Innovation in Open Scholarship
A UBC Library Round-up
Open Scholarship Sub-Committee of TLAC and RESC

Develop an Open Scholarship yearly event plan and framework.

https://wiki.ubc.ca/Library:Open_Scholarship_Sub-Committee
Guest Speakers

Leonora Crema & Stephanie Savage – Pressbooks TLEF

Aleha McCauley – Downtown Eastside Project

Stephanie Savage – OARS Collections Group & Tri-agency Compliance Research

Erin Fields – Open Advocacy and Research Fellowship Research & CARL VPO

Evan Thornberry – GIS Federated Search Grant

● 10 Minute Presentation ● 5 Minutes for Questions ●
What guided us in this project?

- Growing importance of OERs
- Faculty needs for customized, up-to-date materials
- High cost of textbooks for students
- Alignment with UBC TLEF priorities
- Accessibility of new publishing platforms

Mainly, we wanted to explore the Library’s capacities and prospect for new roles and partnerships in these areas.
How did we resource our work?

$38,868 allocated via a TLEF grant for 2018-19
From which

- ~$16,000 disbursed as sub-grants to incentivize faculty. Mainly this was students hired to help faculty create or update content.
- We also hired 2 GAAs reporting to the Library, to support the project centrally.

TLEF is a major source of innovation funding at UBC, and we’re fortunate it exists.

- Library should actively pursue TLEF grants to sponsor teaching and learning innovations.

And, of course, we put in our own time planning & overseeing the project.
Pressbooks is a commercial publishing package based on WordPress, widely used in e-publishing.

Enables formatting of text, images and videos in a book-like format readable:
- on the web
- on e-reader or mobile devices

Exportable to common e-book formats (EPUB, Mobi) or PDF/E-PDF and printable via SFU Document Solutions

We are fortunate to have such robust open textbook publishing infrastructure in BC. Other such efforts include Open Textbook Network, Rebus, Openstax.
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Key Outcomes

Open Textbooks and OERs

In April 2013, UBC Library began work on a 1-year project to partner with UBC faculty in creating open textbooks and open educational resources (OERs). The project was supported by UBC’s Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (TLEF). To learn more about TLEF click here.

In working with faculty, the UBC Library has enabled updating and creation of learning resources in a variety of formats. Where open textbooks were created, students were able to achieve savings by not having to purchase commercial textbooks.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Created and updated 10 open textbooks and OERs
- Involved students in their production
- Provided expertise in copyright and open licensing
- Permanently preserved these works in cIRcle, print, or other format
- Offered training in Pressbooks, BCcampus open textbook platform
- Gained experience in all aspects of open textbook publishing and production
Open Textbooks and OERs

developed in full or in part with support from this project
What we learned: Opportunities

We can make a difference in textbook affordability

- through even modest support, faculty gain capacity to adopt or adapt a text.

Library has much to offer, especially in areas such as metadata, content hosting & preservation, copyright and CC licensing.

Given current platforms, textbook-production is relatively easy entry.

- assuming one receives proofed final content, requiring no copyediting, indexing or artwork, production is a matter of days not weeks.

Lots of expertise to draw on: CTLT-LT Hub, BCcampus, Open Textbook Network, Library Publishing Coalition.

Strong partnerships forged with faculty, who are unaware of but interested in this role for libraries.

- These capacities have many applications if we think holistically: e.g., helping faculty with their teaching innovations, scholarly studies of special collections; local histories & donor-commissioned projects; user education and self-publishing tools; and more.
...and challenges

Time and space needed by faculty to create a new work
- including effort that goes into revisions and re-versioning

Libraries have not yet gained prestige and marketing capacity of presses-publishers

Trend toward more interactive, experiential and simulation-type pedagogies

**Platform proliferation:** we quickly learned that Pressbooks was not the sole solution for open textbooks. With OERs, if you can imagine it, someone is out there creating it.
What’s next?

- Formal project assessment
- Report for TLEF & presentations at campus showcase
- Preconference session with KPU colleagues at Library Publishing Forum May 8th
- Report to UBC Library on project implications and future viability.

➢ Again: we should not view this project in isolation, but as part of a broader direction toward openness and knowledge creation partnerships on campus.
Thank You!

QUESTIONS

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MAKING RESEARCH ACCESSIBLE INITIATIVE

Vancouver Downtown Eastside Infohub Project
Open Scholarship Talks
March 2019
Collaborations

UBC
Learning Exchange

UBC Library

SFU
Simon Fraser University
Engaging the World

VPL
Vancouver Public Library

Innovation UBC

UBC Public Scholars Initiative (PSI)

U British Columbia Centre on Substance Use
Networking researchers, educators & care providers

Community Engagement

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UBC iSchool

THE COMMUNITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

STOREE
Supporting Transparent & Open Research Engagement & Exchange
University-Community Exchange

UBC’s Learning Exchange in DTES

IKBLC – UBC Library
Welcome to the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Information Hub. Use this portal to find research, reports, and community-generated materials with a focus on Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside.
Tensions in knowledge production
Thank you!
Tracking Tri-Agency OA Compliance at UBC

Stephanie Savage
The Context

- The Policy does not directly implicate institutions in any way - compliance is left up to recipients
- Non-compliance is not monitored, not does it have an impact on further grant eligibility
- The Tri-Agencies allows researchers to direct funds towards OA costs**
The Question(s)

Are UBC Researchers complying with the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy?

- What is the rate of compliance?
- Are there disciplinary trends?
- Have individual researchers modified their publishing practices?
- What method of compliance are researchers choosing (Gold vs. Green)?

- What is the best way to track compliance?
- How much time does it take?
- How can this work direct outreach efforts/increase compliance?
The Plan

Recruit student help

- Worked with Maddy Walter and Rachel McRory as professional experience students via ischool course LIBR 596

Identify UBC Tri-Agency Grant recipients from May 2015-2016

Develop the tracking workflow

Apply tracking methodology to identified grant recipients

Determine UBC compliance based on data gathered
The Reality

Identifying UBC grant holders was straightforward (yay!)

Deciding on a method of analysis was more difficult than anticipated

- we piloted two methods - backwards and forwards but ultimately when with the forward method as it allowed us to answer more of our research questions

Metadata issues - award dates, lack of consistency around supplying grant number (and inability to cross-reference it)

Accepting the subjective nature of the data collection
Initial Findings

**The analysis has not been completed for all three Agencies - NSERC remains Focus on SSHRC**

- According to a recent study by Lariviere and Sugimoto, SSHRC compliance hovers at around 20%.
- Our preliminary results find a compliance rate of ~40% (up to 52% if papers protected by embargo are included).
- This rate aligns with data we received from SSHRC’s researcher exit survey where researchers self-reported a 54% OA compliance rate.
- Likely our “forward” method resulted in our ability to better capture SSHRC compliance.
Open Advocacy & Research Fellowship
CARL VPO Open Education
Erin Fields
1-year Open Education Advocacy and Research Fellowships

Help raise awareness of open educational practices through advocacy and will conduct, present, and publish research on open educational practices (including, for example, the adoption of open textbooks) at B.C. institutions.

https://open.bccampus.ca/call-for-proposals/faculty-fellows/
Research Question

How are open pedagogy and critical literacy related? How are they unique?

How can the combination of open pedagogy and critical literacy enabled classrooms address the principles of each?
Open Pedagogy or Open Practice or …

“… the pedagogical value of openness is that it can create dialogue, and can deconstruct the teacher-student binary, by increasing access and bringing together at one disparate learning spaces. Openness can function as a form of resistance both within and outside the walls of institutions …”

(Stommel and Morris, 2014, para 2)
Critical Information Literacy - Defined

“.... literacy is inevitably **culturally situated** and that library instruction must acknowledge and facilitate the exploration of the **political dimensions of information** in order to be relevant to a learner, even if this means a **disruption to the status quo**.”

(Fields & Harper, Draft Paper, 2019)
CIL & Open Pedagogy - Complementary

- Focus on fluencies related to current information systems
- Breaking down barriers related to expert hierarchies
- Enacting change through openness
- Supporting access points to publishing beyond expert hierarchies
Open Pedagogy & CIL - Dissimilarity

De-centering Authority VS Recognition of Authority

Community Engagement VS Personal Critical Reflection

Restructuring Education VS Information Literate Society
FNIS 220 Application

Information Becomes Knowledge
● Traditional publishing processes and access points

Open Technologies as Disruption

Wikipedia Gap Analysis
● Point of View
● Proof
● Visibility
Where We Are Now

Intersections of Open Pedagogy and Critical Information Literacy – A Case Study  http://bit.ly/2EzDyJO

Writing in Progress

3 Conference Papers (CNIE, HASTAC, BCLA)
- Support and provision CARL role in OE and OER efforts in institutions
- Capacity for involvement in OER at institutional, regional, and national levels
- Strengthen national community of practice
- Develop leadership skills within the librarian OER community
- Create distributed model and program for foundational training
- Establish hub for international communication and advocacy
GEODISY
GEOSPATIAL + DISCOVERY
CANADIAN RESEARCH DATA
FUNDDED BY CANARIE (RDM-059)
EVAN THORNBERRY, GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN UBC LIBRARY
GEODISY: GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY

RESOURCES CAN BE SEARCHED, FILTERED, AND BROWSED USING GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS AS WELL AS WITH TEXT.

- Search results are driven by an interactive map.
- Location is the primary search facet, linking resources from a similar area.
- Relies less on textual searching, which is not ideal for spatial data.
GEODISY: GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY

GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY IS POSSIBLE USING LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS AND METADATA

- Geospatial Data = machine readable using a GIS.
- Non-Geospatial Data = discovery comes from descriptive metadata.
- Bounding Boxes = rectangles representing the spatial extent of a data set

*To generate bounding boxes from non-geospatial we plan to use geonames.org*
GEODISY: GEO SPATIAL DISCOVERY

GEODISY RE-USES 3 OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE COMPONENTS

**Dataverse**: Research data repository.

+ 

**GeoServer**: Server for publishing and distributing geospatial data.

+ 

**GeoBlacklight**: Geospatial discovery layer.

*Geodisy source code and documentation will be made available in an open GitHub repository.*
GEODISY: GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Software will query datasets from the Canadian Dataverse repositories (Scholars Portal, UBC, UofA, Dal, UNB, UofM) to determine which have geospatial information.
2. Software will harvest metadata from relevant non-geospatial datasets.
3. Software will harvest metadata and data files from geospatial datasets.
4. Software will transform metadata to ISO 19115 and add bounding boxes if needed.
5. Software will deposit geospatial data and “geo”metadata into GeoServer.
6. Metadata will be harvested by GeoBlacklight for discovery.
7. GeoBlacklight will be customized to the needs of FRDR, providing a unified map-based search interface for research data in Canada.
GEODISY: GEOSPATIAL DISCOVERY

CORE PROJECT TEAM (UBC)
- Eugene Barsky – Principal Investigator
- Paul Dante – Software Developer
- Edith Domingue – ARC Client Services Manager
- Mark Goodwin – Geospatial Metadata Coordinator
- Tang Lee – Project Manager
- Paul Lesack – Co-Principal Investigator
- Evan Thornberry – Co-Principal Investigator

PROJECT PARTNERS
- Jason Brodeur – McMaster University
- Marcel Fortin – University of Toronto
- Alex Garnett – SFU
- Amber Leahey – Scholars Portal
- Jason Hlady – University of Saskatchewan
- Venkat Mahadevan – UBC ARC
- Todd Trann – University of Saskatchewan
- Lee Wilson – Portage Network

Launching in spring 2020
Thanks!