Making Visible Changing Scholarship in the Humanities

Welzenbach, Rebecca

http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/136645
Making Visible Changing Scholarship in the Humanities

Rebecca Welzenbach
Director, Strategic Integration and Partnerships
Michigan Publishing

Charleston Library Conference, November 3, 2016
“All scholars are digital scholars”
“All scholars are digital scholars”

....is a thing my boss is fond of saying.

So, how does this premise affect our work?
Selection: acquiring and reviewing changing scholarship

- Editorial program
- Peer review--rigor and transparency
- Contract
NEW FRONTIERS IN THE DIGITAL LIBERAL ARTS

As a born-digital publisher, Lever Press looks to feature works of research that take advantage of online formats to offer scholarship impossible to convey adequately in print form. These works will highlight original scholarship emerging out of the Digital Liberal Arts, applying digital methods to a wide range of academic disciplines and interdisciplinary explorations. New Frontiers in the Digital Liberal Arts functions as the Lever Press laboratory for innovation, open to new models of scholarly knowledge, digital dissemination, forms of peer review, integration of data and other sources, and collaborative engagement.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Helen Hartness Flanders Ballad Archive at Middlebury College and the Kuna Indian or Bumese works housed in the Denison Museum are just two of many examples of the remarkable materials held by many liberal arts colleges. Lever Press welcomes interdisciplinary studies of a specific collection, and encourages thematic studies across institutional collections that promote collaboration and illustrate our connections. Of particular interest are as-yet unexplored narratives of communities, movements, and populations whose voices have been marginalized and excluded.

TEACHING, LEARNING, AND LEADING IN THE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

Liberal arts colleges have played a distinctive, leadership role in the development of American higher education. Lever Press seeks to publish work that highlights excellence in teaching and the strategies that enable transformational student development, including through the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. We will also feature contributions from academic leadership to critically reflect upon the present and future state of liberal arts education, providing a forum for both constructive self-reflection and leadership for policy makers, administrators, trustees, graduates, and others who care about sustaining and improving upon the liberal arts college tradition.

Learn more at leverpress.org.
Questions? Write to info@leverpress.org.
Production: the digital work is the fullest and best representation, and it must be:

- Durable
- Flexible
- Discoverable
Optimize your scholarship

Fulcrum is a publishing platform currently under development that helps publishers present the full richness of their authors' research outputs in a durable, discoverable, and flexible form.

GET UPDATES

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.
Distribution and discovery: What role does the existing information supply chain play in the discovery of freely available ebooks?

- Who is using OA books?
- How are they being found?
- Are researchers using “traditional” channels missing them altogether?
The lifecycle of scholarly communication involves several stages:

1. **Data Collection, Research & Analysis**
   - Data
   - Scholarly Journals
   - Experiments
   - Simulations
   - Field Work

2. **Authoring**
   - Articles
   - Books
   - Gray Literature (technical reports, programs, working papers)
   - Submission to publishers

3. **Peer Review**
   - Journal Editors
   - Reviewers
   - Subject Experts
   - Not all scholarly materials are subject to peer review

4. **Rights Management**
   - Author-controlled Copyrights
   - Creative Commons Licenses
   - Publisher Exclusive Rights/Agreements

5. **Publication Model**
   - Open Access Society Journals
   - Non-profit University Presses
   - Commercial Journals

6. **Discovery**
   - Libraries
   - Scholars
   - Web Repositories
   - Databases
   - Cloud Computing
   - Research Organizations

**Open Access and Reasonable Pricing Increases Collaboration and Discoverability**

**Collaboration and Discoverability**

The structure of scholarly communication has developed over centuries to create, evaluate, certify, disseminate and preserve the intellectual outputs of scholars. It involves three major stakeholders - the scholars who create the knowledge, publishers, who review, edit, package and distribute the knowledge and the libraries/repositories that collect, preserve and organize the knowledge. The digital revolution has enabled quicker and cheaper access to a wide range of information and alternative models of publication. Digital Publishing, Digital Repositories, Open Access Journals are all representatives of the alternative models of publications. Creative Commons Licensing Agreements allow wider distribution and use of scholarly materials.
Thank you!