

Lesley University

DigitalCommons@Lesley

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DigitalCommons@Lesley Quarterly Report & Impact Infographic - August 2017

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DigitalCommons@Lesley: Quarterly Report

August 2017

Philip M Siblo-Landsman

Introduction from the Office of the Dean of Library, Hedi BenAicha

The Quarterly Report and Infographic series documents what steps have been made to preserve and promote the high-quality scholarship produced at Lesley University. They document the level of impact that Lesley scholarship has had on the nation and around the world. It is our aim that these reports will serve not only the Lesley University community, but as a touchstone for other universities seeking to adopt an institutional repository.

It is my utmost pleasure to have Philip Siblo-Landsman in charge of this strategic and enduring project. It is because of his diligence and collegiality and his collaboration with his colleagues at the library that we were able, starting from last year, to raise the bar of excellence in academic scholarship and enhance Lesley's contribution in the digital age to enrich scholarly communication.

Please look forward for each quarter's nuggets of achievement.

Summary

DigitalCommons@Lesley was launched on May 19, 2017. Dean Hedi BenAicha directed the Digital Team of the Lesley University Library to develop a design and structure for the institutional repository (IR) following Lesley University's marketing communications guidelines, and the institution's organizational structure.

Since launching DigitalCommons@Lesley, the Digital Team has migrated theses, dissertations, yearbooks, posters, and reports from the institution's outdated IR; a journal from Lesley University's website; and digital images and finding aids from an outdated archival information system. New collections have been added, including the Animation Capstones, the MFA in Visual Arts Theses, and Lesley University Faculty Scholarship.

The purpose of this report is to serve as an initial record for how the digital collections of Lesley University Library were managed, and why the adoption of Digital Commons was an important step in updating how the institution preserves and promotes the scholarly and creative works of Lesley University.

History

The digital assets of Lesley University were held in two different systems prior to the adoption of Digital Commons. The first, IR+, is an institutional repository system developed by the University of Rochester. This system has not been updated since 2013. The second, Archon™: The Simple Archival Information System, was developed by the University of Illinois, which states on its website that it has not supported Archon™ since 2014. With both of these systems being outdated it was important that the library find a system that would better serve the university's needs to showcase the

quality work of its students, faculty and staff. It was also important to find a system that had both the record for serving the academic community as a whole, so there would be continued support for the IR. Digital Commons by bepress provides this and more with its dynamic platform for promoting scholarship with the intent of maximizing the impact of scholarship.

After the library finalized its decision to move to Digital Commons, the Digital Team had to develop a series of workflows to migrate content from each of the outdated systems.

Migration from IR+

As stated above, Lesley University's former IR, Scholarship@Lesley (S@L), was an iteration of the open source platform, IR+. Fenway Libraries Online managed the server where S@L was held, and content was managed by Lesley librarians. Some of the collections in S@L were batch uploaded to DigitalCommons@Lesley using metadata; whereas, other collections required the Digital Team to copy and paste metadata from individual records using the same interface that the Lesley community will use to upload individual works. More than 300 records were uploaded this way, which included the following collections: Educational Studies Dissertations, Community of Scholars Day—Programs, Community of Scholars Day—Posters, Yearbooks, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Senior Theses, Library Reports, and Expressive Therapies Dissertations.

Migration from Archon™

The information in Archon™ was organized differently than it was in IR+. It required metadata records to be pieced together from multiple tables, but once they were pieced together they could be easily batch uploaded into the Digital Commons interface. This included the migration of over 200 images into the Digital Archives collection and some of the Community of Scholars programs and posters.

Migration from the university website

Lesley University moved to a new Content Management System (CMS) this summer, thus changing the user experience for the growing Lesley community. With the movement from one CMS to another, the library collaborated with the Department of Communications to migrate the *Journal of Pedagogy, Pluralism and Practice (JPPP)* to DigitalCommons@Lesley. This peer-reviewed journal has been published at Lesley University since 1997. Since the journal was modified so it could be published in the university's CMS, the Digital Scholarship Librarian has had to reformat each article so it can be published in the IR. This is an ongoing project.

Outreach

Before DigitalCommons@Lesley was launched, it was announced in the widely-read Library Newsletter, which is distributed to faculty, staff, and students at Lesley University. After the site was launched, librarians began promoting the system in library workshops (Faculty Development Day, Summer Tech Camp, and New Faculty Orientation) and graduate instruction sessions over the summer. It was also presented to the President of the university. Further work has been done to showcase DigitalCommons@Lesley by incorporating it into lessons throughout the year along with

other library innovations, including a new website, @LL Search, Library Syllabus Builder, and the Self-Service Portal.

Impact

Since launching on May 19, 2017, there have been a total of 557 different works uploaded. Users from every habitable continent have been downloading works: a total of 1,285 downloads since launch. DigitalCommons@Lesley offers its administrators and authors the ability to see where in the world users are downloading specific works. This gives the Lesley community a better understanding of what kind of impact is being made with Lesley University scholarship. For example, the poster *Making a Difference*, which was presented at the 2016 Community of Scholars Day, has been downloaded 18 times, by people in the US, Canada, and Japan. The dissertation, *Men in a female-dominated profession: The lived experiences of Ghanaian male nurses in the United States*, has been downloaded only eight times, but has been accessed by researchers in Ghana, the United Kingdom, Rwanda, the US, and South Africa. These metrics begin to tell the Lesley University community a story of where Lesley scholarship is making an impact.

Future Goals

Lesley University's IR, DigitalCommons@Lesley, integrates a variety of functions into a singular system. This includes an online open access publishing interface, an event management system for symposia and conferences, and the ability to preserve and promote traditional monographs and other creative scholarly pursuits. Over the course of the 2016-2017 year, the Digital Team plans to complete the migration of *JPPP*, work with faculty and administration to create university-wide workflows for uploading student works, and to work with the staff at bepress and the Community of Scholars Day programming committee to manage the 2018 Community of Scholars Day with DigitalCommons@Lesley.