Partnering with North American University Presses to Open and Preserve Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship

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INTRODUCTION

University presses play a crucial role when it comes to advancing scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. The Association of University Presses (AUPresses), for example, has over 150 members around the world and publishes 12,000 new books annually.[1] Despite this output, university press content is largely missing from institutional repositories. While presses and institutional repositories each make their own unique contribution to the scholarly publishing landscape, this chapter argues that academic libraries with institutional repositories can and should partner with university presses and other mission-driven publishers. Indeed, such partnerships are key to rethinking institutional repositories, which for too long have focused on providing access to scientific journal articles. Beginning with an environmental scan of the current relationship

between North American university presses and institutional repositories, the authors examine what types of university press-published content is ending up in repositories. The chapter next details the workflow developed at Temple University, whereby select Temple University Press content, including open access monographs, open textbooks, and supplemental material, is deposited into the institutional repository, TUScholarShare. Finally, the authors offer suggestions for how libraries without their own university press can still contribute to this effort and consider what press and repository relationships might look like in the future.

BACKGROUND

The purpose and goals of institutional repositories have changed substantially since the early 2000s when many repositories were first launched. At that time, librarians and other open access advocates believed that repositories would have a transformative impact on the scholarly communication landscape, and the literature about repositories reflected that hope. A SPARC position paper from 2002 by Raym Crow even made the case that the growth of institutional repositories might put university presses out of business, "as universities might logically consider the repositories a more efficient investment in scholarly communications than the universities' presses have traditionally been."[2] Another early piece of scholarship on the topic of institutional repositories noted that combining presses and institutional repositories could "create an efficient and highly functional digital publishing platform."[3] While neither of these predictions came to pass, the proliferation of repositories did help libraries see themselves as publishers in their own right. In 2008, Paul Royster noted, for example, that the repository was the perfect place for original content that university presses did not want or could not publish.[4] Today, university presses are no longer seen by libraries as competitors with institutional repositories. However, few repositories have formal relationships with their university press, and perhaps as a result, the literature on this topic is scarce.[5]

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

To get a better understanding of the type of North American university press content currently available in institutional repositories, fifty different institutions with institutional repositories and university presses in the United States and Canada were examined.[6] The vast majority of press content in institutional repositories can be broken down into five major categories:

1. **Open access monographs (backlist)**. Often funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities Open Book Project, older monographs that were made open access by university presses after having gone out

of print were the most heavily represented type of content in repositories. These books may or may not have Creative Commons licenses, depending on when and under what circumstances they were made freely available. Cornell University Press, University Press of Kansas, and Purdue University Press are just a few of the university presses that use their institutional repository to host this type of content.

2. **Open access monographs (frontlist).** Often funded by Knowledge Unlatched or the Towards an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) project, born-open access monographs are also present in institutional repositories. These books all have Creative Commons licenses. In the case of TOME, one of the requirements of the program was that all books have digital object identifiers (DOI), which led some university presses to form relationships with their repositories. Northwestern University Press is one example of a university press that used its repository to obtain DOIs for its TOME books.

3. **Open access journals**. Several presses, including Wayne State University Press, Purdue University Press, and Clemson University Press use their repositories to host open access journals. These journals may or may not be Creative Commons licensed. Press journals are most often found in the institutional repository when the platform used is Digital Commons, as it includes a journal publishing feature.

4. **Restricted access content.** The institutional repository is also used by presses to host restricted access content that is available only to the campus community. The University of New Mexico Press does this for several textbooks, and The University of North Texas Press, Bucknell University Press, and MIT Press do this for monographs.

5. **Supplemental material.** Such content includes teaching materials, tables, additional images, audio files, and data. These materials may or may not have Creative Commons licenses. The University of Massachusetts Press is one example of a press that has used its repository to host supplementary content. Whether or not the repository is a good place for supplementary book materials might depend on the publishing platform used by the press, if any. Fulcrum and Manifold are two prominent publishing platforms that host supplementary content to produce enhanced ebooks, thus potentially removing the need for a repository to host this type of content. However, both platforms cost extra money, whereas presses can generally use their institutional repository for free.

6. **Book excerpts.** Excerpts from books published by university presses were also found in institutional repositories. These materials could include a complete table of contents, an introduction, or even a certain sample chapter. They are generally not Creative Commons licensed.

Book excerpts found in repositories seem to function as marketing opportunities for the university presses, as the records often included links back to purchase the entire book. University of Nebraska Press is one example of a press that has used its repository to host book excerpts.

The total amount of content from university presses in the institutional repositories examined was very small compared to the overall amount of content university presses publish. Furthermore, trade books and textbooks were generally not found in repositories. These materials generate important revenue for university presses, making it less likely that presses would be willing to make these publications freely available to readers. In addition, for most of the presses, depositing content in the institutional repository seemed to be a one-time project or an experiment versus an ongoing activity.

Two exceptions warrant further discussion. The Ohio State University Press deposits all of its monographs and edited collections in its library's institutional repository, Knowledge Bank (trade and textbook titles are not included).[7] Books are then embargoed for five years. After five years, titles are made freely available via the repository. Most of these books can only be found in Knowledge Bank. They are not freely available via ProjectMuse and JSTOR. According to Press director Tony Sanfillipo, the agreement began back in the early 2000s with a project to digitize and make openly available the Press's backlist. In 2008, it was decided that all monographs would be made freely available after the embargo period as an experiment to make more books accessible but also make sure the Press could still make money from frontlist sales.[8] This robust use of the institutional repository for press books is also the riskiest—as it is unclear the effect open access books have on print sales. Perhaps that is why only one university press has taken such an approach.

Stanford University offers another example of a unique partnership between an institutional repository and university press. In this case, Stanford University Press relies on the Stanford Digital Repository to serve the preservation needs of all digital projects it publishes.[9] All digital assets related to the project (such as images, videos, and 3D models) are deposited in the repository. The web archive, as well as any code and data files, are also added. In cases where the author wants to particularly draw attention to the availability of these assets (so that they can be remixed or reused easily by others), the Press creates a public "Archive" page, where the entire collection is easily browsable and links go directly to the repository.[10] The deposit work is usually done a month before publication by a staff member of the Press.[11]

There are clearly many possibilities for types of university press content that can be deposited in institutional repositories. One challenge, however, is developing the appropriate collection strategy that works for both the institutional repository and the university press. When it comes to digital publishing and

its constantly changing landscape, no workflow model is going to be perfect or absolute. Temple University offers another example of an effective and active partnership between a university press and an institutional repository.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY REPOSITORY AND PRESS PARTNERSHIP

Temple University is a public state-related and top-tier research institution in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Temple University Press (TUP) began reporting administratively to Temple's libraries in 2010. Together, the enterprise serves roughly 40,000 students, over 2,000 full-time faculty, and researchers across five regional campuses and supports a mission to advance learning and scholarship. As Temple's academic and research climate advances, the Temple University Libraries and University Press (TULUP) adopts new technologies and service models and fosters cross-departmental partnerships to support emerging needs.

It was not until 2020 that Temple joined other institutions in establishing the university's first institutional repository, TUScholarShare.[12] The repository was designed as a service to support the needs of the university community around sharing, promoting, and archiving the wide range of scholarly works created in the course of research and teaching. TUScholarShare became a core initiative of TULUP's Center for Scholarly Communications and Open Publishing (SCOP). Staff across TULUP were involved in the repository's development, and an Advisory Board representative of departments across the organization continues to support its growth. A full-time staff member under the Press was hired to serve as the repository administrator to manage the day-to-day operations under the oversight of the assistant director of Open Publishing Initiatives and Scholarly Communications and with the assistance of one student worker. Open Repository, a customized DSpace solution hosted by Atmire, was chosen as the platform's software.

Temple University does not have an open access mandate, so the success of the repository relies on content retrieval workflows, targeted outreach by TULUP staff, and voluntary campus participation. A mediated deposit model is utilized and eligible content ranges from traditional articles, monographs, and datasets to new and emerging forms of scholarship. To ensure that Temple scholarship is made freely available to a global audience, the repository does not accommodate metadata-only records, restricted access items, or embargoes beyond two years.

Launching a repository so late in the game allowed the project team to research the workflows and collection strategies of other institutions, anticipate publishing needs unique to Temple, prioritize TULUP departmental support, and set clear objectives from the outset. As such, given the nature of the existing library-press relationship, one of the first collections established in TUScholarShare was

for Temple University Press.[13] It was recognized early on that the repository had the potential to increase the discoverability of and provide long-term access to certain Press content. All Press staff were (and continue to be) regularly apprised of project developments and objectives, informed of the importance of the repository and its potential, and encouraged to utilize the service for any needs that arise. In response to the latter, the collection has since grown to host a variety of materials and TULUP staff have come together to share expertise for developing subsequent content strategies and workflows.

Content Collection Strategies

The Temple University Press collection in TUScholarShare currently showcases the following three content types, each of which was added to the collection strategy respectively:

1. **Open access monographs (frontlist and backlist).** Press open access monographs were the first items that were considered for inclusion in the collection. These works do not necessarily have Creative Commons licenses, but their full-text PDFs were intended to be made publicly available by the author(s). Monographs of this kind are considered for deposit on a case-by-case basis by Press staff post-publication.

2. **Open access textbooks.** Another initiative of SCOP is North Broad Press (NBP), a joint imprint of the Libraries and the Press that primarily publishes open educational resources and other scholarly projects by Temple faculty. NBP textbooks are published using Temple's instance of Manifold, which also supports supplemental material.[14] Manifold does not support the minting of DOIs, so by depositing these textbooks to the collection, TUScholarShare helps to address these needs and complements the platform. These works are deposited automatically post-publication as part of the NBP production workflow.

3. **Supplemental material.** Before TUScholarShare, Press editors would ask their authors or volume contributors to pursue alternative outlets to host any supplemental material that accompanied their publication. In this case, non-Temple affiliated authors might turn to their own repositories (if one was established), while others might rely on subject repositories or personal websites. While subject repositories usually have stable identifiers and some kind of preservation plan, personal websites do not, making them a less-than-ideal solution. By incorporating TUScholarShare into the Press's production workflow, authors or volume contributors are provided with a more robust and reliable option to accommodate their supplemental materials. This sample workflow will be explored in more detail.

Collaborative Deposit Workflow Example

Facilitating the deposit of Press supplemental material in TUScholarShare requires a collaborative effort across Press editors, the TUScholarShare team, and TULUP's Research Data Services (RDS) team. Eligible material includes but is not limited to appendices, multimedia files, web-based resources, graphics, tables, and datasets. In addition, all material is considered for inclusion in TUScholarShare regardless of the author or volume contributor's affiliation with Temple. Two workflows were established: simple deposit instructions for Press editors to share with their authors or volume contributors and more comprehensive deposit guidelines to be used by Press editors that provide an overview of TUScholarShare and outline the responsibilities and channels of contact for all involved.

Press editors are primarily responsible for consulting with their authors to determine if their material is eligible for deposit, retrieving all necessary information and files, and fielding requests to the appropriate TUScholarShare team contact to mediate the deposit. For general content, which encompasses any eligible material with the exception of datasets, Press editors work closely with the TUScholarShare Administrator to facilitate the deposit. Because TUScholarShare features an incorporated Research Data repository, Press editors work closely with data specialists on the RDS team to facilitate dataset deposits. Example workflows for these types of deposits proved difficult to identify, so the team developed their own. Datasets for Temple-affiliated authors undergo a curation process and receive ongoing support by RDS, while support for non-Temple-affiliated datasets is assessed on a case-by-case basis.[15] While this decision is based on the fact that there are currently no restrictive policies in place around storage and preservation commitments for research data deposited to TUScholarShare, it is possible this could change in the future. To ensure proper links between the material in TUScholarShare and the publication, each record in the repository includes the URL to the book's page on the Press website and the material is referenced in a footnote to include in the book. This deposit work is done before publication.

Press publications receive their own collection within the Temple University Press Books: Supplemental Material sub-community to house their respective supplemental material.[16] The advantage of this is to provide readers with a single permanent URL that directs them to a landing page or overall project page for the publication that complements its promotional page on the Press website. So far, this workflow has been piloted with seventeen datasets that accompany the publication *Understanding Crime and Place: A Methods Handbook*, edited by two faculty members from Temple's Criminal Justice department.[17] By making the ancillary data for the book publicly accessible and reusable via TUScholarShare, coupled with the fact that this is the Press's first methods handbook, Press staff

anticipate a wide readership. It is the authors' hope that as the partnership with the Press develops hand-in-hand with the growth of TUScholarShare, there will be more opportunities to expand the collection and support unique models of digital publication.

CONCLUSION

As North American university presses largely publish in the humanities and social sciences, adding more of this content into institutional repositories will both increase access to important scholarship in these fields as well as potentially help to normalize openness among these scholars. University press-published open access monographs, open access journals, supplemental materials, and book excerpts are already present in some institutional repositories, albeit in small quantities. And, as the Stanford University Press model shows, institutional repositories can potentially play a crucial role in helping to preserve born-digital scholarship, a rapidly developing area of university press publishing where presses could use additional support.

Importantly, however, libraries do not need to have an associated university press to incorporate such scholarship into their institutional repository. University of Utah Library repository staff, for example, worked with Oxford University Press to publish a digital archive associated with its print book, *The Ethics of Suicide,* which was written by a University of Utah faculty member.[18] In addition to supporting large-scale projects, repository staff can also incorporate press outreach into their day-to-day workflow, reaching out to university presses that have published books by their faculty to see if they would allow the library to deposit part or all of the book. A number of university presses are willing to do so, especially if the metadata includes a link back to the press website and if the repository shares usage stats back to the press. Books that include images from a library's special collections offer another opportunity for institutional repository staff to solicit university press-published content for the repository.

In looking to the future of scholarly publishing, repositories could also play an important role when it comes to helping university presses comply with federal granting requirements. The Office of Science and Technology Policy recently released a memorandum stating that all federal agencies must come up with a plan by 2025 to make the results of federally funded research, including peer-reviewed scholarly publications and associated data, publicly available.[19] While those in the sciences have dealt with public access mandates for many years now, such a requirement is new for researchers in the humanities and social sciences. Although the exact details for how agencies like the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts will interpret this directive have not yet been made public, institutional repositories that have strong

relationships with their university press will be in the best position to support scholars in navigating this change.

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NOTES

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6. Alicia Pucci and Annie Johnson, *North American Institutional Repositories with University Press Content*, V1 (November 10, 2022), distributed by TUScholarShare, http://dx.doi.org/10.34944/dspace/8151. The authors originally selected institutions where the press reported to the library, assuming that repositories at such institutions would be more likely to contain press content because of the existing administrative relationship. When that turned out not to be the case, the list was expanded to include additional institutions.
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14. "North Broad Press," Temple University Press, accessed February 1, 2022, https://temple.manifoldapp.org/projects/project-collection/north-broad-press.

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