Targeting Student Achievement

Student Scholarship in the CCU Digital Commons Institutional Repository

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CCU: public institution in the Myrtle Beach Area

Carnegie Classification: Masters Colleges & Universities: Larger Programs, just added another doctoral program

FTE: 10,000+ (12,500+ by 2020...), so growing by leaps and bounds...

That means new initiatives are happening across campus

Library staffing is not ideal, we’re trying to maintain and grow services until we can get more staff
Due to my experience with digital collections on campus I was asked by the Office of the Provost to write a proposal for an institutional repository for the university. I chose bepress due to in part to a lack of staffing, not enough time to manage open source repository.

The proposal was accepted, and we purchased the bepress Digital Commons repository in the summer of 2018, and went live on August 31, 2018.
Student Achievement Funding

Opportunity provided by Office of the Provost to
fund campus initiatives

November 2017: Funding request sent: 3-Year Subscription for Digital Commons and Expert Gallery Suite

Benchmarks and assessment required every following summer

** Requires us to focus on IR projects that showcase student achievement, student success, and student engagement

Goal: Make the IR critical to the business of the university

We paid for the repository through SAF Request opportunity, provided by the Office of the Provost to fund campus initiatives

We sent the funding request in on November 2017, accepted for 3-Year Subscription for Digital Commons and Expert Gallery Suite

Benchmarks and assessment are required at the end of each fiscal year

Sustainability is not explicitly stated in funding, but expectation is that successful projects are folded in to the university's budget to make them sustainable in the long-term

Goal: Make the IR critical to the business of the university
So, for our Year 1 benchmarks we were on a truncated first year, so we actually only had a few months to plan after the funding request was approved.
Repository will be live and accessible by Summer 2018

- Preliminary policies and procedures in place
- 3 academic departments uploaded, including faculty profiles
- Over 50% of CCU graduate ETD uploaded

- Project planning, bepress design tour, faculty marketing training, configuration sheets, demo site…
- This was successful
Preliminary policies and procedures in place
- Work in progress. CCU Legal Counsel did not interfere, they let us do our thing.
- We have policies and procedures on copyright, collection management, submission process, ETD, withdrawal guidelines, preservation...
3 academic departments uploaded, including faculty profiles

- This was a Kickstart offer from bepress, to populate our IR with scholarship and expert gallery profiles from 3 departments
- This was not so successful, seemed a bit like putting the cart before the horse, in that our truncated go-live schedule didn’t allow much outreach to faculty
- I had issues getting dept heads involved, contacting several with no reply.
- It’s hard to get buy-in without faculty seeing the IR online. And I needed to focus on student work anyway. So we shelved this part until later.
Over 50% of CCU graduate ETD uploaded

- This was a success, as we were able to upload 100% of ETDs, thanks to project planning and an amenable Vice Provost of Graduate Programs.
- I digitized all of the analog grad theses in the library as well so that we could reach this 100% number.
Year 2 benchmarks continued to look for growth in engagement with materials.

Repository statistics will show engagement with student materials
- It’s easy to show growth going from 0 to even 1 hit.

Policies and procedures revisions:
- OER: Expert on campus working with OER for decades, very helpful
- New collection development librarian helped revise collection mgmt policy, some copyright.

New student-focused collections: I have uploaded many collections in the last several months...
Student Collections, Year 2

Graduate ETD: Configure ProQuest ETD Administrator site to improve processing

Senior Honors Theses: Training Honors Program Director to administer the series

Horry County Archives Center: Migrate from Islandora repository to DC: Journals, Newsletters, Oral histories, Photographs...

Atheneum: Yearbook of Coastal Carolina University
Student Collections, Year 2 (con’t)

Chanticleer Student Newspaper: Over 600 issues of the student-produced campus newspaper, from 1962 to today

University Archives:
- Honors student-led oral histories
- TEMPO Magazine
- Archarios Literary Art Magazine

Undergraduate Research:
- UGR Competition programs
- Celebration of Inquiry programs
- Bibliographies of Student Research
Year 3 benchmarks are again more of the same, finishing up the retroactive digitization and uploading of student works
Our goal was to make the repository critical to the business of the university. Were we successful? I think so. The repository aligns with several points of the university strategic plan.

Sustainability: We expect we’ll be folded into the university's budget. We have an endowment that the lawyers are working on, could be folded into the library budget this way.

Now we need to turn our focus on faculty scholarship. Also, digital scholarship and scholarly communications.

New Digital Initiatives Librarian position hopefully, until then working with CeTEAL and library liaisons.
Room for Improvement

bepress:

Streaming media: Was a big sticking point, but now we are able to fully migrate from Islandora.

Batch processing: Documentation could be better. Usually takes multiple attempts to batch larger collections.

Support: Reps are basically on another shift from us Eastern Standard Timers. Makes for longer project management timelines.

Stats: Mute by IP address? Public Dashboard?

Design: Image viewer could be better...

Kimbel Library:

Not enough time to do it all. No marketing. Not able to engage faculty as I’d like. Would love to add Digital Initiatives Librarian and Scholarly Communications Librarian positions.

Faculty Scholarship: Meet with Faculty Senate Chair. Faculty Survey. Open Access policy? Discipline-specific repositories already handle?

Harvesting Faculty Works: So many workflows out there, would love time to harvest scholarship from faculty CVs. Talking with CCU Provost’s Office to obtain access to publication sections of faculty CVs. Library check publisher agreements through SHERPA/RoMEO, contact faculty requesting pre-prints...
We’re seeing a lot of usage of our marine science scholarship across the world. Japan seems to be interested in hydrology, storm surge, etc.

It’s great to see our scholarship being used throughout the world, seeing others build on our scholarship to create their own.

6 continents: We actually have several faculty at our university doing research in Antarctica, so maybe we’ll get all 7 continents at some point.
Questions and Comments

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