

Mission and Vision

ScholarWorks is an open access repository for the capture of the intellectual work of Montana State University in support of its teaching, research and service missions. MSU ScholarWorks is a central point of discovery for accessing, collecting, sharing, preserving, and distributing knowledge to the Montana State University community and the world.

Benefits of contributing to ScholarWorks

Dissemination

ScholarWorks provides high visibility and increased access to your research by providing descriptive information about your submitted works to Google, Google Scholar, OAlster, and other web indexing services.

Increased impact and citation of your research

Materials in ScholarWorks are openly available on the web. Recent research has indicated an increased impact and higher citations for Open Access scholarship.

Permanence

ScholarWorks provides a persistent web address and web interface for reliably accessing and citing your work over time.

Long-term access

ScholarWorks commits to responsible and sustainable management of submitted works. Your materials will be preserved and migrated to new formats as needed.

Control

You or your assignee retain copyright in works you submit to ScholarWorks. Many publishers will allow you to submit previously published works to institutional repositories.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can submit to ScholarWorks?

MSU faculty, staff, and students (including student groups) may submit work to ScholarWorks. Student work must be sponsored by an MSU faculty member, and the name of the sponsoring faculty will appear in the descriptive information associated with the work.

Does posting my research in ScholarWorks violate the copyright agreements that I have with the journals that publish my articles?

Any material you submit to ScholarWorks remains under your copyright, unless you have signed that copyright away to another person or company. More and more publishers are recognizing authors' rights to post preprints of their work online and many also allow authors to make post-prints available online. Please also review our copyright guidelines: <http://scholarworks.montana.edu/docs/#copyright>

How is ScholarWorks different from or better than my own Web site?

ScholarWorks allows you to make your research or scholarship widely available with little effort, and provides benefits that may not be available on your own web site: full-text indexing of text files; enhanced discoverability through Google Scholar, OAlster, and various repositories of scholarly material; a permanent and persistent web address for your work so that it may be reliably cited over time; managed archival services for your files.

How does ScholarWorks differ from a discipline-specific archive such as arXiv or RePEc?

Materials submitted to ScholarWorks will be identified as MSU scholarly output. Since ScholarWorks includes materials from many disciplines, there is potentially wider dissemination of your scholarship and a greater possibility of cross-disciplinary collaboration than might occur through a discipline-specific archive.

Do other universities and colleges have institutional repositories similar to ScholarWorks?

Institutional Repositories are becoming a standard in higher education for providing storage and open access to scholarly work. Examples of land-grant universities with repositories include Texas A&M, Cornell University, MIT, Purdue University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

What is Open Access and how does it relate to ScholarWorks?

Open Access is a worldwide movement to enable journals and authors to publish material in a way that ensures free access for current and future researchers. The Open Access movement arose in part as a response to growing database subscription costs, and Institutional Repositories have likewise developed in part out of the realization that institutions were paying for research to be conducted and then renting back the fruits of that research by purchasing temporary restricted access to these articles from journal and database providers. Furthermore, some government and academic institutions, including Harvard and NIH, require that all articles produced using institutional funding be made openly accessible, thus ensuring that research and scholarship is available to an institution's members and to the public.

How can I learn more about ScholarWorks or inquire about establishing and managing a collection for my department or research unit?

Contact Jason Clark and Scott Young, ScholarWorks Curators: help@scholarworks.montana.edu