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Digital Commons Presentation for the Liberty University School of Education

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Building a School of Education
Online Scholarly Community

Liberty University -- School of Education -- January 23, 2007
What are our meeting objectives?

- Introduce Digital Commons Team and Project
- Give an overview of Digital Commons
- Discuss SOE desired site structure
- Brief discussion of peer-review journal
Scholarship and Community

Collaboration, across time and space, is the fundamental method of scholarship, and without it we can do nothing of value.

Team and Project Phases

• Team
  – Dave Barnett, Dean of Libraries
  – Josh Ellsworth, Systems Librarian
  – Carl Merat, Project Coordinator
  – Randy Miller, Outreach and Instruction Coordinator
  – Tyler Veak, Digital Commons Manager

• Project Phases
  – Pilot Phase ~ Few partners ~ 1/07 – 5/07
  – Open Phase ~ All of LU ~ 5/07 -- ?
  – Extend Phase ~ Integrate more collaboration
What is the “Digital Commons”

- Widely adopted web-based product
- An online “commons” to unify, showcase, and preserve Liberty’s scholarship.
- A full-featured but reasonably simple interface to create online scholarly communities.
What is in it for you?

• SOE scholarly work highlighted and shared broadly
• Centralized and enduring collections of new and existing scholarship
• Peer-review journal publishing platform
• Statistical reporting on usage
• Library pays for product and supports it
Google shares and highlights it for us.
What Digital Commons Isn’t:

• An intranet (think \Molly)
• A place to post sensitive data
  – Access to full text of a primary document can be restricted, but we cannot prevent metadata from being harvested
• A place to temporarily post a document
• A place to post any document for which copyright/ownership is in question
Four Levels of Site Structure

Institutional Repository

Community

Publication Series

Volume/Issue

Objects

The “site,” containing all series and objects

Collection of Objects - designed either as an open (unstructured) series or a journal (structured) series.

The fundamental “document” that an end user retrieves and uses – can be papers, images, music, video, etc.

The department sponsoring the series (e.g. SOE)

Structural elements added to a series defined as a journal

Metadata

Document

Supplemental Files
Three Faces of Digital Commons

• The **public** interface
  – This is what any interested researcher or user with Web access can see

• The **author submission** interface
  – This is where authors (if you allow them) accept an agreement form, provide the metadata, and upload their submission

• The **administrative** interface
  – This is where you:
    • Manage submissions
    • Create series, communities, and Personal Researcher pages
    • Make changes to the site
Typical Publication Process

Author/Editor

Series Editor(s)

Users

Metadata

Web Form

Editorial System

Public Interface

- Submission is a simple web form – no custom application to download
- Authors, Administrative staff, or Library staff could upload material

- Document is reviewed/revised in the administrative interface
- Editor(s) get an email announcing receipt of new submissions
- Peer review can be integrated

- Documents are published immediately on the site with editor approval
What should the public see?

- Logo or image
- Introductory text
- Links to SOE or GSOE
- Other sites
  - Boston College
  - University of Pennsylvania
  - University of Nebraska - Lincoln
How to structure your community?

• School of Education
  – Faculty Publications and Presentations
    • Educational Leadership
    • Curriculum & Instruction
  – Educational Specialist Projects
  – Doctoral Dissertations
  – Journal of Christian Educational Leadership
  – Honors, curriculum guides, working papers, etc.
Who will submit content?

- Faculty
- Students
- Peers participating in hosted events
- Peers collaborating in publication
- Alumni
- Journal / occasional papers authors
How do you submit content?

- Author submits using web-based form
- Anyone can email a submission to series editor
- Site or series editors can submit
Who will manage your content?

- Library will assist during the pilot
- Library will populate dissertations
- SOE will need series editor(s)
- SOE journals will need peer-reviewers
What do we do next?

• SOE determines look, names, structure, administrators for basic community and series

• Schedule a work meeting with Digital Commons production team

• Library creates basic structure and look, then adds administrators and trains SOE for basic series management
  – Site can be hidden while training/building
  – Staff can be administrators
What do we need to decide?

• What you want the public to see -- look of your community
• The structure --- community, sub-communities and series
• The naming conventions for your communities and series
• Who will submit material and look at the variable interface options
• How you will manage the administration and who is to be involved in each area
So you want to publish a journal.

- Consider some of the issues by reviewing the “Starting a Peer-Reviewed Series” at the University of California eScholarship Repository
- Review the Digital Commons Journal Editors Manual
- Contact Carl Merat or Dr. Veak to begin journal planning and creation process
- ProQuest will train on journal creation and management. They estimate 4 – 6 weeks for set up, which includes time for internal discussions about policy and workflow.
We are your support team!

- Digital Commons Support
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