SUNYergy
SUNY Libraries Working Together

New Models for Scholarly Communication

Cover Story

New Models for Scholarly Communication

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Thanks Ben & Nathan

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Change is afoot in the realm of scholarly communication. Part of it is the change that ubiquitous inter-networking and rapidly expanding computer capabilities have brought to many professions and fields of endeavor. Part is a natural result of scholars using the new tools to communicate and collaborate on their research. Another factor is the rise of new business models for scholarly publishing. And, finally, part of the change is a result of a desire to take back some control over (oftentimes) tax-supported research submitted to publishers with no direct expectation of compensation for that journal article.

These trends reveal themselves in a growing movement of librarians, scholars, technologists and administrators seeking "open access" to this scholarly literature. Two main approaches are identified to create this open access. One is for scholars to publish their work in the growing number of peer-reviewed open access journals. The other is to "self-archive" one's work in a repository compliant with new standards for searching and the inter-operability of such repositories.

This issue of SUNYergy describes two SUNY-wide initiatives utilizing both of these approaches. A SUNY-wide membership to the open access publisher BioMed Central is discussed. And ongoing archiving of documents and other digital assets (many of which are openly accessible) in a pilot Dspace system is described.