

No. 2, Spring 2013

Upcoming Event: Institutional Repository @ UNI -

During the week of April 29th we will be holding informational sessions about the possibility of establishing an Institutional Repository at UNI. The sessions will be held in Rod Library 324 on Monday April 29 9-10a.m., Tuesday April 30 10-11am, Wednesday May 1 1-2pm, Thursday May 2 2-3pm and Friday May 3 from 12-1pm. We invite you to attend one of these sessions to demonstrate a potential way to showcase UNI's intellectual output. No need to register- just come on over!

What Do We Mean When We Say Scholarly Communication?

For a brief overview of all that "scholarly communication" encompasses, take a look at the poster we prepared for the 2013 UNI Symposium on Research and Creative Activity at http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/1761/719451/research-symposium-scholarly-communication-posterfinal.pdf

E-books @UNI

Did you know that Rod Library provides access through the online catalog to a variety of electronic books from commercial and academic publishers? These include recently published and older scholarly monographs, trade books, guidebooks, and reference works from a variety of vendors. At the present time, the Library is evaluating both preferred platforms and forms of access, and the appropriate local balance between print and electronic resources. Do a search on a title or subject of interest and look for the e-book symbol.

Alternatives to Traditional Print Textbooks

Commercial publishers have entered into the e-textbook market, but with mixed success. And student reaction has been mixed as well. According to a January 2013 study, "Student Attitudes Toward Content in Higher Education," by the Book Industry Study Group, 60 percent of the students surveyed preferred digital over print texts. One barrier to acceptance may be the fact that many digital textbooks often are little more than PDF versions of their print counterparts. For more information, see "Etextbooks – what's not to like?" in *Information Today* at http://www.infotoday.eu/Articles/Editorial/Featured-Articles/Etextbooks---what%27s-not-to-like-87791.aspx

As an alternative, at least one university is experimenting with funding faculty creation of digital learning packages that substitute for commercial textbooks. Under the auspices of its Teaching and Learning Technology Roundtable, in 2011/12 Temple University provided grants of \$1,000 to 11 faculty members

for such a project. The textbooks they created were based heavily on primary sources, free online texts, and open access publications. In at least one instance, students conducted research and contributed to the creation of a resource that served as an alternative textbook. For more information, see "Temple faculty experiment with alt-textbooks" at http://news.temple.edu/news/temple-faculty-experiment-alt-textbooks

Contact Us

Do you have questions about retention of copyright for works you have authored? Publishing in open access journals? Preserving your work in digital format? If so, send an inquiry to the Rod Library Scholarly Communication Committee at libscholcomm@uni.edu

Online Resources

Check out the Copyright and Scholarly Communication: Information and Resources for the UNI Community LibGuides on the Rod Library web site at http://guides.lib.uni.edu/index.php and monitor the Scholarly Communication News blog at http://www.library.uni.edu/news-events/scholarly-communication