Dispatch - Spring 2016

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Accessibility
OSC LAUNCHES UPDATED WEBSITE

The Office for Scholarly Communication (OSC) is proud to announce the recent upgrade of its website and associated web applications. Designed and implemented by the OSC's Ben Steinberg and Rebecca Cremona, the new applications are built with the cutting-edge frameworks Jekyll and Flask. The OSC’s web presence, which includes DASH stats, workflow tools, web forms, APIs, and information for the University community and the public, now features a responsive design and increased security, maintainability, efficiency, and accessibility (a11y).

We encourage users to explore our revamped site, which we hope you will find intuitive, informative, and attractive. The new website is at the same URL: osc.hul.harvard.edu

This past February, Harvard participated in the third annual Fair Use Week. This was an opportunity for the University community to celebrate the Fair Use doctrine, which “facilitate[s] balance in copyright law, promoting further progress and accommodating freedom of speech and expression.” The fair use of images, text, and more in scholarly work and beyond is essential, from student dissertations to faculty scholarship, MOOCs, and more. Fair Use Week launched in 2014 when Kyle K. Courtney, the Office for Scholarly Communication’s Program Manager and Copyright Advisor, turned the idea that was tossed out as a lark at a conference into a noteworthy event. It now enjoys the sponsorship of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and is being celebrated internationally.

We invite you to revisit Harvard-based Fair Use Week festivities and read guest posts on the OSC’s copyright blog, all of which can be accessed via the OSC’s Fair Use Week webpage: bit.ly/fairuseweek16.

DASH SEES 2.2 MILLION DOWNLOADS IN 2015

Users from every country on earth combined to download over 2 million works of Harvard scholarship from DASH, Harvard’s open-access repository, in 2015. This is the greatest number of downloads in a single year since the launch of DASH in 2009.

YOUR STORIES MATTER

osc.hul.harvard.edu/dash/stories

“Thank you. Access to credible research sources greatly improves the quality of my work. Being in a remote, small community, we do not have access to journals and publications on this topic. Keeping up with new ideas and research can be expensive [and] invaluable [when] preparing a case.”

Feedback related to “Simple, Inexpensive Approach to Sampling for Pedestrian and Bicycle Surveys,” downloaded from DASH by a municipal worker in Canada.