The 7.5 release of bepress Digital Commons brings Digital Commons repositories, journals, conferences, and Selected Works profiles into the world of mobile by streamlining and optimizing designs for mobile devices. Along with mobile optimization, improvements to the Monthly Author Readership Report, streaming media, and ETD-MS support will be available to subscribers after May 10, 2013.

Digital Commons Goes Mobile

Bepress has long recognized the need to expand access to Digital Commons as technology continues to change at a rapid pace. The new mobile-optimized designs come from our continuing research on how readers access content hosted on Digital Commons as well as feedback from the Digital Commons community. Two years ago, researchers accessing content hosted by Digital Commons on a mobile device accounted for 2% of total traffic. Over the past two years, the number has more than doubled each year and is rising to 10% of all traffic to Digital Commons. As the number of mobile users continues to rise, bepress is excited about the opportunity to further expand Digital Commons to researchers who use smart phones and tablets to access scholarship.

Streamlined Designs for Mobile Devices

Bepress focused on two key points while developing the new adaptive designs for mobile devices: allow researchers to easily browse and access scholarship on mobile devices and retain institutional branding so that the institution and author receive credit for the work. Digital Commons repositories will now automatically adapt to the reader’s device - resizing to fit the screen, ensuring browse-ability from the front page of the repository all the way down to the article.
Mobile-optimized design for Pacific University CommonKnowledge

**Benefits of Mobile Design**

- Adaptive, device-dependent designs that retain institutional branding
- Optimized text and navigational elements for touch browsing
- Reduced page load times
- Support for switching between desktop and mobile views on Tablet devices

**Mobile Design for Conferences and Journals**

Journals and Conferences hosted on Digital Commons have the option of custom branding that is independent from the repository. The custom branding allows the journals and conferences to have a unique look and feel that distinguishes the content from the rest of repository. With the journal and conference mobile design, bepress Digital Commons retains the custom branding for conferences and journals while offering all the benefits of the new adaptive, mobile design.
Mobile Design for SelectedWorks

Mirroring the mobile traffic increase of Digital Commons, SelectedWorks has also experienced a significant increase in mobile users over the past two years. The SelectedWorks profiles benefit from a new adaptive, mobile design. The SelectedWorks mobile design retains institutional branding for subscribing authors and prominently features the author and their works.

Monthly Author Readership Reports
Author Readership in HTML
Author Readership Reports provide key feedback to authors about the success of their scholarship hosted in Digital Commons. Until 7.5, the readership reports were text-based, monthly emails with basic information and a link to expanded readership information in the Author Dashboard. The Readership Reports have been updated to HTML for a modern look and feel. The Readership Reports offer a responsive design that will adapt to the reader’s mobile device for easy viewing on the go. For devices that do not support HTML emails, the report will automatically be delivered as a text-based email.

Monthly Author Readership Report optimized for mobile devices

**Custom Message to Authors**

Administrators can now include a custom, monthly message in the Monthly Author Readership Report. For the first time, administrators can contact authors of the repository with recent announcements about new publications in the repository, calls for papers, and repository milestones. The monthly message is an excellent way to further engage authors while providing their monthly download statistics.

Authors receive their reports at the start of every month. To include an announcement in the next report, type it, text format only, into the Configuration fields of your repository, and press Save. Make sure to modify your announcement within one month of the next report. Announcements over one month old will be considered stale and suppressed.
Streaming Media Improvements
Tailored Play-back and Responsive Design

The streaming media player has been updated to load multimedia faster than ever before. The upgraded media player adapts to various multimedia types (e.g., MP4, FLV, MP3, Youtube, Vimeo, etc.) and reduces media load time by tailoring the play-back to the specific media type. These improvements are especially beneficial for viewing media on mobile devices. The streaming media player’s responsive design, which automatically optimizes media to fit the viewer’s device, HTML5 play-back, and fast load time allows users to quickly load and stream multimedia on their mobile device.

Additional Media Player Improvements

RTMP Support - Real Time Messaging Protocol streaming media is now supported in Digital Commons. Benefits of the RTMP streaming service include fast load times for videos that are over 10 minutes in length and streaming quality that adjusts to the viewer’s bandwidth. Institutions with an RTMP streaming server can now easily input streaming multimedia with a single URL.

Custom Logo - Streaming video files in the MP4, FLV, and RTMP format can now display a custom logo in the top, right-hand corner of the video. The logo will display as the video streams, making the logo a great way to brand streaming media for libraries, journals, and conferences.

Preview Image - Streaming video files in the MP4, FLV, and RTMP format can now display a preview image before the video is played. The image can be an introductory slide or a library logo that brands the video.

Custom Title - Streaming video files in the MP4, FLV, and RTMP format can now display a custom title before the video is played. The title will be displayed next to the play button that overlays the video.
Custom Video Height - Streaming video files in the MP4, FLV, and RTMP format have a new, configurable custom height that allows videos to be resized and played back in the correct, proportional size.

ETD-MS for Theses and Dissertations

Digital Commons offers excellent exposure for theses and dissertations. ETDs hosted in Digital Commons often rank in the top downloaded articles each month for a repository. To help further expand exposure of ETDs, Digital Commons now includes Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Metadata Standard (ETD-MS) as an OAI output option. ETD-MS joins the Simple and Qualified Dublin Core OAI outputs that are used for harvesting metadata around the world. ETD-MS allows institutions to further expand their reach by harvesting ETDs into sites such as Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) and Library and Archives Canada (LAC). After the 7.5 release, Digital Commons Consulting Services will begin working with individual institutions to harvest their content using ETD-MS.

Discipline Taxonomy Updates

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

Business: Nonprofit Administration and Management
Business: Operations and Supply Chain Management
Education: Educational Leadership
Law: Companies law
Law: Privacy Law
Law: Internet Law
Law: Torts
Life Sciences: Agriculture: Agricultural Education

Confidential. Not for use outside your institution.
Life Sciences: Kinesiology: Expeditionary Education
Medicine and Health Sciences: Health Information Technology
Medicine and Health Sciences: Medical Specialties: Trauma
Medicine and Health Sciences: Public Health: Women's Health
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Library and Information Science: Information Literacy
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Organization Development
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Psychology: Applied Behavior Analysis
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Psychology: Experimental Analysis of Behavior
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Psychology: Multicultural Psychology
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Psychology: Theory and Philosophy

The full taxonomy is available at http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/9/

For more information about the 7.5 release, please contact Consulting Services at 510-665-1200, ext. 2 or support@dc.bepress.com.