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Scholars Portal: The Canadian Experience

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Scholars Portal

The Canadian Experience

Karen Marshall
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University of Western Ontario
Charleston Conference
Nov 7-10, 2007



Agenda

- What is Ontario Scholars Portal?

Ontario Scholars Portal

What is it?

- A suite of shared information resources and services
- Acquired and managed centrally by a consortium of 20 University libraries (OCUL)

Goals

- Centrally mount and deliver information resources acquired through OCUL consortia purchases to ensure rapid and reliable access.
- Provide for the long term, secure archiving of resources to ensure continued availability.
- Ensure that resources and services address the needs of faculty, students and staff.
- Ensure that resources and services can be seamlessly integrated with the local library and campus information system.

Content

- Initiated in 2001, with \$7.6 million in funding from the Ontario Innovation Trust (provincial funding in support of research matching CFI funding to CNSLP/CRKN), Scholars Portal offers a unique set of shared information resources and services.
- From 2006 forward, sustainability of technological infrastructure funded by OCUL members.
- Coverage of most disciplines, with a concentration in the basic and health sciences, but growing social sciences and humanities offerings.

- Began 2002 with government grants for research infrastructure
- Participation in this cooperative initiative enables the Library to do more than would have been possible independently

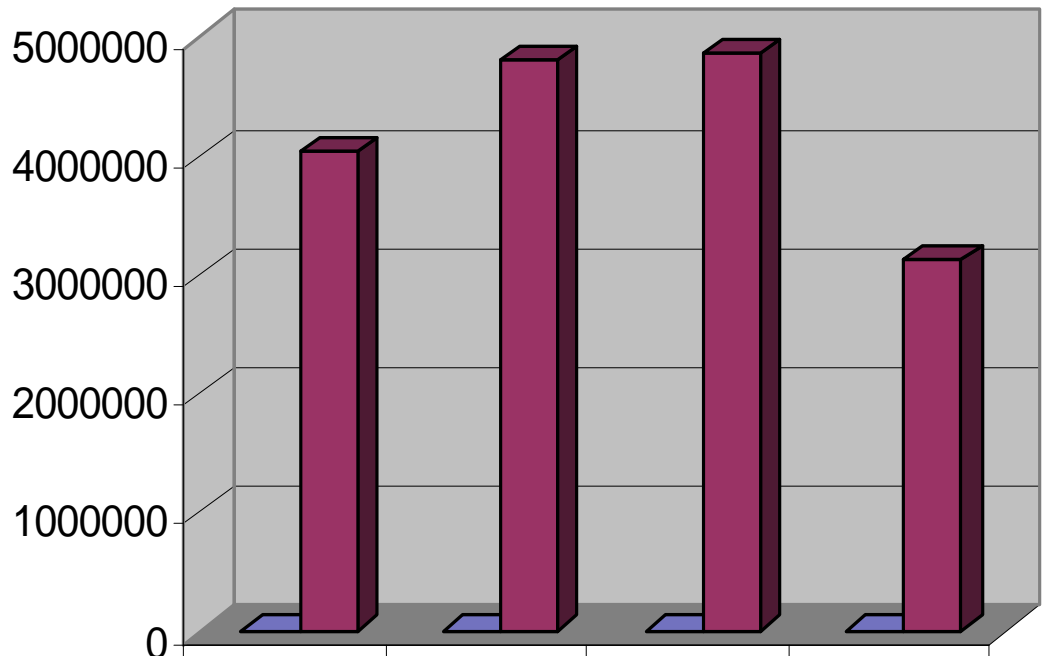
Scholars Portal

Goals

- To provide access to scholarly electronic resources through a set of tools which allows the networked scholar to search, save and integrate these resources with their teaching and research to foster greater learning opportunities.

Success?

- 12,568,686 articles from 8,135 journals archived journals representing (4M more than Science Direct) and larger than any other aggregation that we are aware of



	1	2	3	4
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007
Downloads	4,043,767	4,812,337	4,871,657	3,129,903

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Welcome to Scholars Portal

transforming research, teaching and learning [Text Only](#) | [Francais](#)



SERVICES
[Search \(Illumina\)](#) | [Electronic Journals](#) | [RefWorks](#) | [RACER \(InterLibraryLoan\)](#)

INFORMATION
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Change Subject Area: — All Subject Areas — Go

Select the Database(s) you would like to search.

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- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? ABI/INFORM Global @ Scholars Portal 1923-Current
Business conditions, trends, management techniques, corporate strategies, and industry-specific topics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Abstracts in Social Gerontology 2003-Current
Demography, family relations, government policy, health, psychology, social attitudes, retirement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Aerospace & High Technology Database 1962-Current
Aeronautics, astronautics, and space sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Applied Science & Technology @ Scholars Portal 1983-Current
Coverage of scholarly and trade literature related to the applied sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? ARTbibliographies Modern 1974-Current
Modern and contemporary art, photography and design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Arts & Humanities Citation Index @ (1981 to present) 1981-Current
Research articles in the arts and humanities from over 1,000 journals. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? + ASFA: Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts 1971-Current
Aquatic science, aquatic organisms, fisheries, oceanography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Bibliography of Native North Americans @ Scholars Portal 1950-Current
Bibliographic database on the history, life and culture of native North Americans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ? Bibliography of the History of Art 1973-Current
Artistic forms of expression from late Antiquity to present |

RACER

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funded & supported by
OCUL
 Ontario Council
 of University Libraries

New collections: Acadia University, Brandon University, University of PEI, University of Regina, and University of Victoria are now available to be searched in RACER.

RACER

rapid access to collections by
 electronic requesting

- ◆ Search Ontario University Library Catalogues and more.
- ◆ Request copies of articles or loans of books and other materials.

To ensure full functionality of the RACER site, use Internet Explorer 5.5. or 6.0.
 Mac users should access the site via Netscape 6.2.2 or Firefox 1.5.0.5.
 PC users should not use RACER in Netscape.

- [first time users](#)
- [guest access](#)

Sign-in

Login:
 Password:
 Your Library: ▼

[SUBMIT](#)

Products

- Segments
- Illumina
- RACER
- SFX

Scholars Portal E-Journals

- Statistics
 - over 150 million A&I records in SP Illumina -- bigger than OCLC and Scopus (not sure about Google Scholar)
- 57 Canadian schools using Refworks representing over 700,000 FTE students and faculty
- Canadian problems – Patriot Act

- 410 days between reboots of the SFX OpenURL server (i.e. the highest quality of IT management available, equally available to all OCUL schools regardless of size and local staffing)

a serious commitment to archiving of e-journals
that no jurisdiction
anywhere in the world can match

Scholars Portal Search

- Uses Illumina
- Introduced January 2005 (March 1st on local server)
- •Single place to find scholarly resources from many sources
- •Citations to scholarly articles
- ContentCitations
- Now 53 databases 23 million
- April+ Publishers' data 7 million
- May+ ISI (Web of Science) 35 million
- September+ More databases 35 million
- 100 million

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- allows users to search 41 catalogues from institutions in Ontario, Canada, U.S. & the U.K.
- 62 libraries at 16 institutions are currently using RACER
- as of August 31, 2005 there are over 1 million requests in the system
- number of active user accounts registered to use RACER, 299,696

- over 2,670,000 articles downloaded from Scholars Portal from January - June 2005.
- the month with the most downloads was March 2005 with 673,000 downloads.
- top downloaded title is The Lancet with over 87,000 articles downloaded from July 2002-July 2005

- 2006 – ScienceServer downloads 4,834,349
- 2006 - Refworks sessions 502,457
- 2006 – Illumina searches 1, 495,000

Future

- E-book service – archiving

- Databases

- * (Sage Full-Text Journals)**Arts & Humanities**•ARTbibliographiesModern •Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals •British Humanities Index •Design and Applied Arts Index •Index Islamicus•Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts •MLA Directory of Periodicals •MLA International Bibliography •Philosopher`sIndex **Natural Sciences**•AGRICOLA •Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts •Biological Sciences •Biology Digest •Biotechnology and Bioengineering Abstracts •Conference Papers Index •Environmental Sciences and Pollution Management •GeoRef•GeoRefIn Process •MEDLINE •Meteorological & GeostrophysicalAbstracts •NTIS •Nursing & Health Sciences* •Oceanic Abstracts •Plant Science •TOXLINE •Zoological Record **Social Sciences**•AgeLine•Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts •Communication Abstracts •Communication Studies* •Criminal Justice Abstracts •Criminology * •EconLit•Education* •ERIC•International Bibliography of the Social Sciences •Library and Information Science Abstracts •Management & Organization Studies* •PAIS International •Physical Education Index •Political Science* •Psychology* •PsycINFO•Social Services Abstracts •Sociological Abstracts •Sociology* •Urban Studies & Planning* •Worldwide Political Science Abstracts **Technology**•Computer Abstracts International Database •CSA Technology Research Database •Information Research Watch International •Materials Science* •MicroPatentMaterials Patents

- A consortium of the 20 university libraries in Ontario
- Over 400,000 users (faculty, students, staff)
- Over \$250M/year in total expenditures
- Over \$100M/year for collections
- \$40M/year for digital resources
- \$2.5M/year to sustain technological infrastructure
- Accountability to funders – institutional and provincial

- Centrally mount and deliver information resources acquired through OCUL consortia purchases to ensure rapid and reliable access.
- Provide for the long term, secure archiving of resources to ensure continued availability.
- Ensure that resources and services address the needs of faculty, students and staff.
- Ensure that resources and services can be seamlessly integrated with the local library and campus information system.

