

Open Scholarship Briefing Paper

Presented to Heather Berringer, Chief Librarian and Associate Provost, Learning Services (UBC-O) and Alethea Greenwood, Interim Associate University Librarian, Research (UBC-V) on behalf of the Open Scholarship Sub-Committee, reporting to DAL & RESC.

Introduction

Formalized in March 2018, the [Open Scholarship Sub-Committee \(reporting to DAL & RESC\)](#) set out to promote OS work across campus -- delivering professional development, reviewing UBC's Open Access Position Statement (2013), and evaluating and redeveloping the <https://open.ubc.ca> website.

Having met these foundational objectives, the sub-committee is turning its attention to the promotion of openness as a core value of UBC Library, as articulated in the UBC-V Library's new Strategic Framework and projects highlighted through the UBC-O Library's Strategic Framework. In line with this, the sub-committee is seeking direction from the Library Executive Team as to the group's functional work, goal setting, and initiative development.

The following report serves as a high-level summary of current open scholarship activities and initiatives -- within and in collaboration with the Library across both campuses -- providing a common foundational knowledge from which library executive can offer guidance.

This report does not provide an exhaustive list of all "open" work supported by Library employees (for example, it does not make mention of open government or broader campus initiatives to make institutional data available). It is focused on initiatives that meet the articulation of open scholarship outlined on the "[About Open Scholarship](#)" page of the Open UBC website.

[See here for terms of reference and membership of the Open Scholarship Sub-Committee.](#)

Executive Summary

Open access has the most established services and supports on both campuses with leadership centred on the UBC Vancouver campus. The services and supports for open access are:

- Open access publishing tools (i.e. Open Journal Systems, cIRcle)
- Funding for open access publishing (i.e. Article processing charge funds)
- Collection development and accessibility (i.e. Open Access Requests sub-committee of CIRSC, Open Collections, discoverability of open access material in Summon)
- Workshops, events (e.g. Open Access Week, Open Scholarship in Practice), and training offered

Open access would benefit from a centralized strategy on APCs and a clearly articulated collection model for open access support.

Open science has a limited support model on both campuses with leadership and additional initiatives occurring on the UBC Okanagan campus. The supports for open science are grant funded and limited to:

- Provision of single sign on services for the Open Science Framework (OSF)
- Ad hoc workshops on both campuses
- Integration between OSF with UBC Dataverse

- UBC Okanagan open science integration into the undergraduate science curriculum in Biology

Open science would benefit from greater integration with UBC services and supports but would require a greater investment from the library of time and resources. Open science would also benefit from core funding.

Open data has no official standing in UBC Library and is limited to its alignment to the Research Data Management (RDM) services and supports. RDM supports and services that align with open data are:

- UBC data repository Dataverse @Scholars Portal and Federated Research Data Repository (FRDR) integration in Open Collections
- Education of campus partners on the benefits of opening up their research data

Open education has distributed and limited term library supports and services on campus. The services and supports for open education leadership is centred on the UBC Vancouver campus with no current supports and services on the UBC Okanagan campus. The supports from the library are granted funded (i.e. one librarian position, 2 co-op position) and include:

- Open textbook publishing using Pressbooks
- Curating open educational resources (OER)
- Sharing and discoverability of (OER) through cIRcle and other repositories and catalogues
- Workshops, events (e.g. Open Education Week, Open Scholarship in Practice), and training offered

Open education in Vancouver is supported in part through the Centre for Teaching and Learning Technology and UBC Library. Open education would benefit from core funding and local infrastructure.

Open software currently has no institutional policies or initiatives supporting its development, storage, or dissemination. UBC Library is equipped to support open software development through the Digital Scholarship Lab. The Library has increased access to flexible computing environments and there is opportunity to do more in this space. Open software would benefit from university services supporting its storage and sharing.

More details on each of these open initiatives are outlined below.

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Open Access

Resources

General

- <https://scholcomm.ubc.ca>
- <https://circle.ubc.ca>
- <https://open.library.ubc.ca>
- <https://library.ok.ubc.ca/research/csc/>

LibGuides

- https://guides.library.ubc.ca/student_academic_journals

Open Access Requests for Support (OARS)

Membership Vancouver and Okanagan

Since January 2018 OARS, a sub-committee of CIRSC, has been meeting as necessary to vet and offer recommendations to support various open access publishing endeavors. Requests for support come via Sheldon and the committee members review them, offering recommendations on which to support and which to reject. The work of this group is on-going and committee members are convened on an as needed basis. Broadly, it could be seen as a larger strategy for re-investment in new, more sustainable open publishing venues.

Scholarly Communications Steering Committee

Membership (proposed) Vancouver and Okanagan

This defunct committee was once a University-wide, Library-led committee that coordinated campus constituents around scholarly communications topics and initiatives and that led, among other things, to an [Open Access Position Statement](#) adopted by the Senates of both campuses. There is currently energy toward reestablishing this group. The terms of reference are in the process of being updated before being sent to Susan for review. While membership of the revived committee is still being discussed, current assumptions are that Susan would Co-Chair with someone appointed by the Provost and that the Scholarly Communications Librarians would serve as subject experts to the committee, ensuring that committee members were brought up to speed on relevant topics as the work of the committee unfolds.

Open Journal Systems (OJS) - service and support on both campuses

Lead Infrastructure Vancouver *User experience* Vancouver & Okanagan

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

UBC hosts 5 installations of OJS (one of which is run exclusively for OBC-O journals) and supports approximately 40 journals across them. Among our hosted journals are several open access academic journals as well as student and course-related journals. Currently UBC is transitioning out of hosting OJS internally and PKP, the parent company of OJS, will be taking over hosting responsibilities in 2020. OJS continues to provide a valuable service to our community and new journals are being brought onto the platform every year.

ciRcle

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

ciRcle continues to be an important part of the Open Access landscape at UBC and is a large contributor to the free and open dissemination of UBC-affiliated research. Currently, ciRcle is going through an upgrade to DSpace that will, among other things, ensure that its content is discoverable through OpenAIRE (an international database of open scholar content). This upgrade is part of a large collaborative project funded by CARL and several Canadian higher Ed Libraries, including UBC Library.

Article Processing Charge Funds

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

The Library does not currently manage a central APC fund. We do fund various APC discounts through institutional memberships with publishers. Scholarly Communications in Vancouver is working on development of an APC fund for SSHRC-aligned research (expected fall 2020), under a strategic initiative of the VPRI and Provost, with a faculty-led committee representing both campuses.

CTLT will cover APCs for scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL) related publications for UBC-V researchers exclusively - these are domain / discipline and site specific. While administered by CTLT, the library plays an advisory role in the dissemination of these funds.

UBC Open Collections/Discoverability of Open Access Materials in Summon

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

The Library contributes to the dissemination and discoverability of open access materials via Open Collections and enhanced search filters in Summon. New Open Access collections can be reviewed for inclusion in the Summon index upon request, and the title lists for current collections is constantly growing. Currently, Collection Services is investigating a new open access integration in Summon that would allow users to see if and where open access versions of Library licensed content is available. As well, an updated version of the eJournal Portal (the Library's eJournal A-Z list) that can filter for Open Access titles will be launched in February, 2020.

Open Science

Resources

General

- <https://openscience.ubc.ca>
- <https://osf.openscience.ubc.ca>

Resource Pages

- <https://resources.library.ubc.ca/page.php?details=open-science-framework&id=2510>

LibGuides

- <http://guides.library.ubc.ca/OSF>

Open Science Framework (OSF)

Lead Okanagan

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

UBC Library provides single sign on service for OSF Institutions, supporting researchers using the platform. OSF is a collaborative online project management tool that supports open and reproducible research. OSF works in tandem with Dataverse to support open data. There is potential for much greater integration of UBC services, but this would require investment of time and resources from both the library and IT / ARC. Workshops are held on an ad hoc basis.

Open Science in the Undergraduate Classroom

Lead Okanagan

Support Okanagan

UBC Okanagan Library is currently piloting OS modules (to be released as OERs) that can be integrated into an undergraduate science curriculum. The project is currently funded through to 2021. The pilot has been launched with Biology. We are currently in discussion with Human Kinetics as a second potential test bed. This initiative raises questions about the instructional role of the library and what classroom support may look like going forward.

Open Data

While the library has no official standing on open data, it has been heavily engaged in research data management since 2014.

Resources

- <https://researchdata.library.ubc.ca/share/>
- <https://dataverse.scholarsportal.info/dataverse/ubc>

Open Data Repositories

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

UBC data repository UBC Dataverse @Scholars Portal, permits open sharing of data and allows enhanced data discoverability with DOIs. Also, the Federated Research Data Repository (FRDR) service has implemented UBC Open Collections interface as the national discovery service for open research data, and very large and data intensive UBC datasets are hosted on the national FRDR service for enhanced discovery.

Open Data Partnerships

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

Moreover, UBC Library works closely with other campus partners - Advanced Research Computing, UBC Ethics and UBC Risk Management and ORS to educate UBC researchers about the benefits of opening their research data to the community. Dozens of collaborative workshops between these partners were offered during the last five years.

Research Data Management Working Group

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

Campus wide working group on Research Data Management was established in 2018 and is tasked to draft Data Management Policy for the University. This work is taking place this Spring and should be accomplished by the end of 2020.

Open Science Framework and Dataverse

Lead OSF Okanagan; *Dataverse* Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

An integration between the Open Science Framework (mentioned above) and UBC Dataverse is implemented and could be used to store and share UBC open research data within the open scholarship workflow.

Research Data Management Team

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver & Okanagan

In Summer 2019, Library-wide RDM Team has been established to create a system-wide support for research data management in the Library and Advanced Research Computing, including Data Management Plans, data deposits and some metadata support.

Open Education

Resources

General Portals

- <https://bccampus.ca/>
- <https://open.ubc.ca/oer-fund/>

Resource pages

- <https://open.ubc.ca/>
- <https://scholcomm.ubc.ca/open-scholarship/open-education/>
- https://wiki.ubc.ca/Library:Open_Scholarship_Sub-Committee
- <https://about.library.ubc.ca/open-access/>

LibGuides

- <https://guides.library.ubc.ca/open-education>

Open UBC Working Group

Membership: Vancouver

The Open UBC Working group began in 2015 as an open education community of practice made up of one librarian, one faculty member, and three instructional designers from CTLT. The group has since expanded its mandate from a community of practice to a working group offering events, workshops, consultations, and tools supporting open scholarship. This group has also expanded membership to include student representatives from the AMS, additional faculty members and librarians, and representatives from the UBC bookstore. The current activities of the working group include: maintenance of the open.ubc.ca website, development of the Open UBC newsletter, evaluation of the [OER Rapid Innovation Grant](#) applications, assessment development of the OER Grant Funds, development of an open education speaker series for 2020.

Open Education Campus Supports

UBC Library works with the Centre for Teaching and Learning Technology and departmental Teaching and Learning Centres (e.g. ArtsISIT, Forestry) to support the needs of faculty and students engaging in open education and open pedagogy in their courses. This involves faculty workshops, team training, instructional design consultations and support for courses, and instruction to students. The following are two examples of the specific team-based support we offer:

- ***Open Education in Tenure & Promotion for Instructor Track*** - In 2018 UBC the AMS, with the support of the Open Education Working Group, successfully advocated for open education to be a part of the tenure and promotion standards for the instructor track. In collaboration with CTLT, we provide faculty consults on how to frame their open education engagement for their tenure and promotion packages.

- ***TLEF, ALT Grant, and OER Fund Grant Consultations*** - CTLT offers weekly drop-in consultations to faculty for the TLEF and OER Fund Grant. UBC Library has a representative available to provide feedback and support to faculty on projects that may have a library component, including: digitization, resource curation, information literacy instruction, collections, etc.

Open Education Library Supports

From April 2018-May 2019, the Library conducted a [TLEF-funded pilot project](#) to gain experience supporting OERs. The pilot was a valuable learning experience, resulting in 12 open educational resources with results disseminated at a well-attended pre-conference session at the 2019 Library Publishing Forum. A UBC faculty member, Arthur Gill Green, also [published a book chapter](#) referencing this work in *OER: A Field Guide for Academic Librarians* (2019).

In September 2019, UBC Library was able to secure CTLT funding for two full time co-op library student positions in service of open education supports in the library. The purpose of these positions is to begin to frame and bolster a service model for open education in the library. Service requests can be made through the [Scholarly Communications website](#). The following are areas offered as supports through UBC Library:

Open Text Publishing

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver

UBC Library currently relies on the [BCCampus Pressbooks](#) hosted account to publish open texts. The hosted services provides all faculty and staff in BC post secondary institutions access to Pressbooks as a publishing. Currently the library is working on developing a [guide to publishing](#), including details about the type of supports available through the library. The service for open text publishing for the library can be found here: <https://wiki.ubc.ca/File:Pressbooks-Project-Timeline.jpg>. The library is currently involved in two textbook publishing projects through the Department of Population and Public Health and CNERS.

Curating Open Education Resources

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver

The library has completed a workflow process for assisting faculty and open education teams curating open education resources. The library provides support in the following: identifying open education repositories, identifying appropriate search words, and identifying a selection (up to 20) possible sources for their subject areas. The library has supported faculty curating open education resources in political science, forestry, statistics, languages, and business. In addition to supporting curating, the library provides a package of information about open licenses and how to attribute content.

Sharing and Discoverability of Open Education Resources

Lead Vancouver

Support Vancouver

The library supports projects making decisions on how to share and make their open education resources (e.g. textbooks, videos, simulations, etc.) available through repositories and catalogues (including UBC and BCcampus). For open textbooks we have worked with Digital Initiatives and Technical Services in developing a process for securing ISBNs, uploading content to the newly created Open Education Fund Grant cIRcle collection, and making the texts accessible through Summon. For all other open education resources, the library supports making decisions as to where to archive the content (either cIRcle or another institutional repository - Merlot, OER Commons, etc.), the kind of metadata to collection about the objects/collections, and uploading and archival version to the Open Education Fund Grant cIRcle collection.

UBC-Okanagan Open Education Supports

Currently all open education supports are managed on the UBC-Vancouver campus. Current UBC-Vancouver supports are offered to UBC-Okanagan but consultations have been the only request up to this point.

Open Software

Open Source software promotion and development

There are no institutional policies or initiatives around open source software development, provision storage, or sharing. There are no enterprise open source solutions at UBC. Open UBC maintains a list of [open code at UBC](#). [Another list](#) is maintained by the Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) interest group at UBC.

While the library does not have a policy around the use or development of open source software elements of LOCR, the Open Collections, and Geodisy have been shared either openly or directly with other institutions. Only Geodisy has been created as fully open source software and extends UBC's contributions to a community of open development.

The Digital Scholarship Lab is equipped with tools to support open source software development and is a platform for the promotion of this work at UBC. Technology consultants in the Research Commons at UBC Vancouver informally encourage the use of open tools where possible and relevant to the project.

Open access to software

Library technology spaces are openly accessible to all members of the UBC community. The Digital Scholarship Lab in particular is intended as a space for egalitarian access to specialty software and a more flexible computing environment than other freely open labs at UBC Vancouver. As UBC Okanagan finalizes its implementation of the visualization and emerging media lab, there is opportunity there as well.

Appendix 1: Open Scholarship Objectives 2019-2021

Sep. 9. 2019

Our group proposes the following objectives as potential next steps towards UBC Library's strategic goal:
Lead and collaborate to advance open scholarship.

To ensure campus engagement, we have assumed the prospect of the former UBC Scholarly Communications Steering Committee reconstituted in some form to guide these initiatives, particularly those designated with 'SCte'. The Senate Library Committee should also play an active role. **NB: We do not expect nor think it desirable that *all* the items below be actioned.** They are simply points for consideration.

Submitted by the Open Scholarship Working Group: Eugene Barsky, Leonora Crema, Will Engle, Erin Fields, Alex Kuskowski, Rie Namba, Sarah Parker, Stephanie Savage, Eirian Vining, Mathew Vis-Dunbar.

1) Research

- Raise campus awareness and generate further actions arising from UBC's prior commitment to the [U-15 Provosts' Statement on Sustainable Publishing](#) (2017). (SCte)
- Develop a multi-strategy approach to increasing open access to UBC research. These could include: (SCte)
 - Gold OA: Establish a robust campus Open Access fund for journals and book publishing.
 - Green OA: Explore expanding the current [UBC Senate position statement](#) to an open archiving-deposit mandate.
 - Funder-supported OA: Benchmark and increase current levels of grant-funded OA and compliance.
 - Address impacts on scholars of other Tri-Agency OA changes, e.g., new SSHRC requirements for OA book publication.
 - Expand awareness among researchers about OA publishing options, particularly in the humanities where models are evolving.
- Support UBC journal editors in their move to fuller-featured open publishing platforms as recently mandated by SSHRC.
- Continue to collaborate with UBC Press to make its content more openly accessible.
- Explore new social media-based promotional tools for UBC research.
- Expand and promote the Library's role in knowledge mobilization.
- Expand and promote support for RDM including open data deposits.

2) Teaching & Learning

- Establish the Library's support model for OER content and publishing platforms.
- Continue campus partnerships to advance open pedagogy including expanded support for OER tools, interfaces, content, communities.
- Support and implement [UBC Principles on Digital Learning Materials](#). (SCte)

- Develop an archiving and findability strategy for UBC-produced OERs.

3) Promotion and Tenure

- Examine UBC faculty [promotion and tenure procedures](#) with a view in the Research Stream to adopting similar language as already exists in the Educational Leadership Stream recognizing open dissemination in research or service. (SCte)
- Continue work previously undertaken on recognition of new forms of digital scholarship. (SCte)
- Review new research assessment models - such as [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment](#) (DORA) - and how UBC might adopt similar principles. (SCte)

4) Open Practice

- Increase the adoption of open science practices by further adopting infrastructure that supports open science. (SCte)
- Consider an incubator fund to generate new open approaches and workflows, through the use of existing applications. (SCte)
- Support use of open platforms with version control to develop code and software, in order to facilitate collaboration, reuse and contribute to verifiability.
- Expand use of PIDs (e.g. ORCID) and grant identifiers to enhance research profiles and interoperability.
- Maintain an active role in promoting openness of UBC-generated data.
- Continue as the Library to take a leading role in campus awareness and educational programming about open scholarship.
- Increase librarian and library staff awareness of open scholarship tools and practices, and support their continuing education and development.
- Work to expand informed use of scholarly metrics, both traditional and alternative. (SCte)

5) Reinvesting in Open, Living our Values

- Increase Library investments in shared and sustainable open publishing infrastructure – such as preprint and file-sharing services, networked repositories. Sustainability is multi-factored: funding, technology, governance and coordination of efforts.
- Significantly expand metadata support for digital assets, including OERs and research products, as a direct service to instructors and researchers.
- Revise UBC Library e-resource licencing terms according to open and sustainability principles – similar to recent U Washington Senate [statement](#).
- Recalibrate Library investments in collections with a view to redeploying funds to open resources.
- Commit to making Library-created resources open wherever possible.
- Engage in regional, national and international initiatives to accelerate the transition to open access and open science, including the ARL Open Science by Design framework (2019).