New Discovery: Open Collections

Open Collections is UBC Library’s new discovery platform for all of the Library’s locally produced and managed digital objects, including those within cIRcle. It provides features that increase the findability and promotion of UBC research, including faceted searching, embedded metadata and digital objects, responsive design, usage statistics, and an open API for researchers.

Content is indexed through various search engines, including Google and Google Scholar. Each cIRcle item is assigned a permanent URL and DOI, so items remain accessible over time.

Item Views and Downloads

Usage of items has continued to grow over this period, with a slight increase upon the launch of Open Collections.

Most Popular Items

Some of the most popular non-thesis items during this period were:

  World happiness report [2012].
  Okanagan Charter : An international charter for health promoting universities & colleges.
  Opening plenary & keynote address.

System Upgrade and Automated Ingest

DSpace was upgraded from v. 3.0 to 5.1, providing enhanced system capabilities. cIRcle implemented the SWORD (Simple Web-Service Offering Repository Deposit) protocol for UBC faculty authored articles published by BioMed Central. This automatically retrieves content and metadata from the publisher before final review and approval by cIRcle. All works are published open access (OA) under a CC-BY 4.0 International license.

This protocol assists cIRcle in proactive recruitment of OA articles on behalf of researchers, with no work or intervention required from faculty. As a result, there have been over 1,100 peer-reviewed articles deposited and the number continues to grow steadily! Implementation with other SWORD-compliant open access publishers will be investigated in the coming year.
Repository Size and Growth

By the end of April 2016, the number of items in cIRcle totalled 53,056, with 4,719 items added during the reporting period (9.8% growth).

During the reporting period, cIRcle saw deposit from a breadth of disciplines. The spike in medicine and science faculties may be attributed to automated ingest via SWORD.

Increase in Faculty Content

cIRcle has seen a growth in faculty and postdoctoral content in recent years.

The Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications came into effect for grants awarded after May 1, 2015. It requires all peer-reviewed journal publications arising from Tri-Agency-supported research to be freely accessible online within 12 months of publication. Depositing to cIRcle is one way for faculty to comply with the policy.

Digital Preservation: Archivematica

All cIRcle content is now automatically preserved in the Archivematica digital preservation system. A suite of microservices perform such tasks as checksums and file format normalization, to create Archival Information Packages (AIPs) for long term storage.

Spotlight: Partnerships and Collaborations

Banff International Research Station (BIRS) Workshop Lecture Videos:

A joint Canada-US-Mexico initiative that seeks to bring together people from a wide range of mathematical, scientific and industry backgrounds and to create a forum for the exchange of knowledge and methods. New videos are continually added to the collection, which includes videos from the Banff, Alberta and Oaxaca, Mexico sites.

TRIUMF:

One of the world’s leading subatomic physics laboratories is composed of local and international teams of scientists, post-doctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students.

The collection includes annual reports (1967-2004) and technical reports (1967-1999) previously only available in print.

“What cIRcle does is give our staff ready access to that treasure trove of institutional knowledge, as well as providing an archival platform to secure our written heritage. As we transition away from print materials to digital-primary document access, cIRcle and Digital Initiatives arrived on the scene at a very opportune time for us.”

- Marcello Pavan, TRIUMF Education and Outreach