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Data Management

Posted on July 15, 2014 by Carol Hixson

For the past few years, USFSP faculty have grown accustomed to hearing about the Open Access movement from me as Dean and other Poynter Library faculty. The movement in support of open access to scholarship is based on the premise that research conducted in whole or in part with public money should be available to the tax-paying public without barriers. The Poynter Library’s primary means of supporting open access has been through the establishment of the USFSP Digital Archive, in particular the collections highlighting student and faculty research and scholarship. We have been promoting faculty research and scholarship by establishing digital portfolios in the Digital Archive for all faculty members who gives us their CVs. We investigate copyright restrictions on past publications, we create records in the Digital Archive for all articles and other creative output that faculty want highlighted, we add in full-text of articles where possible and abstracts and proxied links where copyright restrictions do not allow full-text, and we help faculty review their publishers’ agreements so that they retain as much control as possible over their intellectual property.

Our latest endeavor to assist faculty with their research is in the realm of data management. The Open Access movement is growing to include data. In a policy memorandum released 2/22/13, OSTP Director John Holdren directed Federal agencies with more than $100M in R&D expenditures to develop plans not only to make the published results of federally funded research freely available to the public within one year of publication but also to require researchers to account for and manage the digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. In spring 2014, a group of library faculty, with my support, wrote an internal research grant to investigate the University’s compliance mechanisms for data management at USFSP and suggest modifications. Later in the fall, the Library will be organizing a faculty forum with an expert speaker to discuss the issue and help all faculty prepare for the new requirements from granting agencies. Stay tuned here or contact me or your library liaison for more information.