Tell Us What You Want To Do: Utilizing the Institutional Repository to Create an Experiential Learning Opportunity for Scholarly Communication Instruction

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Available at: https://works.bepress.com/jonathan_bull/13/
TELL US WHAT YOU WANT TO DO

Utilizing the Institutional Repository to Create an Experiential Learning Opportunity for Scholarly Communication Instruction

Jonathan Bull
DCGLUG Annual Meeting
August 8 – 9, 2013
Agenda

• Scholarly Communication in Instruction

• Using the Institutional Repository as teaching tool

• Case Study: Literary Editing and Publishing (English 380)

• Remaining Challenges: Scholarly Communication and institutional repositories in library instruction

• Future Projects
Valparaiso University (a.k.a. Valpo)

- Founded 1859
- 50 miles southeast of Chicago, IL
- Approx. 4,100 students (2,900 undergraduate; 1,200 graduate)
- 235 tenure-track and tenured faculty members (including librarians)
- Independent Lutheran affiliation
ValpoScholar

- 2,750 files
- 618,000+ downloads (since March 2011)
- Four professional journals, two student publications (before this project)
- Faculty scholarship from 17 departments (out of 30)
- Three sets of conference proceedings

…and many other collections
Here’s the problem:

“How do we teach scholarly communication, if we have such a difficult time just teaching information literacy and reinforcing bibliographic instruction?”
Currently...

...but these weren’t “hands on” enough and we had only 5 minutes.
Institutional Repositories & “Publishing as Pedagogy”

“Why would we need to teach students that? How would we even teach that?”

-Jonathan Bull (me) in 2010
“Publishing as course work is becoming more pervasive, and provides an ideal opportunity for active learning.” (pg. 9)
Valpo Case Study

*English 380: Literary Editing and Publishing*
English 380: Literary Editing and Publishing

Faculty Member wanted to cover the following:
- Online Submissions
- Online Publishing
- Online Editorial Notes/Editorial Board
- Multiple Document Types (Poetry, Fiction, etc.)
- Stable URLs
- Brand Identity*

The library also supplied:
- Copyright and Intellectual Property background
- Search Engine Optimization (thanks bepress!)
- Tutorial and technical support, instruction

http://scholar.valpo.edu/commonthread/
English 380 – Results
(since May 28, 2013)

• 102 submissions

  • Poetry, Fiction, Flash-Fiction, Creative Non-Fiction, Artwork (Photographs)

  • 27 files published

  • 453 downloads

• Blog integration (students taught me this)
The best result...the lecture disappeared

“Do we offer classes on this [scholarly communication/information literacy] stuff? It’s interesting enough, most of the time.”

–English 380 student
“So, could we make money off this from, like, subscriptions and fees?”

“I think I get the whole digital piracy thing now.”

“I get why they [publishers] have to charge something, but why $40 an article? That’s a little extreme.”

“Why does this author keep asking when we’re going to publish? Doesn’t he read the website?”

“I can’t believe we have people submitting from Mexico. What was that Google Search like?”

“Man, a lot of these [submissions] kinda suck.”

“Could we be sued over this?”

“Why should we have a copyright statement? We’re giving it away for free.”
Exception, not the rule...

“I mean, you can’t make everybody a journal editor...can you?”

-English Faculty Member
What still needs work…

• Finding a right fit for each subject

• More experiential (active) learning opportunities for SC
  • Formal IL curriculum
  • More campus “culture shift”

• Demonstrate impact for the students
A brief word of our future projects

“Tell me all about your day at work, but I do want to go to bed soon, so can you keep it short?”

-My wife
QUESTIONS?

Thank You!

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