# Open Access Projects in the Centre for Learning Design and Development

Part of a panel discussion during Open Access Week

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Director, Centre for Learning Design and Development

October 22, 2010

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# Recent initiatives in…

1. producing and sharing open educational resources

2. using open educational resources in course materials

3. finding and aggregating open materials for adaptation and inclusion in program development

# 1. Produce and share open resources

- Inukshuk grant: *Math Support for Calculus*
- 5 modules in basic math concepts
- AU tutor authoring tool based on Carnegie Mellon cognitive tutor authoring tool
- Interactive practice and assessment
- Modules and code deposited with learning object repositories: WikiEducator, Curriki, Merlot and on AU OCW site

# 2. Use open resources in course materials

- PHYS 302 – Vibrations and waves
- Uses downloadable video lectures from MIT Open CourseWare
- Available in Moodle with other online resources
- To be uploaded to AU OCW site

# 3. Find and aggregate open materials

- DFAIT funded
- TEKRI, CDE, University of the West Indies
- Collaborative program development using open educational resources
- 12 graduate courses; 7 detailed outlines

# Practical barriers to using OERs

- Content may not be available for a given topic or level
- Content may be difficult to locate
- Authorship and copyright information may not be well identified
- May embed borrowed content without appropriate copyright clearance
- Quality in terms of provenance, content accuracy or media production values may be insufficient
- May present content in a different subject or cultural context and thus may require extensive localization
- Technical barriers may exist such as file formats, software versions or platform compatibility issues
- Files might be withdrawn from the internet by the author at any time

A digital space to promote your scholarly work and open access policy

# AU SPACE

**AUSpace as an Effective Institutional Repository (IR) to Actualize Open Access Policy**

**By**
**Tony Tin, Head, Digital Initiatives &**
**E-Resources**
**Colin Elliott, Digitization Coordinator**

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# The Digital Preservation Crisis

*"Information is being produced in **greater quantities** and with **greater frequency** than at any time in history. Electronic media, especially the Internet, make it possible for almost **anyone** to become a "publisher." How will society **preserve** this information and **make it available** to future generations? How will libraries and other repositories classify this information so that their patrons can **find it** with the same ease that they can locate a book on a shelf?*

*The **ease** with which electronic information can be created and "published" makes much of what is available today, gone tomorrow. Thus there is an **urgent need** to preserve this information before it is forever lost."*

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# Meeting the Challenge: Building an IR

" A set of **services** that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members."

Clifford Lynch, ARL Bimonthly Report, No. 226

# AU IR: AUSpace Goal/Objectives

- History:
  - established in 1995
- Goal:
  - to address "crisis in scholarly publishing" & preserve AU scholarly materials
  - to actualize AU Open Access Research Policy
- Objectives:
  - institutional self-promotion
  - service to faculty in making research papers more widely available
  - opportunity for library staff to connect with research faculty,
  - integrate DSpace with library services
  - encourage open access

  Url: http://auspace.athabascau.ca

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# AUSpace – Attributes

- a web-based database (repository) of scholarly material
- institutionally defined (as opposed to a subject-based repository)
- cumulative and perpetual (a collection of record),
- part of the process of scholarly communication (collects, stores and disseminates research info)
- open access and interoperable (e.g. using OAI-compliant software),

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AUSpace System Overview
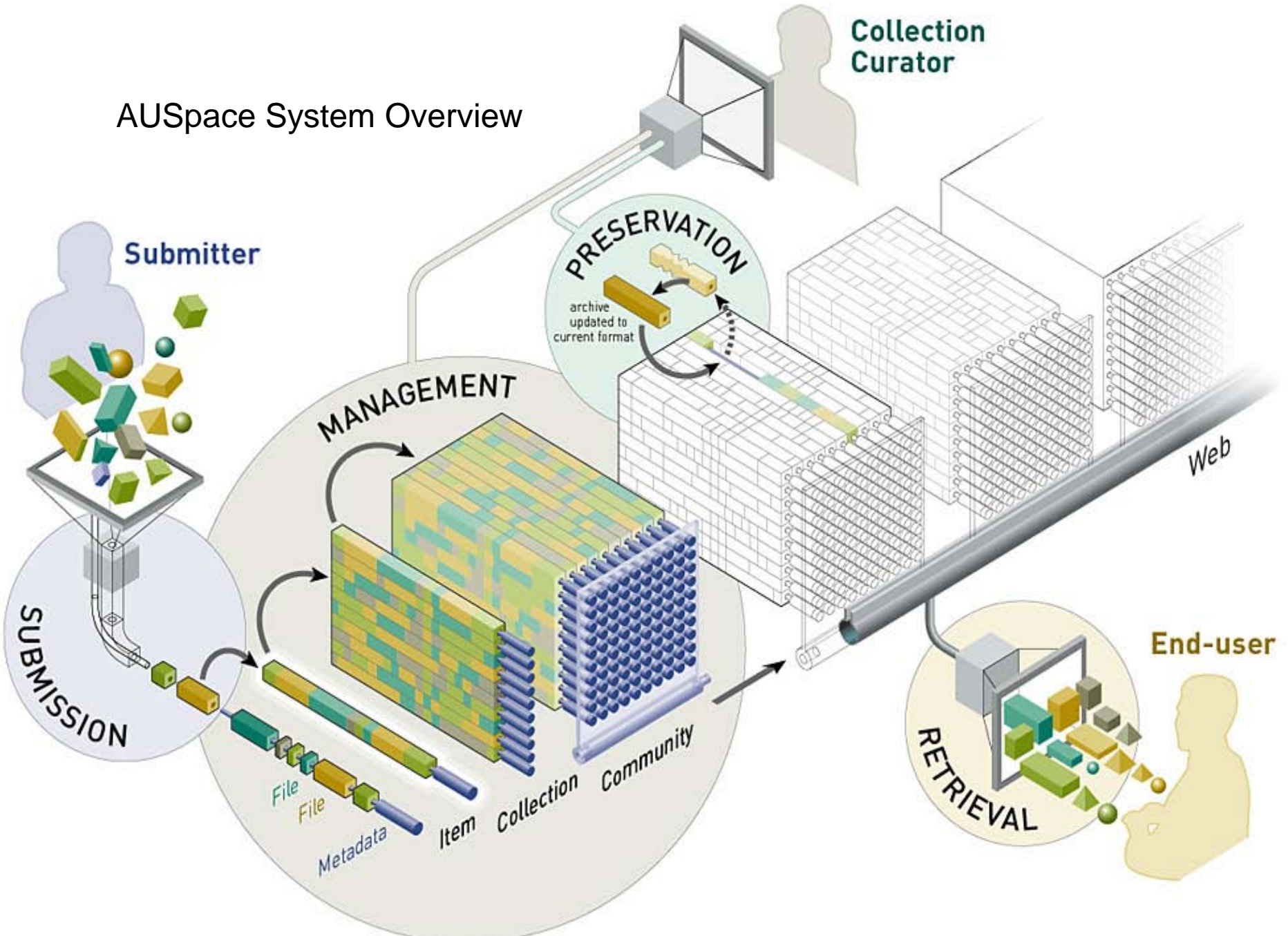
# AUSpace Content

- Articles
- Technical reports
- Working papers
- Conference papers
- Research Centre archives
- Lunch and Learn materials
- Academic research
- Student projects
- E-theses

- E-portfolio
- Images (visual, scientific, etc.)
- Audio/Video files
- Datasets (statistical, geospatial, scientific)
- Databases
- Course materials (archived)
- Learning objects
- Supplementary materials
- Digitized library collections

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# Current Status of AUSpace



- In operation for 5 years
- Have interested several centers and faculty in E-publishing, especially for
  - self archiving
  - e-portfolio
  - knowledge management
  - learning objects
- Currently houses more 1756 items
- Faculty and researchers to use AUSpace for archiving and open access support

# Actualization of AU Open Access



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# Some References

- **Displace Federation**

  www.dspace.org

- **AUSpace**

  http://auspace.athabascau.ca

- **AU Open Access Policy**

  http://www.athabascau.ca/policy/research/openaccess.htm

- **Berlin Declaration**

  http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html

- **Budapest Open Access Initiative**

  http://www.soros.org/openaccess.

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# Some References

- **CIHR Open Access to Health Research Publications: CIHR Unveils New Policy**

  http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34851.html

- **Morrison, H. and Waller, A. (2004) Open Access: Basics and Benefits, Library Association of Alberta**

  http://ir.lib.sfu.ca/handle/1892/97

- **SSHRC Policy Focus-Open Access**

  http://www.sshrc.ca/web/about/policy_focus/open_access/index_e.asp

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# Bibliography of the Athabasca River Basin: A Digital Tool for Knowledge and Open Access
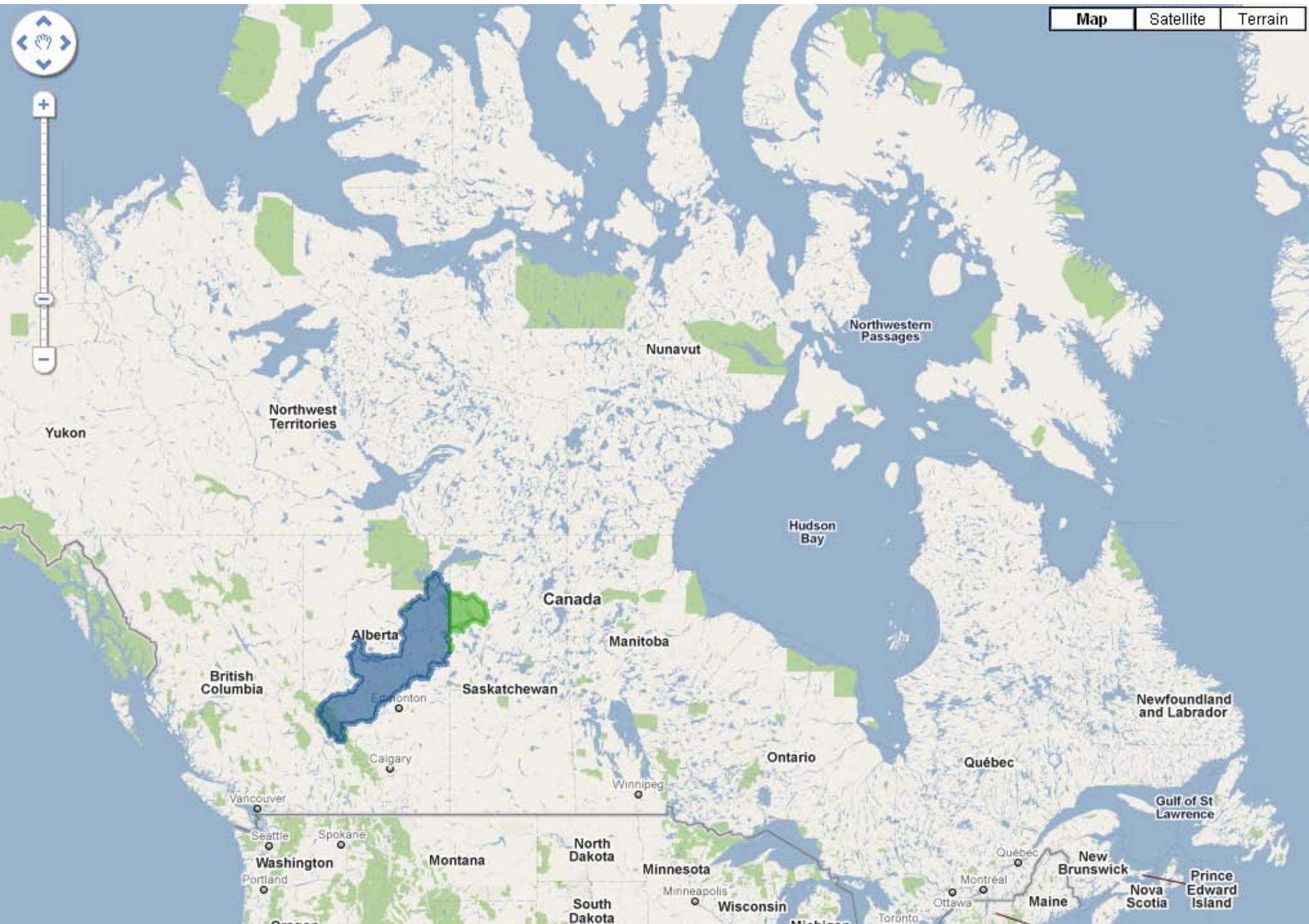
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## ATHABASCA RIVER BASIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

- The River Basin
- The Institute
- Vision & Mission
- Research Paths
- Leading the Way
- Resources
- Contact Us

- AU Library
- Important Links

- Image Gallery

# Athabasca River Basin
## Research Institute (ARBRI)

The Athabasca River Basin plays a significant role in defining the society, culture, and economy of central and northern Alberta.

### The River Basin

At 1,538 km in length, the Athabasca River is Alberta's longest undammed river and its second largest by volume.

### The Institute

The newly created Athabasca River Basin Research Institute is an innovative interdisciplinary research centre.

## The Institute and the Basin: A Unique Opportunity

*The newly created Athabasca River Basin Research Institute (ARBRI) is an innovative interdisciplinary research centre that studies the Athabasca River Basin and its people from a broad range of perspectives.*

The basin is ecologically significant and rich in natural resources, including some of the world's largest oil sands deposits. It also represents a tapestry of diverse cultures and has considerable historical importance. Industrial development and climate change are affecting both the environmental and human elements of the basin. Through research and knowledge transfer, the institute will help to identify gaps in knowledge, highlight research opportunities and enhance understanding of key issues. The institute's activities will inform academics, community

## News and Events

### Athabasca Watershed Council 1st Annual General Meeting
**May 29, 2010**

*Royal Canadian Legion Branch 165, 9317 Huggard Street Fort McMurray, Alberta*

### Historic Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement Signed
**May 26, 2010**

*Canadian forest industry and environmental groups have signed the world's largest conservation agreement applying to an area twice the size of Germany.*

See all news

# Objectives

- To develop a highly utilitarian bibliographic database that will integrate a number of databases from various disciplines and will serve as the foundation for further ARB research and study.

- To preserve and digitize ARB research materials and resources, including audio, video, images and text.

# Potential Benefits

- Provide 24/7 easy access to ARB knowledge and information through the online bibliographic database.

- Facilitate sharing of knowledge, research, and scholarly communication through open access.

- Online database resources are fully searchable, retrievable, and reusable for research and study.

# Open Access

# Content

# Open Scholarship

## Terry Anderson, Ph.D.
### Canada Research Chair in Distance Education

# Harmonizing Disruptive Technologies



[Educating the Net Generation: A Handbook of Findings for Practice and Policy](#), 2009

- "Managing and aligning pedagogical, technical and administrative issues is a necessary condition of success when using emerging technologies for learning"

- But it takes leadership and disruption

# Frontiers of Group Learning

- From systems designed to track, control and lead learners, to systems designed to motivate and inspire learning.

What motivates learners?
- Personal and social relevance
- Opportunity to do well and be recognized
- Chance to meet cool people and engage in cool activities
- Disequilibrium (Dewey)
- Rewards - formal education's last strategic advantage



Frontier College Archives

# Promising Signs

- Ubiquity and multi-functionality of web 2.0
- Growth of openness and online resources, OERs
- Increasingly effective pedagogical models and learning activities
- Real educational alternatives – including private sector
- Death and retirement

# Open Scholars are Transparent



The ability to view and share thoughts, actions, resources, ideas and interests of others.

"radically increase learner awareness of others' learning activities in the PLE"

Marc van Harmelen
Manchester PLE

Dalsgaard, C., & Paulsen, M. (2009) Transparency in Cooperative Online Education

# Open Scholar



- "the Open Scholar is someone who makes their intellectual projects and processes digitally visible and who invites and encourages ongoing criticism of their work and secondary uses of any or all parts of it--at any stage of its development".
  - Gideon Burton Academic Evolution Blog

# Open Scholars Create:

- A new type of education work maximizing:
  - Social learning
  - Media richness
  - Participatory and connectivist  pedagogies
  - Ubiquity and persistence
  - Open data collection and research process
  - Creating connections

# Open Scholars Use and Contribute  Open Educational Resources



Because it saves time!!!

# Open Educational Resources Handbook for Educators Version 1.0

by Seth Gurell
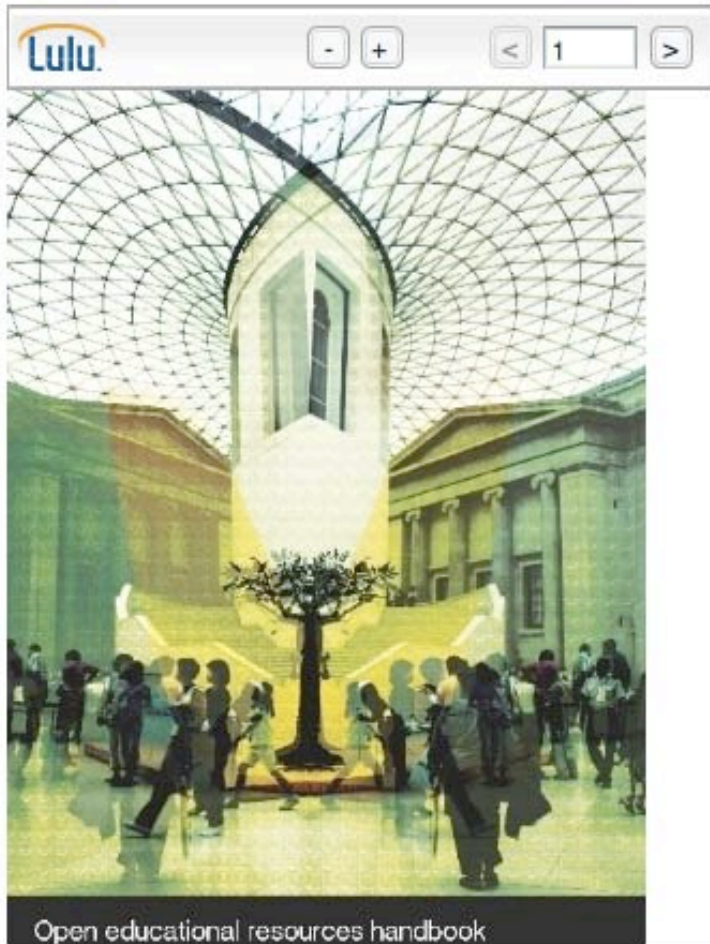
**Download free**  **Download Now**

**Paperback book $19.99**  **Add to Cart**

**Download:** 1 documents, 40713 KB
**Printed:** 284 pages, 6" x 9", perfect binding, black and white interior ink

## Description:

The OER Handbook is an introductory guide for educators to the Open Education movement. The handbook is arranged along the "OER Lifecycle:" Find, Compose, Adapt, Use and Share.

## Keywords:

educators   education   open education   OER

## Listed in:

# An Overview of Open Educational Resources

**Collection type:** Manual

# Open Scholars Self Archive

**SHERPA RoMEO**

**eprints**

**DSPACE**

Quality scholarship is peer and public reviewed, accessible, persistent  syndicated, commented and  transparent.

# Open Scholars Apply their research
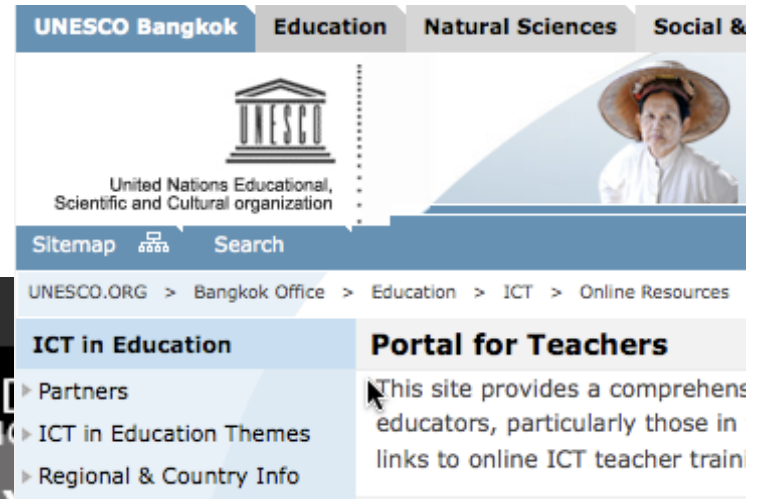
# Open Scholars do Open Research

- Open Notebook: a laboratory notebook that is freely available and indexed on common search engines. …it is essential that all of the information available to the researchers to make their conclusions is equally available to the rest of the world.

# Open Scholars Filter and Share With Others

# Open Scholars support emerging Open Learning alternatives

# Open Scholars Publish in Open Access Journals

- Open Access Journals have increased citation ratings:
  - Work in progress with Olaf Zawacki-Richter, Ferne University, Germany
  - Analysis of Google citations for 12 Distance Education Journals (using Harzing's Publish or Perish tool)
  - 6 open access, 6 commercially published
  - Early results show roughly equal citations/paper, but recent gains in citations by open access j

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

# Open Scholars comment openly on the works of others

- Bookmarking and Annotation add value
- Cite-u-like, Brainify, Diigo, Delicious etc
- VLE additions like
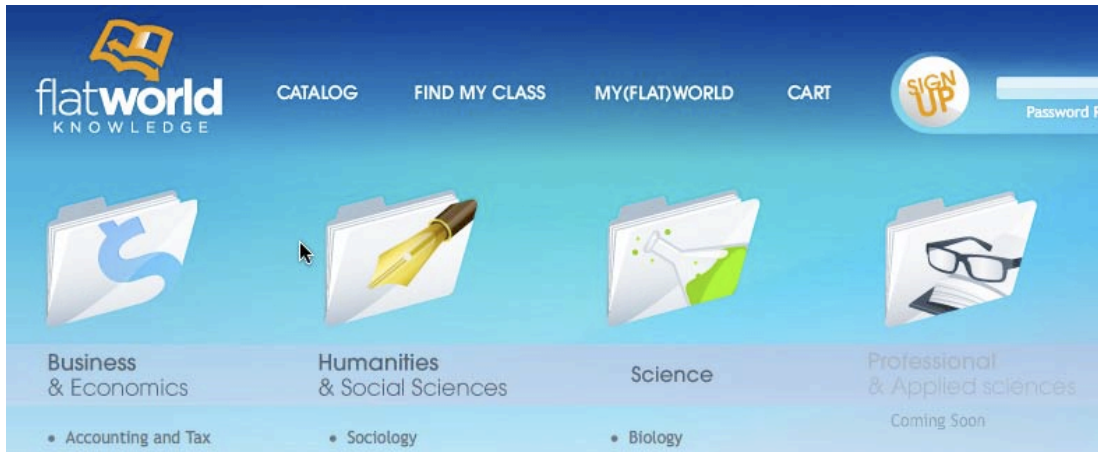
[Margenalia.](#)

# Open Scholars Build Networks

# Open Scholars Lobby for Copyright Reform



Source: swiss-copyright.ch

# Open Scholars Assign Open Textbooks

Freeload Press
Liberating the Textbook

Imagine a world where textbooks are free...
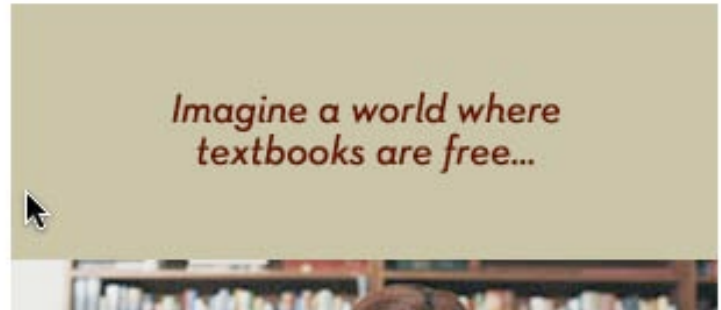
flatworld
KNOWLEDGE

CATALOG    FIND MY CLASS    MY(FLAT)WORLD    CART    SIGN UP    Password R

Business & Economics
- Accounting and Tax

Humanities & Social Sciences
- Sociology

Science
- Biology

Professional & Applied sciences
Coming Soon

COSTP
California Open Source Textbook Project

# Open Scholars Induce Open Students

- Students as co-creators
- Students gaining experience as writers, authors and teachers
- Getting over the use, but don't contribute barrier
- Students engaged in meaningful work
- Extensive literature on value of peer instruction - especially for gifted students
- Empowering learners as future teachers

**Power of Student Work**

# Open Scholars support Open Students OpenStudents.Org



**OPEN ACCESS**

We're students – the next generation of scholars.

We believe that science should be open, for everyone to learn.

We're changing the way that research is disseminated.

**We are Open Students.**



OPEN STUDENT TELEVISION NETWORK

## Student Statement on The Right to Research

Scholarly knowledge is part of the common wealth of humanity.

# Open Scholars Teach Open Courses

**CONNECTIVISM & CONNECTIVE KNOWLEDGE**

a rather large open online course...

George Siemens & Stephen Downes

## Introduction au technologie émergentes

Dave Cormier

**open thinking**
rants & resources from an open educator

Alec Cuoros **Open Access Course: Social Media & Open Education (Fall 2009)**

# Open Scholars are Change Agents

- Open scholars develop tools and techniques to help cross-pollination, sustain and grow effective learning networks.

From (Looi 2001).

# Conclusion

- "Open Access is more than a new model for scholarly publishing, it is the only ethical move available to scholars who take their own work seriously enough to believe its value lies in how well it engages many publics and not just a few peers."

- Gideon Burton,  Academic Evolution Blog

**Slides available on [CrowdVine](#)**
**http://altc2009.alt.ac.uk/attachments/0000/4595/ALT-C_Final.pptx**

# Your comments and questions most welcomed!

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