house of the Mayor (Starkovsky) and light their cigars in unison with candles. Khlestakov is energized, both by the fawning of the town officials and by the great quantity of alcohol he has consumed. His elaborate declarations are counterbalanced by a tiny, absurd gesture: he takes Anna Andreevna's pinkie on a teaspoon and kisses it.

See book: p. 83, 84

Creator Meyerhold, Vsevolod

What does Lever Press hope to achieve?

- Not to simply replace or reinvent a university press
- By the end of 2020, to produce 60 high quality scholarly books without high prices or complex DRM problems, that will really be used on the campuses of our pledging institutions.
- To move the needle on the recognition and acceptance of born digital scholarship, by way of a large group of similar institutions coming together at once
- **To amplify the reach, voice, and impact of scholars, students, and campuses involved with Lever Press, by complementing existing campus services. E.g.:**
 - A layer of scholarly narrative on top of an existing digitized collection
 - Pedagogical contextualization of opportunities, achievements, collections, or experiences unique to our campuses
 - High quality, classroom-ready editions of texts

What does this library hope to achieve?

- What are you most excited about?
- Most worried about?
- What are faculty and students asking you for? Do you feel capable of meeting their needs?
- What questions do you have for me?
- Topics from the presentation you'd like me to expand upon? (Fulcrum, model contract, editorial program, etc.?)

What next?

Lever Press is accepting proposals for individual works and for series. Propose something, or encourage others to do so!

<http://www.leverpress.org/authors/>

In the coming year: webinars on various topics (Fulcrum, contract, etc.). What topics are you interested in? Participate!

Down the road? More sustainable business model!

Sources and further reading

- YBP Annual Price Update
https://www.gobi3.com/StaticContent/GOBIContent/YBP/Private/Help/Pages/newtitlereport_us.html
- 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>