Dispatch - Fall 2016

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THE OSC LAUNCHES OFFICE HOURS PROGRAM

Earlier this month the Harvard Library Office for Scholarly Communication started holding informal Office Hours at different locations around the university. Two or more of our staffers will be available on each occasion to answer questions about open access, Harvard’s OA policies, DASH (Harvard’s open-access repository), HOPE (Harvard’s OA journal fund), academic publishing, copyright, and related issues. If you’d like us to visit your department, your library, your center, or your school, just let us know.

USER FEEDBACK CONTINUES TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF OPEN ACCESS AT HARVARD

Every year, hundreds of users send the Office for Scholarly Communication (OSC) notes of appreciation. Scholars in every country and discipline take a moment to react to or comment on work they have downloaded from DASH, Harvard’s open-access repository. Most of these user stories thank the OSC, Harvard Library, and Harvard University faculty, students, and academics for making vital research and scholarship freely available to them and their peers. Many are moving stories of personal enrichment, community engagement, and struggles with censorship or access restrictions. These stories not only show the reach of Harvard’s open-access research, but its impact in helping democratize scholarship on campus and across the world. Visit Your Stories Matter: https://osc.hul.harvard.edu/dash/stories

“Open Access increases the visibility, retrievability, audience, impact, and usefulness of research.”
— Peter Suber, Director of the Harvard Library Office for Scholarly Communication

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My university’s library cannot afford extensive (and expensive) access to many journals now archived online, and since I really needed to look over this article again pronto, finding it available gratis courtesy of Harvard was a very pleasant, welcome surprise. Thanks!


OSC TO CELEBRATE OPEN ACCESS WEEK IN OCTOBER

Open Access Week 2016 is October 24-28, 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, showcasing our efforts around open access. Follow us on Twitter and Google+ for OA Week announcements.

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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 at Harvard, and the HOPE Fund.

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