DASH, Harvard’s open-access repository, added two new enhancements in the summer of 2015. The first connects author ORCID numbers to records in DASH. ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) is a free, persistent digital identifier that helps disambiguate author names and increases the reach of one’s scholarship. To put it simply, an ORCID is to a scholar roughly what an ISBN is to a book. By adding these numbers to DASH works, the repository enables easier and more advanced connections to an author’s other scholarship. It is also the first step in making DASH deposit available to a wider range of Harvard affiliates. The second enhancement links a DASH-deposited work to its underlying data set when it’s open-access, for example in Harvard’s Dataverse. By linking to data sets, DASH facilitates reproducibility and enables readers to dive more deeply into the conclusions of an article.

A NEW OPEN-ACCESS POLICY AT THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

On July 1, 2015, the Harvard University Center for the Environment (HUCE) adopted an open-access policy, becoming the third center at the university to do so, after the Berkman Center for Internet & Society and the Shorenstein Center. With this policy, HUCE advances the university mission to disseminate the fruits of its research as widely as possible. DASH will ensure the accessibility of the Center’s valuable contributions to climate research to readers worldwide.

“<I am a paralegal for an immigration attorney. I prepare cases that deal with hardship families of undocumented migrants face in the absence of their undocumented migrant relative. In some cases, families have mental disorder and relocation to countries like Mexico would mean a drastically diminished standard of care. In order to prove that, I require scholarly articles and government information to demonstrate the standard of care in countries like Mexico. Digital access to papers like this one is invaluable to preparing a case.”

Feedback related to “Priority Setting for HIV and Mental Health in Mexico: Historical, Quantitative and Ethical Perspectives,” downloaded from DASH by a paralegal in the United States.

OSC TO CELEBRATE OPEN ACCESS WEEK IN OCTOBER

Open Access Week 2015 is October 18-24, and Harvard is celebrating! OA Week is an international event highlighting open access to research and promoting open access as the new default for peer-reviewed scholarship. OSC is planning a series of Harvard-based, open-access announcements and outreach tools showcasing the advantages of open access. To participate, learn more about open access, or download outreach tools, visit our Open Access Week website: https://osc.hul.harvard.edu/oaweek.

HARVARD LIBRARY
Office for Scholarly Communication

The Office for Scholarly Communication (OSC) spearheads campus-wide initiatives to open, share, and preserve scholarship. With support from OSC, open-access policies are now in place at all Harvard University schools. OSC also runs supporting programs, such as DASH, the Copyright Advisory Program, ETDs @ Harvard, and the HOPE Fund.

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