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Digital Commons Brochure

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What is the Digital Commons?

The Liberty University Digital Commons serves as an institutional repository for disseminating, storing and preserving the educational and research output of the LU community. In addition, the Commons provides worldwide open access to the research and scholarship of LU faculty and students, thereby showcasing the excellent work being accomplished at LU.

How do we get started?

Discuss with your colleagues within your school or department how you would like your Digital Commons “community” and its various “series” organized. We can personalize the “look and feel” of your community with a unique graphic appearance that you will determine.

You may contact the Digital Commons Manager to make a presentation to your department, help you get started, and answer your questions. Be one of the first to establish a community within the Liberty University Digital Commons!

Structure of the Digital Commons

The Digital Commons is organized into “communities” and “series.” Any university academic or administrative unit can establish a community with as many series within their community as they wish (e.g., Theses and Dissertations, Faculty Research). Each series has one or more editors to oversee the uploading of content by individuals within their unit.

“Liberty University faculty and students are making significant research contributions in many academic disciplines. The Digital Commons provides us with a web-based agora through which many of these resources can be made available to the global academic community. We are excited about the opportunity to provide a venue like this to showcase the University’s centers of excellence!”

- Dr. David Barnett, Dean, ILRC

Liberty University Digital Commons is a service of the A. Pierre Guillermin Library. We invite you to explore the Commons at:

http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/

To learn more contact:

Tyler Veak, Ph.D.
Digital Commons Manager
digitalcommons@liberty.edu
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Features of the Digital Commons

- **Obtain useful access statistics:** Monthly emails report your documents’ use. Editors can print more detailed series reports at any time.
- **Built-in alert service:** You can receive RSS feed automatic alerts when new material is added.
- **Open access:** Make your work widely accessible through online search engines such as Google™.
- **Accepts multiple formats:** MS Word documents, PDF files, images, video, sound, data sets, PowerPoint files, and more.
- **Journal publishing:** Online electronic journals can be easily created and managed with the built-in peer-review journal publishing platform.
- **Rapid dissemination:** You can submit your work and make it available on the World Wide Web in just a few days.
- **Excellent customer support:** The Digital Commons is supported internally by Library personnel with external support provided by ProQuest/UMI and Berkeley Electronic Press.

Personal Benefits of the Digital Commons

By adding your content to your Digital Commons community and its different series, you will be archiving all of your published works and presentations in one location. If you wish, you may create a personal “Selected Works” page with your CV, bio, and photo.

The Digital Commons will automatically include any of your publications previously loaded to the Commons, or if you add new ones to your “Selected Works” page, it will prompt you to add them to your existing community series.

Contributors to the Digital Commons

- LU Faculty
- LU Students
- LU Administrative Units: academic affairs, human resources, student affairs, etc.
- LU Alumni: theses and dissertations
- Non-LU Scholars: contribute through electronic journals and LU-sponsored conferences

“**I demonstrated (the Digital Commons) in our department meeting today and already have one more posted. Notice of the submission was emailed to me and I approved the posting. It was very user-friendly.**”

- Dr. Karen Parker, Dean, School of Education

“This (Digital Commons usage email) was neat to receive. I didn’t realize that many people read it.”

- Rachel Schwedt, Library