2015

Open access week at OCAD University: Post-event brief

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OPEN FOR COLLABORATION: OPEN ACCESS WEEK AT OCAD UNIVERSITY

October 21-22, 2015

The Learning Zone, OCAD University

Post-Event Brief

Prepared by Chris Landry

Event Summary

Open for Collaboration: Open Access Week at OCAD University was the inaugural Open Access Week event for the Institutional Repository & Scholarly Communications Advisory Group (IRSCAG), consisting of representatives from the University Library, Graduate Studies, and Research Services. The event featured two days of programming including a panel discussion, information sessions, a book launch, guest speakers, and a film screening.

For a first attempt at recognizing Open Access Week on a larger scale at OCAD U, the event was a success bringing together over 20 administrative leaders, faculty, staff, and graduate students. The goal was to provide an opportunity to critically discuss open access in an open, collaborative, and interdisciplinary environment.

Issues Discussed

Jill Patrick started off the day by introducing a panel discussion entitled, Open Forum on Open Access: What are the implications of Opening Up Our Research at OCAD U? Panelists included Martha Ladly, (Faculty of Design, Digital Futures), Lynne Milgram (Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences), Greg Van Alstyne (Strategic Innovation Lab, Faculty of Design), Jess Mitchell (Inclusive Design Research Centre), and Mike Steventon (Research Technology). Greg Singer, Director of Research Services, assumed the role of moderator.

Multiple speakers on the panel discussed the ways publishing has changed as a result of digital technology and, despite obvious challenges, there appeared to be agreement that there is value in going open. Greg Van Alstyne discussed open access as a form of disruption, which he believed could be a positive force from the perspective of an optimist and a futurist. He noted that his team releases work on Creative Commons model licenses, which combined with print-on-demand services create complimentary avenues of dissemination. Due to "the low cost of dematerialized information" he explained, "self-publishing is no longer the vanity press." Jess Mitchell, Senior Manager of R&D + Design at the IDRC saw open source and open access as part of the broader philosophy of inclusion that underpins accessibility.

It was acknowledged that in certain disciplines publishing and research outputs vary widely, a situation which presents its own challenges. Martha Ladly noted that from the perspective of an interdisciplinary maker, there is a lack of good models for open access work, and she also noted that citations do not provide an adequate measure of the impact of cultural outreach. As an example, Ladly suggested that a Nuit Blanche exhibit attended by thousands would not be considered in the same way as a research paper with a high number of citations. A member of the audience enquired about the place of open access in the museum world. Jess Mitchell offered the example of Fluid Engage, an open source solution for museums that allows for flexible and inclusive exhibits that speak directly to the user's background. There was an interesting exchange about the potential value of opening up research data to enable other uses and reuses from differing perspectives, including those never envisaged by the original researcher. Jess presented as an example the Ontario government land survey and aerial photography data that is being released for public use.

Following the panel Greg Singer presented on the Tri-Agency Open Access and Open Data Policies , followed by Jill Patrick, University Librarian, who presented on the OCAD U Open Research Repository. Jill Patrick not only showcased the new IR, but outlined the various ways it will help OCAD U reach its strategic objectives as an institution. The day ended with the launch of the open access book, *What is Information?: Propagating Organization in the Biosphere, Symbolosphere, Technosphere and Econosphere* by Robert K. Logan, Chief Scientist and a co-founder of Strategic Innovation Lab (sLab) at OCAD University.

Day two of OCAD U's Open Access Week programming began with three guest speakers, Wayne Johnston (University of Guelph), Corina MacDonald (Mat3rial), and John Dupuis (York University) who spoke about publishing options in open access, a case study in open access arts publishing, and the myths and realities of "predatory" open access. All three guest speakers agreed to share their presentation slides on our Open Access Week Subject Guide.

Corina MacDonald presenting on e-artexte on day 2 of Open Access Week

Guest Speakers

Corina MacDonald, Consultant & Information Specialist, Mat3rial

Corina MacDonald (MLIS, McGill 2008) is consultant and information specialist. Her professional interests include the role of open content, technologies and standards in community and capacity building, digital publishing and digital heritage. She worked as a heritage information analyst at the Canadian Heritage Information Network from 2008 to 2010 before beginning work as an independent consultant for digital cultural projects. She was the Project Manager for the e-artexte digital repository for visual arts publications from 2011 until 2014. In 2013 she founded Mat3rial, a small archive+design working collective, with Antonia Hernandez, Mél Hogan and Jacqueline Wallace.

Wayne Johnston, Former Head of Research Enterprise and Scholarly Communication, University of Guelph

For the past six years Wayne Johnston was the Head of Research Enterprise and Scholarly Communication at the University of Guelph Library. He is currently on leave investigating how mobile technology can be used to support field research. Before joining the University of Guelph he worked with the United Nations in New York and Geneva. He has also worked with Inuit wildlife management groups in Nunavut, fair trade organizations in Nepal, indigenous agricultural researchers in Bolivia, micro-entrepreneurs in Ghana, as well as refugees and victims of war in Croatia.

John Dupuis, Science Librarian, York University

Since 2000, John Dupuis is a science librarian at the Steacie Science and Engineering Librarian at York University. Before becoming a librarian, he worked as a software developer in the financial services industry for 12 years. He blogs about science, librarianship and politics -- sometimes all three at once -- at Confessions of a Science Librarian.

Attendees

Twenty individuals RSVPed to Open Access Week at OCAD U through our online form. Of those 14 (70%) were staff, three were graduate students, two were faculty, and two were administrative leaders.

Guests and attendees of Open for Collaboration: Open Access Week at OCAD University included representatives of the following groups and institutions:

> Artexte
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> Faculty of Design
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> Digital Futures
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> Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences
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> Inclusive Design Research Centre
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> Mat3rial, Montreal
>
> Research Technology, OCAD University
>
> Strategic Innovation Lab (sLab)
>
> University of Toronto, Department of Physics
>
> University of Guelph, Research Enterprise & Scholarly Communication
>
> York University, Steacie Science & Engineering Library

The Advisory Group

> Jill Patrick, University Librarian
>
> Greg Singer, Director, Research Services
>
> Victoria Sigurdson, Head, Visual Resources & Special Collections
>
> Brian Desrosiers-Tam, Manager, Graduate Studies

Chis Landry, Scholarly Communications Librarian/Digital Projects Officer

Ling He, Systems Librarian

Partners

The Office of the President

Graduate Studies

Research Services

Strategic Innovation Lab (sLab)

The Learning Zone

The Program

<u>Wednesday, October 21</u>

9:00am – 9:30am	**Morning Coffee**
9:30am – 9:45am	**Opening Remarks**
9:45am – 11:15am	**Open Forum on Open Access: What Are the Implications of Opening Up Our Research at OCAD U**?

Moderated by **Greg Singer**, Director, Research Services

- **Martha Ladly**, Professor, Faculty of Design // Transition Graduate Program Director, Digital Futures
- **Lynne Milgram**, Professor, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Greg Van Alstyne**, Director, Strategic Innovation Lab (sLab) // Associate Professor, Faculty of Design
- **Jess Mitchell,** Senior Manager, R&D + Design, Inclusive Design Research Centre
- **Mike Steventon**, Manager, Research Technology

11:15am – 11:30am	**Refreshment Break**
11:30am – 12:15pm	**The Tri-Agency Open Access and Open Data Policies** **Greg Singer**, Director of Research Services
12:15pm – 1:00pm	**Presentation of the OCAD U Open Research Repository including the e-thesis Collection** **Jill Patrick**, University Librarian
1:00pm – 2:30pm	**Book Launch:** **What is Information?: Propagating Organization in the Biosphere, Symbolosphere, Technosphere and Econosphere** By **Robert K. Logan**, Chief Scientist and a co-founder of Strategic Innovation Lab (sLab) at OCAD University

<u>Thursday, October 22</u>

9:45am – 10:00am   **Introduction to Guest Speakers**
Chris Landry, Scholarly Communications Librarian

10:00am – 12:00pm   **Guest Speakers:**

- **e-artexte: A Case Study on Open Access and Visual Arts Publishing in Canada**
  Corina MacDonald, Consultant & Information Specialist, Mat3rial // former Project Manager, Open Access Repository, Artexte
- **Predatory Open Access Journals: Myths & Realities**
  John Dupuis, Science Librarian, Steacie Science & Engineering Library, York University
- **Green and Gold and Data All Over: Options for Navigating the Open Access Landscape**
  Wayne Johnston, former Head of Research Enterprise & Scholarly Communication, University of Guelph

12:30pm – 2:30pm   **Film Screening:** The Internet's Own Boy: The Story of Aaron Swartz