UF George A. Smathers Libraries
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

How the University of Florida's George A. Smathers Libraries use CHORUS dashboard's data, tools, and reporting to save time and resources

Summary

The CHORUS/UFL Institution Pilot ran from July 2016 – May 2017. Participants included: University of Florida, University of Denver, American Chemical Society, American Physical Society, Elsevier, Oxford University Press, Rockefeller University Press, Association for Computing Machinery, and Wiley. Collaboration among the participants resulted in the November 2018 launch of the CHORUS Institution dashboard.

The Need/The Challenges

The University of Florida (UF) George A. Smathers Libraries (Libraries) has been engaged in several projects for the past decade to address the need for seamless access to and a definitive profile of UF-authored publications, without placing additional burdens on the authors.

The Partnership/The Journey

The impetus for the collaboration between CHORUS and UF began because eight of the top ten publishers and many of the funders and scholarly societies that support the more than 8,000 articles produced annually by UF authors are CHORUS members.

The CHORUS Dashboard is a tool and data-reporting system that can be integrated with key institutional information management systems to automate solutions for identification and access to articles by UF authors from multiple publishers in a variety of formats with varying compliance requirements.

The Pilot Project

The Libraries participated initially in testing the pilot dashboard with the CHORUS development team to provide advice on the content and labeling of the dashboard and user experience feedback to CHORUS on data access and robustness.

The Libraries used the pilot dashboard to generate interest from the UF Office of Sponsored Programs and the Associate Deans for Research in UF Colleges in initiating a collaboration that would disseminate awareness of the tool. In order to populate the dashboard with accurate information that would facilitate a seamless and timely view of compliance with public access mandates, it was recognized that UF authors would need to include the source of funding and funding agency code in each article reporting on externally funded research. One way to accomplish this with greater consistency is for publishers to request this data as part of the article submission process.

How the CHORUS Dashboard is used

As the CHORUS dashboard was refined, the UF Libraries saw an opportunity to use the dashboard as a central clearinghouse/portal for identification of articles by UF authors from a variety of publishers that:

1. Could be linked by the UF libraries from the Institutional Repository, IR@UF
2. Could provide a mechanism to ease compliance with funding agency public access mandates that could be distributed to the authors and other appropriate individuals.

Results of a recent UF faculty survey describes researcher perceptions that dissemination of all types of publications and datasets are important elements of the full scholarship cycle but, in many respects, it is time and resource prohibitive.

The Future

These two proposed uses of the CHORUS dashboard are elements of a larger effort by the Libraries to create greater access to UF-authored publications by consolidating the corpus of UF scholarship metadata into the IR@UF and using the data from the CHORUS dashboard to provide new services that reduce administrative burdens on authors and administrators.

Aware of a campus-wide need to monitor and assure compliance with funding agency public access mandates, the Libraries initiated a software development project to use data from the CHORUS dashboard to generate email messages to authors and their department chairs and research deans. The messages will inform them that their articles have been identified and notify them when the public access deposit has been fulfilled or, more importantly, provide advance notice when the public access mandate has not yet been fulfilled. This information will also be available to the UF Office of Sponsored Programs. This will be new service that the Libraries provide to UF authors and administrators. Every indication is that this will be very welcome service when it becomes available!

Dr. Sherry Larkin, Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station for the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences is happy to offer this quote in support of the CHORUS dashboard.

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences annually reports to the Agricultural Research Service, an agency of the USDA. The Smathers Libraries facilitates collection of refereed articles authored by our researchers and the process takes many months of effort. The CHORUS dashboard and the availability of downloadable .csv files has potential to ease the time and financial burden of this annual process on our organization.

About the University of Florida Smathers Libraries

The libraries of the University of Florida form the largest information resource system in the state of Florida and serve every college and center in the university. UF's libraries consist of seven libraries; six of which comprise the George A. Smathers Libraries. The Smathers Libraries actively collaborate with the Legal Information Center, which is a part of the Levin College of Law. https://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/

About CHORUS

CHORUS provides a sustainable solution for government agencies, publishers, research officers, librarians, and authors to make publicly funded research more accessible. CHORUS focuses on five core services: Identification, Discovery, Access, Compliance and Preservation. https://www.chorusaccess.org/

Your institution could benefit from CHORUS data, tools, and reporting. To find out more, get in touch with Janice Kuta at **jkuta@chorusaccess.org** or arrange a **free trial here.**

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