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The Subject Librarian Newsletter, History, Fall 2015

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HISTORY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015



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AS YOU’VE DISCOVERED, the Libraries have a redesigned website that went live just before the start of the Fall Semester. The aim of the year-long redesign effort was to make the site less text heavy and to consolidate and reorganize content from various existing pages for simplified browsing. The site prominently features basic information such as locations, hours, and the “Ask Us” services. The new site is a response to user feedback about the former Libraries’ website and is based on user testing and focus groups with members of the UCF community.

Please note that if you have links to the old site in syllabi and/or Webcourses, these links likely will need to be revised.

SHERPA/RoMEO: A Tool for Determining Author Rights

A faculty member recently asked if she could post a number of her articles on the academic networking sites Academia.edu and ResearchGate. The answer was a definitive “maybe.” If your articles are under an open license agreement such as Creative Commons, you are free to reuse, reproduce, or post your articles anywhere. However, if you have signed a copyright transfer agreement with a journal (a common practice), then usually you no longer have rights to post the final published version.

The faculty member was referred to SHERPA/RoMEO, a tool developed by the University of Nottingham, England. Currently, there are over 18,000 journals listed from 1,071 publishers in 60 nations. Use it to find publishers or journals that permit deposit of a final version of a paper in a repository, such as UCF’s STARS (above). With RoMEO, you can search for the journal that published your paper and determine that journal’s policy about archiving a personal copy. Some publishers allow the final version to be posted, either immediately or after an embargo period. Others only allow a pre-print version (that is, the author’s copy of the accepted version, after peer review but before formatting into the final PDF). Still others do not allow any copy to be archived elsewhere.

Next time you publish a paper in a journal, check RoMEO to see what version of the manuscript you may be able to post:
<<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo>>.

LIBRARIES LAUNCH NEW OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORY, STARS

The UCF Libraries are celebrating the launch of its new digital open access institutional repository, STARS: Showcase of Text, Archives, Research, and Scholarship, at <<http://stars.library.ucf.edu/>>. STARS was created through a 2014 Technology Fee funded proposal to publicize, disseminate, and provide ready access to works by, for, and about the University of Central Florida.

“STARS will highlight and expand access to the intellectual assets and output of UCF — in direct support of President Hitt’s goal for the university to achieve international prominence in graduate study and research,” said Lee Dotson, Digital Initiatives Librarian.

The institutional repository allows submissions by all faculty, staff, students, and affiliates of UCF wishing to share their work with a worldwide audience. Examples of content that can be hosted in STARS include:

- Working papers, conference papers, technical reports, and datasets;
- Faculty-student collaborative projects;
- Journals published by the UCF community;
- Published articles, books, and book chapters when copyright and/or license allow;
- Organizational annual reports, newsletters, and founding documents;
- Image collections or audiovisual materials, either primary or supplementary;
- Conferences and symposia; and
- Projects that include digitized content and/or links to online content.

Posted submissions receive a permanent, shareable URL that helps researchers leverage the Internet and social media to further increase the visibility of their scholarship. STARS allows readers, at no charge, to discover and view relevant research by topic, author, or sponsoring department. The system also allows users to sign up for e-mails or RSS feeds alerting them to new content tailored to their unique interests.

Members of the UCF community interested in submitting work should contact the Subject Librarian for their department or contact directly the STARS coordinator. They also should review the policies and guidelines listed at <<http://stars.library.ucf.edu/faq.html>>. Different collections may have specific guidelines for submissions but basic guidelines and principles govern all work submitted to the repository.

For additional information, comments, questions, or suggestions, contact the STARS coordinator at <STARS@ucf.edu>.

NEW DATABASE ADDS TO PRIMARY SOURCE COLLECTIONS

A successful Technology Fee proposal written by the Department of History has enabled the UCF Libraries to purchase a new primary source database, Indigenous Peoples: North America.

This database contains an extensive grouping of archival materials related to Indians of North America dating from the sixteenth century well into the twentieth century. The collection includes manuscript collections, rare books, newspapers, periodicals, census records, legal documents, maps, drawings and sketches, oral histories, and photos. It also features video content from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Materials have been sourced from both American and Canadian institutions, such as the National Archives, the Library of Congress, Princeton University, and the Association of American Indian Archives (AAIA).

Topics of interest include the Iroquois Confederation, Canadian Catholic Indian missions, Indian removal, Indian Wars and the frontier army, the Dawes Severalty Act of 1887, Indian languages and linguistics, Indian delegations, and Indian-Federal relations.

The database can be found listed alphabetically on the Libraries’ database page: <<http://guides.ucf.edu/databases>>.