The 7.11 release of bepress Digital Commons includes a badge to highlight collections in the Undergraduate Research Commons, the addition of authors’ names to the Readership Activity Map, new usage reports for departments (i.e., communities), major enhancements to batch upload/batch revision functionality, and more outlined below.

New features will be automatically available to subscribers after April 11, 2015.

Undergraduate Research Commons Badge

The Undergraduate Research Commons (http://undergraduatecommons.com/) is a portal showcasing outstanding published works authored by thousands of undergraduate students. The portal was built to provide greater visibility to the exemplary student works that universities and colleges are publishing. When you create a publication (journal, conference, capstone series, etc.) devoted to undergraduate work, it will be eligible for the list of featured publications in the Undergraduate Research Commons.

To help students and heads of administration recognize the value of publishing student works to the repository, we are adding a special badge that reads “Featured in Undergraduate Research Commons.”
Author Names on Readership Activity Maps

Over the last few weeks, the readership activity map has been added to nearly all publications and communities in participating repositories. Please keep sharing your wonderful stories about the map with us! Based on your feedback, we are making it possible for visitors to see on maps the names of the authors, not just the titles of their works, when they are downloaded from your repository.

Usage Reports for Departments, Centers, Any Communities at Your Institution

Usage reports per publication have been vital to the journal editors and conference organizers who want to see and measure the impact of publishing works to your repository. Department deans, center directors, and others on campus have asked to see how all of their affiliated publications are accessed, via a report that sums activity across multiple publications at once. Archivists with collections that span multiple publications, too, have asked for similar reports. With this release we are introducing “community reports,” which enable administrators to gather in a single report all of the activity in the community’s affiliated publications. To access the new reports, see the new Usage Reports tab of any community in your Digital Commons.

Major Enhancements to Batch Uploads and Revisions

We are releasing several major enhancements to help improve the batch upload and revision processes in Digital Commons.

Faster processing of small jobs, even when big jobs are in progress – Think of it as an Express Lane for small uploads and revisions so you can complete them more quickly!

New Pending state when generating large batch export/revise spreadsheets – If an administrator requests a large spreadsheet via Batch Revise/Export, a new Pending status will appear. Administrators may return to download the completed spreadsheet once the spreadsheet has finished generating.

Better duplicate prevention – If an administrator attempts to upload a batch revision spreadsheet to the batch upload queue, the administrator will see a warning, helping to avoid duplicates in a collection.

Automatic removal of extra spaces – If a spreadsheet for batch upload or batch revision contains trailing spaces, they will be automatically removed to improve the content’s display. XML batch uploads will also have trailing spaces automatically removed.

PDF Cover Page Stamping Improvements

We continue our work to improve the stamping and cover pages that are automatically generated for PDFs. In this release we include two new enhancements that authors, editors, presses, and readers will be pleased to see. In addition to stamping and generating cover pages, authors who submit PDFs with clickable hyperlinks will see those links preserved and available for readers to use. Further, readers will be able to take advantage of internal bookmarks, if authors have created them in their PDFs.
New Editor Configuration: Formatting Guidelines

Via the journal Configuration tab editors have the ability to modify on their own several of their journals’ webpages. We are adding the ability to modify an additional page: the page of formatting guidelines, automatically sent to authors after the journal has accepted an author’s work. Making it easy for authors to be their own typesetters can help reduce both a journal’s costs and the demands on the editor’s valuable time.

Accessibility Improvements

Did you know that all Digital Commons repositories are built with web accessibility in mind? You can read more via the Accessibility Statement link, provided in the footer of Digital Commons repositories. As standards evolve, it’s important to keep up to date on accessibility guidelines, and we are pleased with this release to make additional improvements to further standardize access key information. These improvements help visitors who rely on screen readers and other assistive technologies to access your content.

Digital Commons Network Updates

Promoting the visibility and relevance of your content is one of many ways to engage your institution with your repository. With this release we are making two significant updates.

More OA content from Digital Commons – Some collections are a mixture of open access and restricted material, especially ETD collections. With this release, all open access content, even in otherwise restricted collections, will be automatically discoverable in the Digital Commons Network (http://network.bepress.com/). We expect this change to be a big boost to the number of discoverable OA works, currently at over 1.2 million!

New rollover links to the Digital Commons Network – We heard requests to show homepage visitors that your repository is part of the Digital Commons Network, connecting your institution’s works to a larger body of scholarship across disciplines. Near the footer, we are adding the succinct reminder: “This collection is part of the Digital Commons Network.” Upon rollover, visitors can see the wide range of scholarly destinations and the value of publishing to the repository.

Discipline Taxonomy Updates

New entries in the Digital Commons three-tiered taxonomy of academic disciplines include:

Business: Business Intelligence
Education: Health and Physical Education
Education: Higher Education: Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
Engineering: Civil and Environmental Engineering: Transportation Engineering
Law: International Humanitarian Law
Medicine and Health Sciences: Medical Specialties: Sports Medicine
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Agricultural and Resource Economics: Food Security
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Environmental Studies
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Geography: Spatial Science
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Sociology: Human Ecology
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Modified:
Medicine and Health Sciences: Medical Specialties: Preventive Medicine (changed from "Preventative")
Any submissions with a modified discipline are migrated to the closest match.

To browse the full taxonomy see http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/9/.

For more information about the 7.11 release, please contact Consulting Services at 510-665-1200, opt. 2 or support@dc.bepress.com.