

Scholars Portal

2019 Report to the OCUL Directors



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Introduction

The following report describes the activities of Scholars Portal over the period of May 2018 to April 2019.

The nature of our work has always been cyclical: creating new services, introducing features and functionalities to keep existing services current, and retiring services when they no longer meet user needs. At each stage of the visioning, building, expansion, and if necessary discontinuation of a service, we work closely with member libraries, vendors, and other academic and library partners.

This year has been about finding the balance between innovation and sustainability, while recognizing the increasing fiscal pressure our members find themselves under. Successful stewardship of collective resources requires making complex decisions: when (and where) to innovate? When (and what) to refresh? Which services no longer fit in the evolving information ecosystem?

Scholars Portal strives to provide innovative consortial services as part of OCUL's mission to collaborate in the development and delivery of enhanced, innovative, and effective information services and resources for Ontario's universities. Users expect intuitive interfaces, feature-rich tools, and increasingly sophisticated services that support emerging areas like data management and digital preservation. Ongoing innovation is necessary to bring these pieces together and meet the complex needs of the modern researcher.

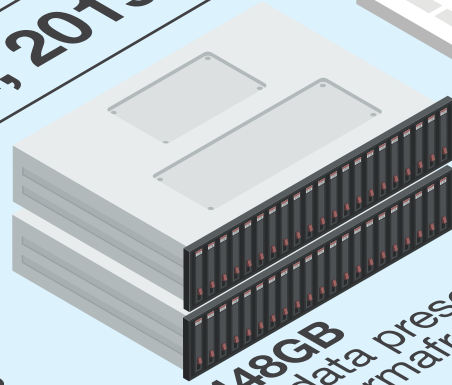
While innovating is important, tending to the Scholars Portal services already widely-used is vital. When libraries trust us to host and offer these services on their behalf within the consortial collaboration framework, we assume responsibility for making sure that they are sustainable. We must keep abreast of developments and trends in these areas, and assess when and where to invest in renewal to keep our services in line with users' and libraries' needs. This past year saw a full redevelopment of Scholars Portal Books. Enhancements to improve the functionality of Scholars Portal Journals are ongoing. Scholars GeoPortal, a unique and highly valued service, is now 8 years old, and work has begun to identify and plan for the support needed to bring it into the 2020s.

With changing technologies and the evolving library landscape, some services that were once innovative and necessary are no longer providing high value to members. When this changing need becomes evident, it is time for Scholars Portal to sunset the service, in close consultation with all those affected by the change. And when the service is gone, the expertise and experience staff and collaborators have built can be reinvested into future services that better fit member needs. To that end, Scholars Portal staff have been participating in a number of OCUL initiatives around resources sharing and license management and are working with members to ensure a smooth transition away from a locally hosted SFX service.

Snapshot 2018-2019

As of April 30th, 2019, we host:

55,433,305
articles preserved in
our Journals TDR



448GB
of data preserved
in Permafrost

1,693
research datasets
in Dataverse



416,459
e-books on Books



16,430
accessible
texts in ACE

OJS

33,525
articles published on
our OJS instances

In the last year we enabled:

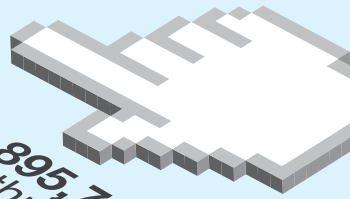
16,596
map views on
GeoPortal



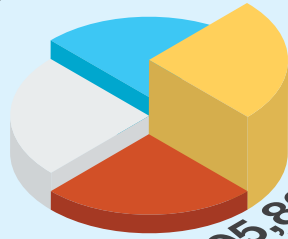
27,588
chat reference
interactions on
ASK



12,895,728
clickthroughs to
full text on SFX



1,505,825
data views in <codesi>



Seeding New Services

Over the past year, Scholars Portal staff have focused on two emerging and complex service areas, Research Data Management and Data Storage and Preservation.

Research Data Management

Needs Assessment for RDM infrastructure

At the 2018 Spring meeting, OCUL Directors approved 2 years of funding for a long-term plan to provide RDM service and platform developments that target the needs of OCUL institutions. To inform this plan, Scholars Portal staff embarked on a needs assessment project investigating the current strengths and gaps of RDM infrastructure at local, regional, and national levels.

Trends that have emerged from the needs assessment include:

- the importance of offering and maintaining sustainable storage for both active data and for preservation activities;
- concerns about handling sensitive data and overall data security; and
- although many institutions perceive themselves to be “behind,” the majority are acting in a proactive way within the changing landscape of RDM.

A preliminary report with more detailed results has been submitted separately and some of the feedback has already been incorporated into planning for Dataverse. The final report will be submitted later this year.

Dataverse

Scholars Portal began hosting a Dataverse instance for OCUL members in 2011, and since then has contributed several developments and new features, including DataCite Canada integration, Data Explorer, Metrics, and most recently Internationalization, to meet the needs of OCUL libraries.

In October 2018, Scholars Portal and the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) received funding through the CANARIE Research Data Management Program to develop and enhance infrastructure for RDM services in academic libraries.

The funded project aims to make Dataverse more easily scalable for researchers in all disciplines across Canada. SP staff will continue to develop Dataverse’s connections to cloud storage, support larger file upload and download, integrate with login authentication tools, and develop an integrated social science data curation tool.

The grant funding has supported the hiring of new technical staff and

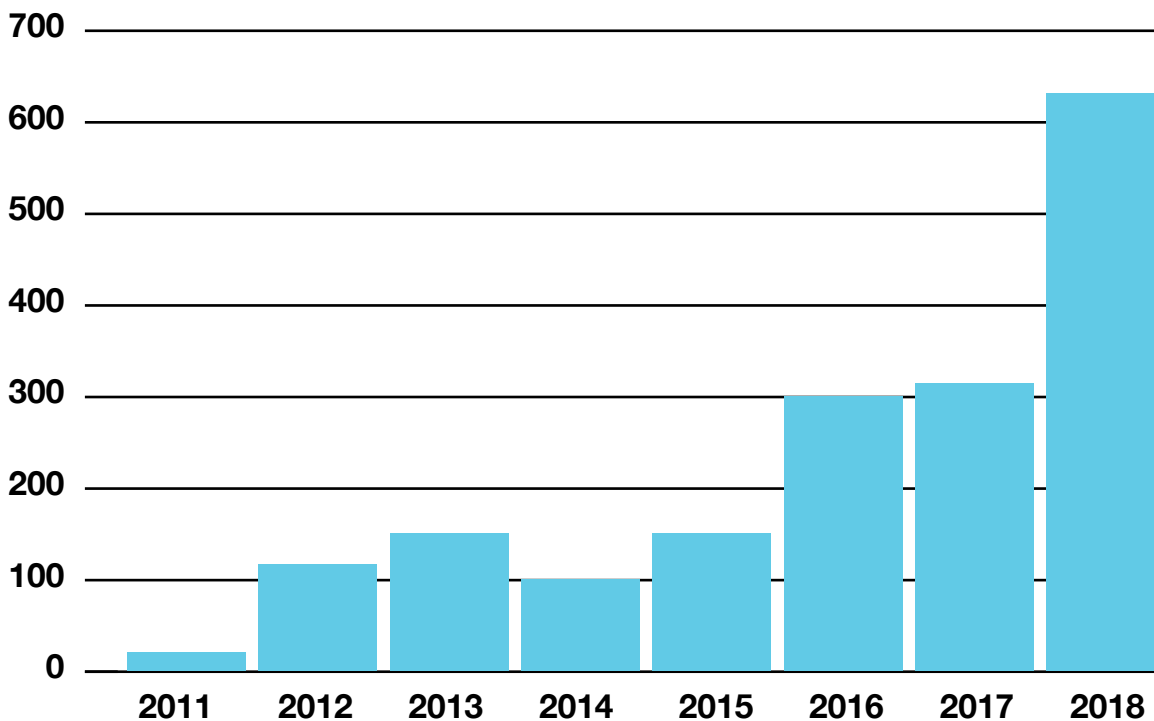
contributions from existing SP staff, UTL, Queen’s University, CARL Portage, and the University of Victoria. All contributions developed as a result of CANARIE funding will be made available as open source software, with training and support offered through Scholars Portal on an ongoing basis.

As of April 2019, the project is well on its way to being 20% complete, with an estimated project completion date in March 2020.

Developing to meet the needs of researchers

Scholars Portal Dataverse continues to grow in size and number of users, with over 2TB of data deposits and over 1300 accounts. The number of data deposits to Dataverse grew by 50% in 2018, showcasing widespread interest in Dataverse among researchers in Ontario and beyond.

Scholars Portal Dataverse Number of Deposits, 2011-2018:



As Dataverse becomes increasingly important to institutionally-focused RDM services offered by OCUL libraries, SP is investing significant resources into optimizing and scaling the system architecture, upgrading to the latest releases, developing new features, improving documentation, promoting community engagement, and forging partnerships.

Internationalization

In partnership with the Université de Montréal, Scholars Portal released a fully internationalized version of Dataverse this year, to support users in multiple languages including English and French. The finished Dataverse Internationalization Project is now available in the Dataverse Project’s core code base thanks to support from the Institute of Quantitative Social Sciences (IQSS),

Harvard University. Internationalization has enabled us to meet the needs of Canadian French-language users by offering a high quality data repository in line with other software internationalization standards.

Institutional Metrics & Deposit Workflows

To enhance the support in Dataverse for institutional workflows, SP staff developed and released an application that allows users and library administrators to track and export usage metrics. Institutions can now view monthly summaries of data download and deposit activity, user account creation, size of data stored on disk, and subject and format coverage for Institutional Dataverses and sub-dataverses from an interactive web page and downloadable report.

Community Engagement & Support

Dataverse has a wide stakeholder community that consists of data library professionals, liaison librarians, functional experts, researchers, and institutional partners from outside the library community. It's important that Dataverse meets a variety of user needs, is flexible to support a variety of institutionally-focused workflows and service models, and meets recognized institutional standards in line with other library-based web and repository services.

To support our growing user base, we launched a new bilingual SP Dataverse Guide that includes helpful how-to videos, as well as guidance on setup and support for Institutional Dataverses. We have also set up an e-mail listserv to facilitate service support. Through this list, Dataverse contacts have engaged in

AVANTAGES FONCTIONNALITÉS PARTENAIRES FAQ CONTACT SE CONNECTER EN

Scholars Portal **Dataverse**

**Déposez, partagez, publiez,
consultez des données de
recherche!**

EN SAVOIR PLUS ou EXPLORER DATAVERSE

Rechercher dans Dataverse

a number of discussions with Scholars Portal staff about institutional Dataverse permissions, local service models for reviewing and mediating access, end-user and technical support workflows, testing new Dataverse releases and features, and future directions for the service.

The Data and GIS team at Scholars Portal has been working closely with the Portage project, and in particular the Dataverse North Working Group and the training group. We are hosting Portage's RDM learning modules on our Learn site: <https://learn.scholarsportal.info/modules/>

Future Sustainability

This year, a number of planning initiatives and stakeholder consultations culminated in the development of a sustainable service model and standard service agreement offered through UTL.

Dataverse-as-a-service began operating officially as a non-OCUL service in April 2019, with the onboarding of 18 Quebec universities in coordination with UTL, OCUL, and the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI), the Quebec provincial consortium of universities.

Scholars Portal staff are working to expand this service model to other Canadian institutions. Support from sources outside of OCUL will ensure a sustainable funding model for Dataverse.

Additionally, with more contributors to our Dataverse instance, growing interest and credibility will attract a critical mass of research data. With more data on different topics available, researchers will be more likely to find data that is useful and meaningful to reuse in their own research.

Data Storage and Preservation Services

Research Data Preservation Infrastructure

As stewards of library research data collections, Scholars Portal has been actively engaged in discussions about preservation and long-term access to research data in Canada for many years.

In 2018, SP launched a Phase 2 technical integration project with Artefactual Systems Inc., the company that develops Archivematica, to integrate Dataverse and Archivematica. Users can now configure Archivematica to connect to Dataverse for transferring and processing research data into Archival Information Packages (AIPs) for long-term storage and preservation.

This technical integration is flexible enough to support further development of institutional workflows, including implementation of locally defined policies and infrastructure connections, as well as consortially supported services such as Permafrost. Further discussion - via community consultations and a white paper

- about the development of data preservation services will continue into 2019-2020.

DuraCloud Canada: Linking Data Repositories to Preservation Storage

In October 2018, Scholars Portal, UTL, and COPPUL received CANARIE funding for the project “DuraCloud Canada: Linking Data Repositories to Preservation Storage.” The purpose is to connect regional preservation storage networks including the OLRC and COPPUL’s WestVault through a preservation management layer. This will connect Canadian library preservation storage using a centralized management tool, in order to develop national workflows for digital preservation.

We have deployed an “out of the box” version of Duracloud in Amazon Web Services (AWS) for testing and development, and have begun work to eliminate the software’s dependencies on AWS and build a connector to Swift storage, which will allow us to deploy an instance of Duracloud using the OLRC for storage instead of AWS.

As of April 2019, the project is well on its way to being 30% complete, with an estimated project completion date in March 2020.

Permafrost: Our Newest Opt-in Service

Permafrost, our digital preservation service, officially launched as a production service in September 2018, operated on a cost-recovery basis.

Permafrost was run as a pilot from 2017-2018 with five OCUL members participating, helping to refine the service and test its components. Since the service launched in production, eight subscribers have joined, including four returning pilot members (Lakehead, Laurier, Toronto, Waterloo) and four new members (Brock, Carleton, Ottawa, Queen’s). Since September, active users of the service have stored over 300GB of data, while new subscribers have received training sessions and are learning how to use the tools and get their workflows up and running.

As part of the preparation for production launch, we prepared training and workflow documentation; finalized a service guiding document outlining the roles, responsibilities and limitations of the service; and launched a public website: <https://permafrost.scholarsportal.info/>

The need for a ready resource about digital archival processing was met by the creation of Handling Digital Archives Before Ingest, an in-depth guide on preparation steps for processing digital materials, that was published in August 2018: <https://learn.scholarsportal.info/all-guides/handling-digital-archives/>

As the service develops, users will continue to receive training, troubleshooting,



Hosted Digital Preservation with Permafrost

FRIENDLY INTERVENTIONS FOR LONG-TERM PRESERVATION.

[TELL ME MORE](#)

and advice regarding workflows and technical issues, and instances will be kept up-to-date with new releases. A user forum for sharing information and regular webinars on special topics are on the horizon, as well as additional developments and integrations to meet user needs. The SP Digital Preservation librarian, Grant Hurley, serves on the Digital Preservation Working Group and led their digital preservation survey initiative.

Canopus: Data Management at Scale

Canopus, the new digital asset management system built by Scholars Portal and the University of Toronto, is now live in production. Canopus is designed to be a central point for the tracking and management of digital assets across multiple storage platforms. Technically, Canopus consists of a central database (hosted on MarkLogic, the XML database used by all SP services) which stores descriptive and technical metadata and relationships between stored digital objects, an API that allows the creation, modification, and querying of objects in the database, and a reporting front-end that provides analytics for some characteristics of stored objects.

Currently, data from University of Toronto and shared Scholars Portal platforms is being loaded into Canopus. In 2019-20 we plan to begin pilot projects to investigate use cases at other OCUL institutions. A call for pilot participants will be circulated shortly.

Cultivating Sustainable Services

Over the past year we have been working hard to maintain our more mature services. This includes expanding user bases, renewing user interfaces, finding more efficient ways to load content, and improving administrative features and statistics.

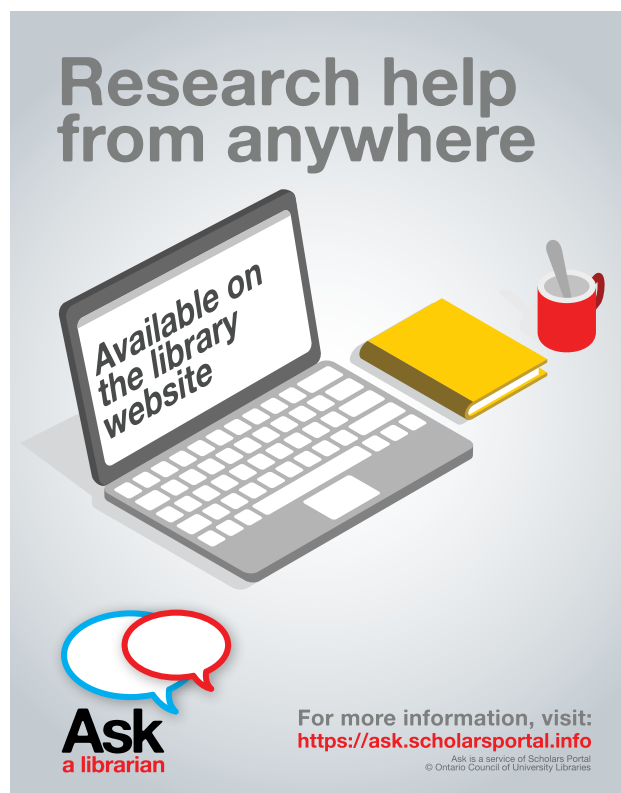
Ask a Librarian

Ask a Librarian continues to grow; overall usage in fall 2018 was 10% higher than in fall 2017. We are also welcoming a new member: Queen's University joined the service on a one-year pilot basis in April 2019.

In fall 2018, we launched an updated bilingual public-facing website. In order to be consistent with our terminology, the site is at ask.scholarsportal.info. Taking advantage of the need to get our new URL into the world, we have also begun distributing redesigned promotional materials.

We are increasing our efforts to reach out to users and meet them where they are. In summer 2018, we piloted a text reference service. It saw little uptake, but the participating schools are hoping to revisit the project during a busier time of year. Several libraries have also added proactive chat buttons, which prompt website visitors to ask questions if they have been on a page for 30-60 seconds with no activity. For the libraries that have implemented these buttons, this has resulted in both more user questions and higher awareness of the service overall.

As volume on the French side of the service continues to be low, English universities have the option of adding French Clavardez buttons to their sites to further serve their francophone student populations. Western has already done this, and Algoma and Toronto will be next.



Journals

Our longest running service, the Scholars Portal Journals platform is still running strong with over 55 million articles. We continue to add new content regularly. To support this work, we have automated the content loading and quality control process for journal content.

With such a massive amount of content, we have also recently started several data cleanup projects:

- **Handling Retracted articles** - It's difficult to handle a retracted article automatically, as most publishers issue a retraction note without a direct link to the original article. The original retracted article needs to be removed from the Journals database and an event needs to be added in the Trustworthy Digital Repository (TDR) to monitor preservation. We have identified 740 retracted articles and removed them from Journals.
- **Handling duplicate journal titles** - Journals contains about 450 journals loaded under different ISSNs. This causes problems in searching and openURL linking. A program has been developed to merge different ISSNs under one title based on the decisions of which ISSN/s to keep and how to handle the merge in the collection and TDR.

In January 2019, the new COUNTER Code of Practice Release 5 came into effect. We have been providing COUNTER-compliant usage reports since 2011, and we're currently updating the Scholars Portal Usage Data (SPUD) site to support Release 5 reports. An official audit by Project COUNTER is forthcoming.

This year we launched a new site to provide more information about our TDR status: <https://tdr.scholarsportal.info/>

Linked Data

We have piloted two semantic applications using MarkLogic and the functions are promising.

First, we are modelling SP Journals entitlements and collections metadata as linked data. The new model will allow us to:

- Better manage entitlement data
- Track perpetual access information
- Track the history of entitlement changes
- Track title transfers between publishers
- Export entitlement data to member institutions' ERM or ILS systems.

Entitlement data has been loaded into the MarkLogic triple store and we are testing use cases. We will continue to revise the data model and build an administrative tool based on the linked data model.

The second pilot project involves building linkages between Scholars Portal collections. As a start, we are using MarkLogic Semantics to link books on the Books platform with book review articles on the Journals platform. About

19,000 book review articles have been linked to the book being reviewed on the Books platform.

[African Affairs](#) > 106(423)

At the Crossroads: ICT policy making in East Africa, edited by Florence Etta and Laurent Elder

Thomas Molony
April 2007, 106(423), p.340-342



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At the Crossroads: ICT policy making in East Africa, edited by Etta Florence and Elder Laurent . Kampala, Dar es Salaam and Ottawa: East African Educational Publishers Ltd., Ujuzi Educational Publishers Ltd. and the International Development Research Centre, 2005. xxvi+309 pp. £19.95 (paperback). ISBN 9966254390 (paperback).

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At the crossroads: ICT policy making in East Africa

Elder, Laurent; Etta, Florence Ebam; International Development Research Centre (Canada)

East African Educational Publishers ; International Development Research Centre, 2005

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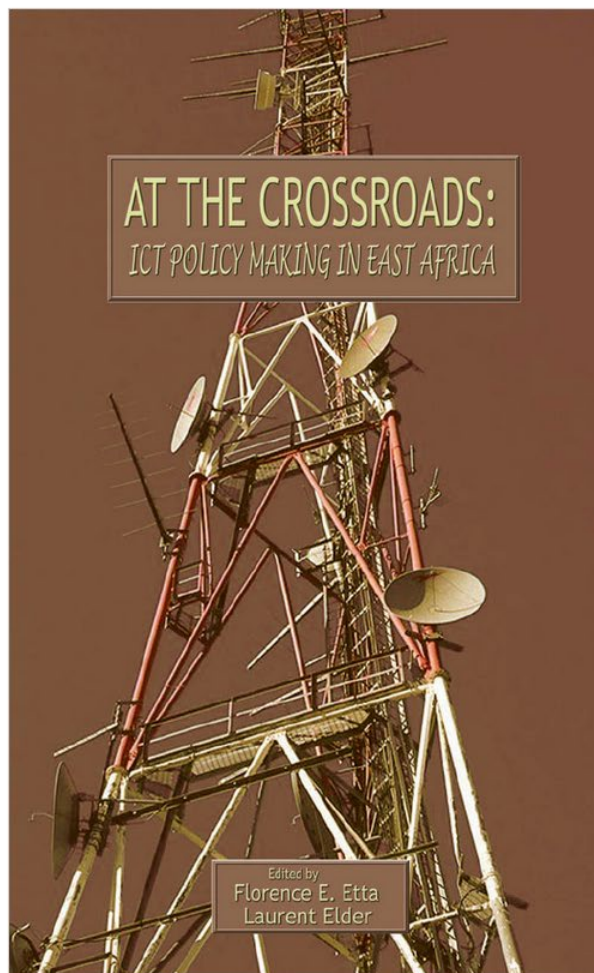
Pages: xxvi, 309 p.

ISBN: 1552502198 (Unknown)
9966254390 (Unknown)

Permalink: <https://books.scholarsportal.info/uri/ebooks>

Metadata: [View metadata \(BITS\)](#)

Collections: /CRKN
/CRKN/CEL



Books

After significant work, supported via the New Initiatives Fund, the new Scholars Portal Books platform was launched on July 1st, 2018. This two year redevelopment was made up of three concurrent projects:

Migrating all data into MarkLogic - This required a full rework of our ingestion and data harmonization workflows, but has resulted in enriched metadata records and significant improvements to content discovery.

New frontend application - This app, built from the ground up, offers a much-improved reading experience, including responsiveness across devices, fast page scrolling, and sharper text and images. Another much-requested feature is the introduction of flexible handling of concurrent use restrictions, allowing for in-browser reading, as well as PDF download, of DRM-restricted content.

Administrative tool (SP Admin tool) - This tool manages entitlements and IP ranges for schools, as well as being a one-stop-shop for e-resource staff looking for title lists in KBART format, MARC records, or COUNTER reports. KBART reports generated with this tool are also being used to share up-to-date holdings with discovery vendors on an ongoing basis.

Since the launch, work has continued in all three areas. Over the summer, University of Toronto's UX Lab at Robarts Library conducted in-person usability testing of the platform, and the feedback and results of these tests were incorporated into the frontend application before the start of the fall 2019 semester. Feedback was also collected from the ACE community, and improvements to the ACE experience are ongoing.

A number of enhancements were made to the SP Admin tool, including a MARC generator that allows OCUL e-resource staff to retrieve records by publisher, package, or load date. This new generator will replace the existing MARC page, which has been manually maintained since Books launched in 2009. We have also developed a metadata editor that allows staff to quickly fix source-data errors reported by cataloguing staff or end users.

Another major Books project this year was the automation of several steps of our loading workflow, allowing us to more quickly and efficiently parse and load the content we receive from publishers. This enabled us to load over 120,000 new titles to the platform in 2018. We will be looking to automate the entire books loading process in the years ahead.

On a smaller scale, we're trialling ways to ingest non-monograph content to the platform. We are working with the University of Toronto and a major Canadian music score publisher, Plangere Editions, to make its collection available and useable on Scholars Portal Books. The collection is currently only available to University of Toronto users, but this pilot has demonstrated the flexibility of the Books platform, and opens doors for future collaborations with non-traditional collections.

SP Admin Books @ Admin

- Clients Institutional Details +
- All Book Collections IP Addresses +
- Books Book Collections
- MARC Accessible Content (ACE) / Livres accessibles (PCA)
- Metadata Editor - Admin ACUP - All Canadian University Presses
- Metadata Editor
- Users

Entitled	Dist	Pub	Year	Sub	Count	Usage Terms	KBART	MARC	COUNTER TR_B1	COUNTER TR_B2
	ACUP				9609					
Yes		ALBERTA			167	View	Download	Download	Download	Download
Yes			0000-2009		19			Download		
Yes				SUPO	18			Download		
Yes				SUPOPLUS	1			Download		
Yes			2010-2011		27			Download		
Yes				SUPO	26			Download		
Yes				SUPOPLUS	1			Download		
Yes			2012		8			Download		
Yes				SUPO	8			Download		
Yes			2014		32			Download		

SP Admin Tool

Accessible Content ePortal

Content

ACE users are benefitting from the improved search functionality and navigation of the new Books platform, as well as the seamless integration between the accessible collection and the e-book collection, making e-book content much easier for ACE users to find and access. We are grateful to the members of the ACE Working Group and ACE User Advisory Group for their feedback, which helped us refine the interface.

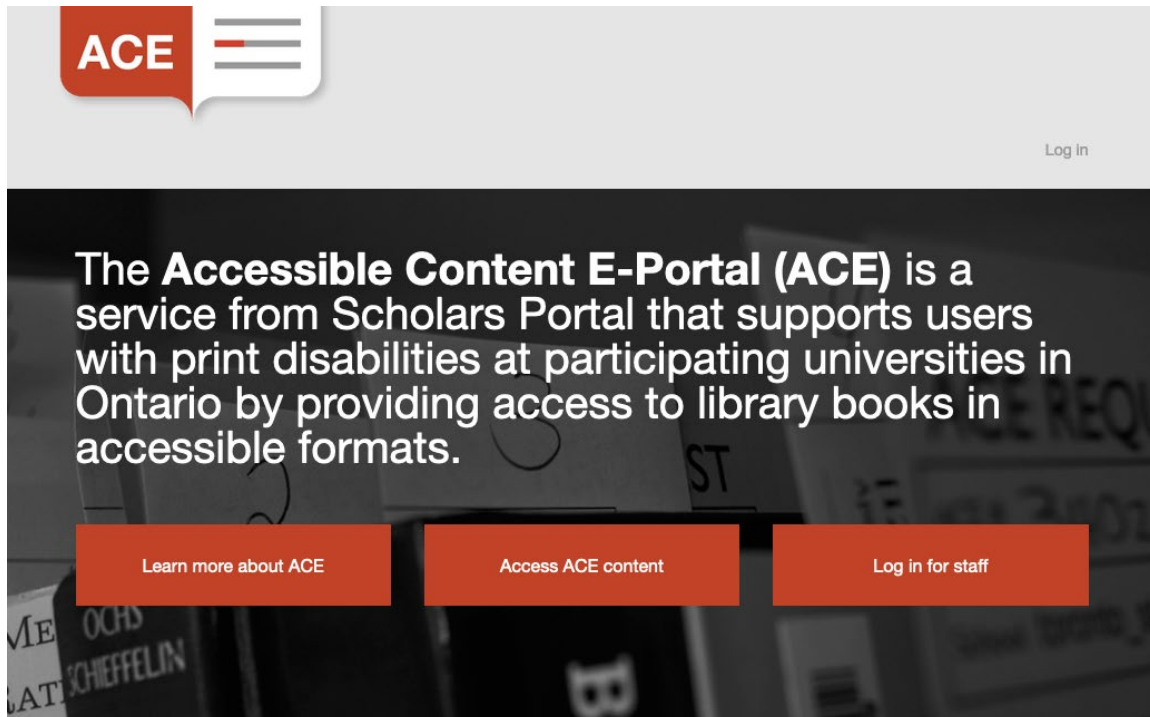
This year the ACE collection hit the 16,000 title milestone, and it continues to grow rapidly. To streamline the service, the SP Client Services and Digital Projects teams are developing a staff portal which will provide a single access point for digitization status reports, a database of request history, and the ability to submit and cancel requests. We expect a launch during summer 2019.

Partnerships

Our partnership with Internet Archive (IA) Canada is extremely valuable for the service. Over the years IA has contributed thousands of free accessible books to the ACE collection. More recently, in fall 2018, we worked with IA to provide ACE users and coordinators with unmediated access to the IA accessible collection. This new opportunity has resulted in reduced costs for some institutions who

would have otherwise paid for digitization of these books.

In 2018, the University of Toronto at Scarborough (UTSC) performed a symbolic exchange of accessible books under the Marrakesh Treaty. ACE staff facilitated the partnership between UTSC and IA to digitize the books and make the exchange happen, and UTSC requested that the exchanged books be made part of their ACE collection. We continue to look for opportunities to work with other partners under Marrakesh, including the WIPO Global Book Service.



ACE public site and staff portal

Publishing Services

Since 2014, Scholars Portal has hosted scholarly publications through the Open Journal System (OJS) and Open Monograph Press (OMP) software developed by the Public Knowledge Project (PKP).

With a new member in 2018-19, Nipissing, and the migration of Western's journals from bepress to OJS, we now host over 30,000 articles published in 125 journals for 11 OCUL members.

This year we completed a major migration, moving all of our instances from OJS 2 to OJS 3.0. We also updated the harvesting process to get journals on OJS 3 in the JATS metadata standards, so they can be loaded to the Journals platform for preservation.

As use of OJS increases, we have implemented a new pricing model that will make the service more sustainable. We are also offering sponsored membership

to Crossref, the organization we use to mint DOIs for journals. This sponsored membership reduces costs both for institutions and for journals that were paying for individual memberships.

This year we increased our involvement with the PKP community, with our Digital Projects Librarian, Kaitlin Newson, serving as Chair of the Members committee, coordinator of the Documentation Interest Group, and a member of the PKP advisory committee. Our Web & Discovery Services Librarian, Bartek Kawula, is a representative on the metadata working group.

Scholars GeoPortal

Data Loading

The GeoPortal collection continues to grow, with 835 new datasets added since May 2018. This is double the average number of datasets added in previous years, thanks to automation of our loading process. We hope that automated loading will make it easier for individual institutions to contribute local and special collections to the GeoPortal.

The new data we've loaded includes municipal collections, provincial imagery products, and national-level data including historical Census files and DMTI's infrastructure and road data. Additional vector data and raster files have also been processed, as requested by the OCUL Geo Community.

City of Mississauga Historical Imagery

The GeoPortal team undertook a collaborative project with librarians and student staff at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) to digitize and make available historical imagery of Mississauga from the 1940s to present. These images were provided by the City of Mississauga in order to facilitate historical



The area around Square One Shopping Centre (Hurontario / 401), pictures in 1970 and 1995

research of the area by students and faculty at UTM.

LIO

We continue to strengthen our partnership with Land Information Ontario (LIO), a large and valuable repository of geospatial data created by ministries, agencies, conservation authorities, and municipalities in Ontario. The GeoPortal team works closely with LIO to facilitate the ongoing transfer of imagery as it becomes available, and to ensure that changes to those imagery products are communicated to the larger OCUL GeoCommunity. For the past year, we have also been harvesting metadata for open content from LIO's metadata tool, providing users with a single discovery experience for data we manage and for data held by third parties.

The GeoFuture

Automating loading workflows has allowed us to load more data in 2018-19 than ever before, but the demand for geospatial data continues to grow. There are more and more products, many of which are coming in increasingly larger sizes with more detailed images or granular data points. To support this volume, Scholars Portal is considering new solutions for dealing with Big Data.

Meanwhile, the ways that researchers access and interact with geospatial data have evolved since the inception of the GeoPortal. It is important to ensure that our users are getting the most out of the valuable collections we host.

To that end, Scholars Portal staff have started to plan for a redevelopment focused on interface redesign, backend delivery of large data, and a new metadata editor in the coming years. Our goal is a refreshed, higher-capacity GeoPortal that supports access to large files, easy metadata creation and correction, with an intuitive interface allowing users to easily discover, retrieve, and visualize data.

<odesi>

In the past year, we welcomed the University of Northern British Columbia and MacEwan University as new subscribers. With 19 non-OCUL subscribers, <odesi> is currently one of the most widely used SP content services across Canada.

Markit! Program Update

Since 2009, the Markit! Program has operated as an OCUL-funded program to support library training and publishing of statistical datasets to <odesi> using the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) metadata standard. <odesi> contains approximately 5,000 datasets in English and French, and over 12,000 dataset

descriptions available for searching.

Participating institutions in 2018-2019:

- Queen's University
- University of Ottawa
- McMaster University

From January to December 2018, the MarkIt! Program provided new DDI markup and/or quality for over 900 datasets in English and French.

Open Access Collections

In 2018, the public opinion poll collections including IPSOS Canada, Angus Reid Institute, CORA, Gallup, and Leger Marketing polls, were made available as open access in <odesi>. Collectively, they include over 1,000 individual polls from the 1940s to the present. With thanks to Carleton University, Wilfrid Laurier University, Queen's University, and University of Ottawa, these collections are now openly available to the public for research and non-commercial purposes..

To coincide with the opening of the collections, and with help from an iSchool practicum student and members of the OCUL Data Community, a comprehensive Canadian Public Opinion Polls Guide was developed and published on the updated ODESI landing page at odesi.ca

The image shows a navigation menu on the left side of a webpage. The menu is divided into four colored quadrants: a red quadrant for 'About <odesi>', a grey quadrant for 'FAQ', a blue quadrant for 'User Guide', and a black quadrant for 'Video Tutorials'. To the right of the menu is the main content area, which has a light grey background. It features the text 'What's the most important issue facing Canadians today?' followed by a paragraph defining a public opinion poll. Below this text is a blue link that says 'Learn more about using public opinion polls in <odesi>'. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a decorative pattern of small, light grey human figures.

About <odesi>	FAQ	What's the most important issue facing Canadians today? A public opinion poll is a survey of public opinion about social, economic, and political issues. This collection contains over a thousand polls ranging from the 1940s to the present, from polling organizations such as Gallup Canada, Ipsos Reid, and Léger Marketing.
User Guide	Video Tutorials	Learn more about using public opinion polls in <odesi>

Pruning Older Services

Pruning services that are reaching the end of their natural lifespan allows us to refocus our energy on the new and innovative. These long-running services have enabled us to achieve great things over the years, but now our energies are better focused elsewhere.

As a number of our longest-running services are facing inevitable change, we work with members, vendors, and other partners to consider our next steps.

RACER

In June 2018, we celebrated RACER's 15th birthday. Since 2003, this stronghold of SP services has been running on VDX software. But as member libraries change their relationship with their collections -- developing shared print facilities, or preparing to move to a shared library services platform with Collaborative Futures -- the character of resource sharing in the province will inevitably shift. These developments have implications for the future of RACER, and so we are working closely with the OCUL Resource Sharing Community, the OCUL Collections & Future of Resource Sharing Working Group, and our software vendors, to support member libraries' new strategic directions for shared resources.

SFX

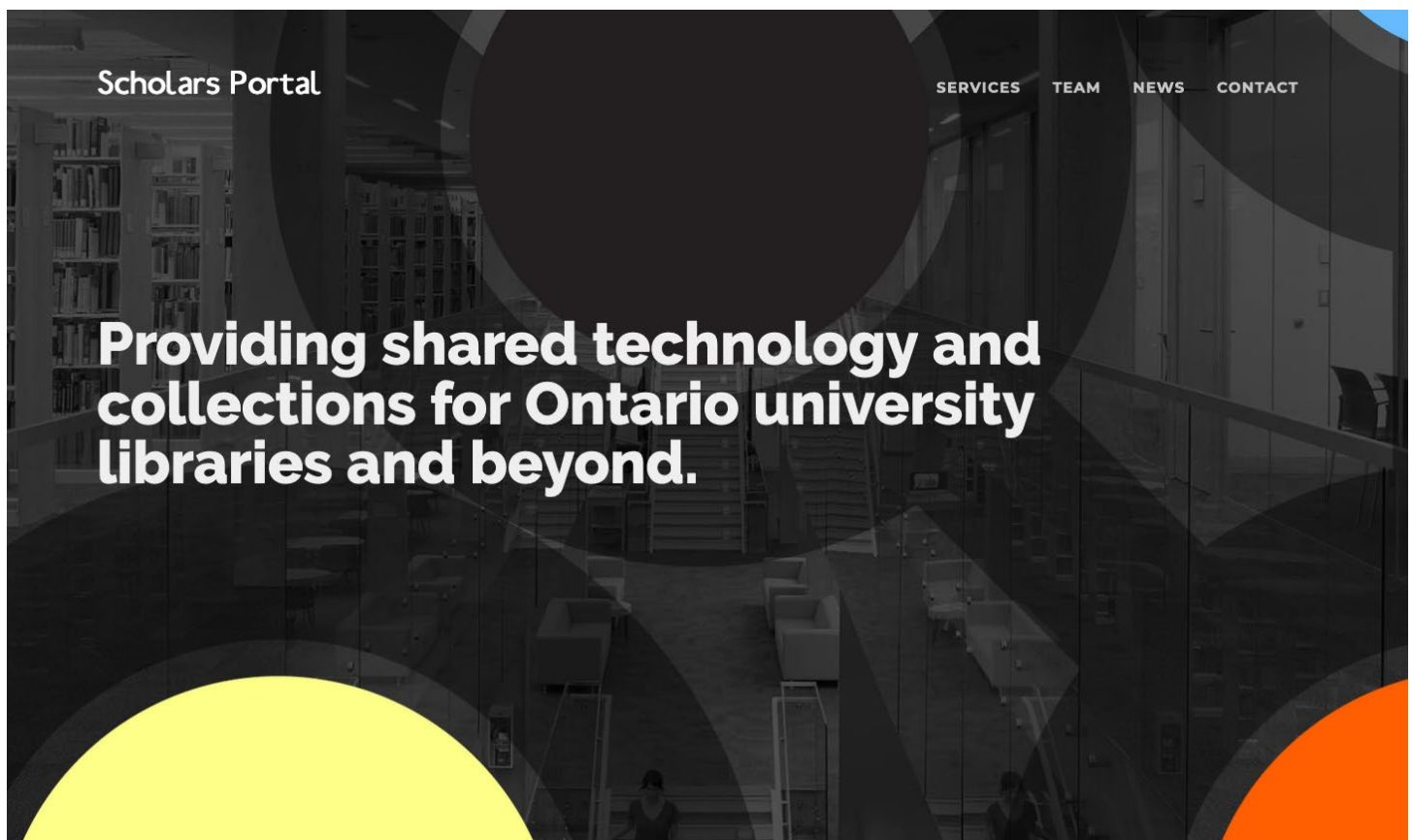
Much like resource sharing, full-text e-resources are a very different beast in 2019 than in 2004, when Scholars Portal first launched a hosted instance of SFX. Since then, the knowledgebase, openURL link resolver, and A-Z lists have helped hundreds of thousands of students, faculty, and staff find full-text resources on SP content repositories and elsewhere. But discovery and linking services have become more integrated over the last while, and more OCUL libraries have shifted to use the link resolvers embedded in their feature-rich discovery systems. All participants in Collaborative Futures will soon be using the link resolver in their new LSP.

We are working with Proquest/ExLibris to ensure our resources are accurately represented in the 360 core, SFX and Alma knowledgebases so that OCUL libraries continue to have seamless access to their content. Anticipating that our hosted SFX instance will sunset sometime in 2020, we are also working with libraries who still use our SFX instance to find alternative solutions.

Bringing It All Together

Outreach and Communication

Over the past few years we've been revamping Scholars Portal's web presence. This year we hit some high notes with a refreshed Scholars Portal website and new service websites for Ask a Librarian, Permafrost, and our TDR. The new sites allow us to present information about our services in a consistent and intuitive way, making it easier for member libraries, external partners, and end users to find out more about Scholars Portal and what we offer.



Screenshot of <http://scholarsportal.info>

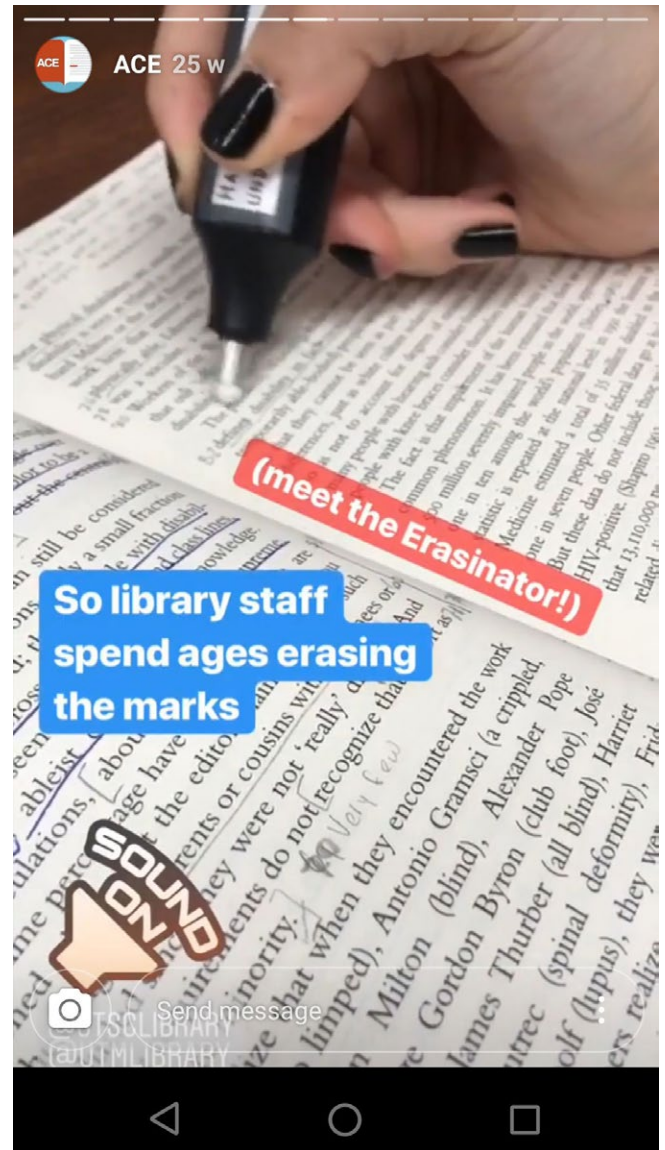
This year we also migrated our user guides and featured collection pages to a new Wordpress instance, which we call Learn at Scholars Portal. Learn has a more flexible interface with language-switching support and learning module integrations, allowing us to reinvision how we display our user guides and promote our collections: <https://learn.scholarsportal.info/>

In keeping with our desire to use more open source software, we recently moved our web analytics from Google Analytics to Matomo, an open source alternative.

This allows us to host data on our own servers, protecting the privacy of our users. We have also been working to improve our French language services, with the internationalization of the Dataverse interface, improved language support on the new Books platform, and a bilingual website for Ask a Librarian. We also plan to improve language support on the Journals and GeoPortal platforms and to make more user guides available in both languages.

Following on the success of last year's "Accessible Content ePortal Behind the Scenes" YouTube video, in fall 2018 we collaborated with the University of Toronto Libraries on a social media campaign about marginalia, accessibility, and the hidden work of the ACE team. This campaign generated high levels of engagement and positive feedback from the community.

Scholars Portal Day 2018 occurred on December 7th. Our theme was "Investing in Inclusiveness", and the day included a panel on welcoming the whole academic community into the library, and lightning talks on topics including accessibility, indigeneity, supporting non-traditional students, and professional development for minority librarians. This event, with its people-focused theme, drew a slightly different crowd than usual, both in person and on the livestream. We were thrilled to facilitate engaging conversations about topics of interest to our member libraries.



Selected Staff Presentations from 2018-19

<i>Distributed digital preservation discussion panel</i>	PASIG (Preservation and Archiving Special Interest Group)	Grant Hurley, with Heather Klein and Courtney Mumma	February 2019
<i>Results of the CARL DPWG survey of digital preservation capacity and needs at Canadian memory institutions</i>	@Risk North 2: Digital Collections	Grant Hurley	November 2018
<i>Go with the flow: Digital archiving workflows</i>	Association of Canadian Archivists Conference	Grant Hurley, with K Jamieson, Bridget Whittle, C Smith, and Jess Whyte	June 2018
<i>Mapping Historical Mississauga: uncovering the city's changing landscape over time using historical map and digital data</i>	IASSIST & Carto Conference	Kara Handren, with Andrew Nicholson	June 2018
<i>La francisation de Scholars Portal</i>	OLA SuperConference	Kara Handren and Sabina Pagotto with Kathryn Barrett	February 2019
<i>Research Data Management: What is it and what's happening in Ontario</i>	OLA SuperConference	Meghan Goodchild with Jane Fry	January 2019
<i>CANARIE RDM Funding and University Libraries Update</i>	OLA SuperConference	Amber Leahey	January 2019
<i>Implementing Linked Data in OCUL Scholars Portal</i>	Linked Data for Production (LD4P) Workshop	Wei Zhao	May 2018
<i>A Metadata-Driven Data Curation Tool for Dataverse</i>	North American Data Documentation Initiative (NADDI) Conference	Amber Leahey	April 2019

Selected Staff Publications from 2018-19

Barrett, Kathryn and Amy Greenberg. 2018. "Student-staffed Virtual Reference Services: How to Meet the Training Challenge." *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning* 12 (3-4): 101. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/1533290X.2018.1498620>

Hurley, Grant, 2019. "Digital bibliodiversity at Scholars Portal: Bridging standards and practices for e-books preservation. In J. Myntti & J. Zoom (Eds.) *Digital preservation in libraries: Preparing for a sustainable future* (pp.179-202). Chicago: Association for Library Collections & Technical Services, American Library Association.

Maistrovskaya, Mariya and Kaitlin Newson, 2019. "Making the Move to Open Journal Systems 3: Recommendations for a (mostly) painless upgrade." *Code4Lib Journal* 43. <https://journal.code4lib.org/articles/14260>

Pagotto, Sabina, and Wei Zhao. 2019. "Access, Preservation and Analysis in a Consortial Journal Archive: The Evolution of Scholars Portal Journals". *Insights* 32 (1): 7. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.458>

Whyte Appleby, Jacqueline. 2018. "What's past is still... messing with our workflows." Proceedings of the Charleston Library Conference. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5703/1288284316701>