

OCUL

Ontario Council of University Libraries

OCUL's quarterly catch-up... read about what's new in Scholars Portal, announcements from our member libraries and future OCUL plans and initiatives

Issue No. 2 Winter 2011

Scholars Portal Day Recap

Did you miss Scholars Portal Day?

This issue offers a recap and some links so you can catch a few presentations from the Day.



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Service Updates

RefWorks renewal, WizFolio Pilot and the status of E-Books user accounts. Plus information on the Health Data Summit coming later this winter.

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OCUL Award Winners

Meet our 2010 OCUL Outstanding Contribution Award recipients and see who was honoured by the Ontario Library Association this year.



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Collaborate, Innovate, Deliver

We have Strategic Directions, now what? Find out about the next steps in our Strategic Planning Process.



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Building on our Strengths

These days, we have some interesting opportunities and challenges in front of us. Working together in OCUL has produced impressive results in the past and we continue to move forward with innovative collaborative strategies.

Implementation of the standards supporting the Accessibility of Ontarians with Disabilities Act requires focused effort now as we work with our government and academic partners to determine how best to serve the needs of our students, faculty and researchers.

Ensuring that we continue to meet the requirements of the Copyright Act is another challenge for universities as we review internal processes and increasingly fulfill teaching and research needs with digital resources. OCUL is working on an integrated information-sharing strategy to support librarians, faculty and students.

At OCUL, we are meeting these opportunities and challenges head on. Over the past year with your help we have clearly defined the Strategic Directions that will guide OCUL in the coming years. We have now turned to the members of our committees and



Canadian Artist Tom Bendston's Tower of Books

Image: Cambridge Galleries

groups to help us build a Strategic Plan based on these new directions. The work that they are currently undertaking includes setting goals and considering the tactics they will use to achieve them.

This process will ensure our Strategic Plan supports the mission and vision of OCUL, and reflects the needs, aims, and fiscal realities of our member schools. As we plan for our future, our dedicated membership and the Scholars Portal team are also working on improving and supporting our existing services. Those of you who attended Scholars Portal Day in December had the chance to hear about some

of the new service features and collection evaluation & assessment tools released through the fall, and got a sneak peek at new development projects like the user account functionality about to launch on the E-Books platform. For those who did not attend, a recap of the day is included in this issue along with information on how to watch the Day's presentations.

You'll also find information on the upcoming Health Data Summit being organized by the Geospatial Portal Project, updates on RefWorks and Wizfolio, an introduction to the Public Services Advisory Group (PSAG), and the names of the 2010 OCUL Outstanding Contribution Award recipients and those from our member libraries honoured this year by the OLA.

It is the work of such members that allows our Executive to so confidently plan for the work we have ahead and it is wonderful to be able to celebrate them here with you.

Leslie Weir

Leslie Weir, Chair, OCUL
University Librarian, University of Ottawa

P.S. – Thanks for your feedback on the 1st issue!

We have started to incorporate your suggestions with more to come in future issues. Please send any thoughts on the new issue to [Kerry Kelly](#), Communications & Member Engagement Officer

Scholars Portal UPDATE

A Service of the Ontario Council of University Libraries



Health Data Summit March 28, 2011

The Geospatial Project Management Group is hard at work planning the Health Data Summit. The Health Data Summit will be an opportunity to explore and discuss issues surrounding researcher access and use of health data in Ontario academic institutions.

The Summit will provide an opportunity for researchers from Social Science, Science and other disciplines to come together, expand connections between academia to epidemiologists and other health data users, and discuss the anonymization of health data, and OCUL's potential to provide a preservation and access repository for researchers.

For more information on the summit contact Leanne Hindmarch: leanne@scholarsportal.info

E-Books User Accounts in Testing

The initial testing of user accounts for the E-Books platform is underway. The new accounts will allow users to retrieve stored books, personal notes and bookmarks from previous visits. Other account features include a folder storage system and the ability to cut and paste small amounts of text.

Visit the E-Book Platform: <http://books.scholarsportal.info>

Staffing News

The Scholars Portal team has done some fine-tuning to existing staff roles.

Kate Davis is shifting back into her role as a Client Service Librarian from a full-time focus on E-Books now that the project phase has been completed. Kate will still be involved with the E-Books platform as she turns her attention to new projects.

In his new role as Information Architect Librarian, **Bartek Kawula** brings his experience working with the SP services to the task of determining how best these services can be designed to fit within the information systems provided at each OCUL library.

Stephen Marks is taking the lead in planning and implementing our [International Polar Year project](#). He will continue his work on preservation issues and in preparing Scholars Portal for the TDR audit.

Dana Thomas remains with the Scholars Portal for a second year as Evaluation and Assessment Librarian. Among Dana's accomplishments in the past year were the creation of the [SPUD](#) and SCOT assessment tools. Thanks to Dana, and Ryerson University Library and Archives, for allowing us to continue to benefit from her expertise.

A few new positions have been posted in the coming months to fill out the team complement. These include a **Customer Services Librarian** and a **GIS Technician** for the new Geospatial Portal.

Scholars Portal Day Recap

Thanks to all who attended this year's Scholars Portal Day dedicated to the topic of Evaluation and Assessment -- special thanks to our presenters and panelists. For an agenda and presenter list visit: <http://spotdocs.scholarsportal.info/display/PSWG/Scholars+Portal+Day+2010>

Those who couldn't make it can still find out about what's new and what's coming up at Scholars Portal. All presentations were filmed including Keynote Speaker Matt Bailey's entertaining take on web statistics (including his Red Shirt Phenomenon theory - a must-see for any Star Trek fans).



Watch Scholars Portal Day video here:

<http://spotdocs.scholarsportal.info/display/PSWG/Scholars+Portal+Day+2010> - The links to the recordings are nested in the Agenda (SPOTDocs login required)



RefWorks Renewal

OCUL has signed with RefWorks for 3 more years. Users can access RefWorks through either the "classic" or updated 2.0 interface. Please note that the 2.0 interface, introduced in the fall of 2010, is still "beta" and lacks support for some advanced features such as the Style Editor.

Those interested in giving 2.0 a try can select the RefWorks 2.0 link found at the top right hand side of the application window to make the switch. You can return to the original version using the same method. The decision to provide a link to RefWorks 2.0 is made by your local RefWorks administrator so if you don't see that link and would like it enabled, please contact your RefWorks admin who can then request Scholars Portal staff turn on the link for your school.

More updates for the 2.0 version are expected this year and announcements will be made as usual via the RefWorks support list: <https://lists.uwaterloo.ca/mailman/listinfo/ocul-refworks>

WizFolio Pilot Extended



Scholars Portal has been running a pilot of WizFolio for a year now. Under a new agreement with the vendor, the pilot is being extended this year to allow unlimited use of WizFolio by researchers and students at all 21 Ontario universities.

Go to www.wizfolio.com to sign up for an account. Any registered user with an institutional email address recognized as belonging to one of the 21 universities will be redirected to the Scholars Portal WizFolio server.

Want to know more about WizFolio? Visit the WizFolio Support space on the SPOTDocs wiki: <http://spotdocs.scholarsportal.info/display/wizfolio/Home>

(No login required)

Need a SPOTDocs login?

If you would like to request a SPOTDocs login, or need login information for an existing account, contact Kerry Kelly: kerry.kelly@ocul.on.ca

Follow Scholars Portal on Twitter:
twitter.com/scholarsportal



Visiting Librarians

Librarians on Leave at OCUL

Over the past two years OCUL has benefited from the knowledge and experience of two visiting Librarians who have worked on-site with OCUL Office staff and the Scholars Portal team.



Image: York University

In 2009-10, Catherine Davidson (York University) served as Visiting Librarian at Scholars Portal, becoming involved in a number of initiatives including the second iteration of the MINES for Libraries survey for OCUL and a consortial patron-driven acquisition (PDA) e-book pilot.



Colleen Neely (Carleton University) has been with the OCUL team since May of 2010 and has been working on a project using XML and ONIX-PL to improve access to information on license usage rights. Colleen also helped launch the PDA e-book pilot this fall.

Thanks to Catherine and Colleen for choosing to spend their sabbaticals with OCUL and for the great work accomplished in their time with us.

OCUL Reports & Digests

Reports, updates and recommendations from the Fall 2010 OCUL Directors' Meeting are up on the SPOTDocs wiki Reports & Digests space: <http://spotdocs.scholarsportal.info/display/Rep/Home> (SPOTDocs login required)

Meet the Public Services Advisory Group (PSAG)

PSAG is the Public Services Advisory Group and was formed as a means for public service and reference librarians at OCUL libraries to share ideas, concerns and feedback about Scholars Portal services with the Scholars Portal team.

The group is made up of a Chair, six librarians who act as main contacts for all 21 libraries, and a member of the Scholars Portal staff. Scholars Portal Operations Team (SPOT) members regularly attend PSAG meetings to hear Scholars Portal-related feedback, questions and concerns from front-line staff. The Chair of PSAG also brings feedback to the attention of the Scholars Portal Operations and Development Committee (SPOD).

PSAG works with SPOT on projects including hosting our annual Scholars Portal Day and helping conduct usability testing on Scholars Portal services. This year a key priority is communicating more effectively with front-line staff about Scholars Portal and they are working on a web-based resource that will make it easier to find the information and contacts front-line staff need. Additionally, PSAG will be assisting with some initiatives around bibliographic citation managers.

If you have a question about Scholars Portal, a suggestion for improving a service, a comment from a library user that you'd like to pass on or any other Scholars Portal-related feedback, please contact any member of PSAG.

Chair - Charlotte Innerd (Nipissing University)
Fran Gray (University of Western Ontario)
Jennifer Haas (University of Waterloo)
Dana Thomas (Ryerson University / Scholars Portal)

Anthony Petryk (Carleton University)
Rajiv Nariani (York University)
Vivek Jadon (McMaster University)
Amy Greenberg (Scholars Portal)

Improving Access

How OCUL is Responding to AODA

Ensuring compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is playing an increasingly important role in how your universities plan for future work, including work in your libraries.

OCUL is also aware of the work we will need to undertake to ensure our in-house Scholars Portal services, and those services we provide, meet the access needs of all Ontario university students, faculty and researchers.

In 2010 we began a review of our services, conducting an Accessibility Audit of our E-Books Platform. We are currently in the process of implementing recommended changes and improvements to our service and considering how these recommendations can be applied to our other services.

OCUL Directors have served as members of the COU Reference Group on Accessibility for People with Disabilities. Their mandate has been to identify the most significant issues of concern for universities in complying with the Integrated Accessibility Regulation (which incorporates the Accessible Information and Communications Standard) and to suggest other actions and steps that may be appropriate to promote our universities' interests in this area.

Want to know more about the AODA?

The Access OLA website offers a Q&A on the new act that you might find useful: <http://www.accessola.com/AccessOnline/OnlineOnly/archives/accessibility.php>

Recognizing Excellence

Staff at Ontario Universities Receive 2011 OLA Awards

The Ontario Council of University Libraries extends warm congratulations to members of our OCUL community who received 2011 OLA and OLA Divisional Awards this year.

Graham McCarthy and **Steven Marsden** of Ryerson University Library & Archives have been awarded the OLITA Award for Technological Innovation, while OCUL Projects Officer **Faye Abrams** was honoured with the OCULA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Congratulations Graham, Steven and Faye!

2010 OCUL Outstanding Contribution Awards

The 2010 OCUL Outstanding Contribution awards were presented during a Poster Session presentation at the Ontario Library Association in Toronto on February 4th, 2011. Our 2010 recipients:

- **Bo Wandscheider** (University of Guelph)
- **The Project Conifer Systems Team:** Robin Isard (Algoma University), Dan Scott (Laurentian University), Art Rhyno (University of Windsor)



Bo with Mike Ridley, CIO & Chief Librarian (Guelph)



The Conifer Systems Team with University Librarians Gwen Ebbett (Windsor) & Leila Wallenius (Laurentian)

The session provided an opportunity to highlight the significant impact of the Project Conifer Team's implementation of the CONIFER ILS and the success of so many Data in Ontario group initiatives under Bo's leadership.

During the session OCUL Chair Leslie Weir also had the opportunity to share with conference delegates the role the Outstanding Contribution award plays in helping OCUL recognize and promote our collaborative strength and ability to work across boundaries to improve the educational experience of Ontario's university students.

To see the full award announcement please visit: <http://www.ocul.on.ca/News/>

Call for Nominations! Deadline: March 15th!

There is still time to submit a nomination for the 2011 OCUL Outstanding Contribution Award.

For more information on submitting a nomination visit: http://www.ocul.on.ca/News/OCUL_Outstanding_Contribution_Award_2010.pdf



Collaborate, Innovate, Deliver The Strategic Planning Process

OCUL's Strategic Directions are the cornerstone of a new planning and goal setting process designed to support our committees and groups in defining key OCUL priorities, resources, and success measures for individual projects and collective work over the next three years.

- **Collaborate to provide a world-class learning experience for Ontario's students**
OCUL will collaborate with its university partners to provide enhanced learning support and rich learning environments to ensure the engagement and success of Ontario's diverse and growing student population.
- **Expand shared digital research infrastructure**
OCUL will be a leader in the development of partnerships to expand Canada's digital research infrastructure and stimulate global collaboration by strengthening technological capacity and staff expertise in member libraries.
- **Provide and preserve academic resources essential for teaching, learning, and research**
OCUL will continue to lead in the development of Ontario's information environment. We will provide access to a diversity of learning and research materials, and will ensure their preservation through sustainable and responsible stewardship.

At the November Directors' meeting OCUL's [Strategic Directions](#) were approved and are now posted for viewing on the OCUL website. A new [Strategic Planning Implementation Committee](#) has been struck to move forward with the next stage of the process, fleshing out these overarching directions with a set of goals and tactics that will form the OCUL Strategic Plan for the next few years.

Committee Membership: **Chair** - Margaret Grove (Brock University), Pamela Drayson (University of Ontario Institute of Technology), Mary Ann Mavrinac (University of Toronto Mississauga), Kathy Scardellato (OCUL).

In December and January, OCUL'S Committees & Groups were provided with an overview of the new process and asked to develop goals and tactics to support the strategic directions.

The Implementation committee will compile the goals and tactics into a draft strategic plan to be presented for review at the May Directors' meeting.

This group planning process is the first in what will become an annual statement of goals and priority-setting that will include semi-annual progress updates for the Directors.

Find out more...

For further information on OCUL's Strategic Planning Process, visit the Strategic Planning space on the SPOTDocs wiki:
<http://spotdocs.scholarsportal.info/display/stratplan/OCUL+Strategic+Planning> (SPOTDocs login required)

Interested in being part of an OCUL Committee or Group?

Contact OCUL's Communications & Member Engagement Officer Kerry Kelly for more information: kerry.kelly@ocul.on.ca

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