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Marshall University Libraries Enhance Scholarly Publication

Jingping Zhang Marshall University, zhangj@marshall.edu

Larry Sheret Marshall University, sheret@marshall.edu

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Recommended Citation

Zhang, Jingping, and Larry Sheret. "Marshall University Libraries Enhance Scholarly Publication." Western Pennsylvania West Virginia ACRL Chapter Newsletter 8 (Spring 2017): 4.

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Marshall University Libraries Enhance Scholarly Publication

Jingping Zhang, University Librarian/Director of Libraries Operations Larry Sheret, Instruction & Emerging Technologies Librarian

The Marshall University library has been experiencing a fruitful collaboration with various departments and programs on campus involving the publication of peer-reviewed journals. The journals are hosted on Marshall's open access institutional repository (OAIR), Marshall Digital Scholar (MDS). Euscorpius, the Marshall Journal of Medicine and Sermon Studies are currently publishing peer-reviewed research articles. Two other peerreviewed journals are in the planning stage to begin publication this year. One of these, the Journal of Applied Digital Evidence (JADE) is a collaboration with the forensics sciences programs at Marshall U., Eastern Kentucky U., and Purdue.

Marshall Digital Scholar became operational in January, 2012, and hit the 1,000,000th download mark in February of this year. The three journals that are currently in operation account for over 21,700 downloads.

As the library identifies programs that might be good candidates to publish a journal, the program chairs are contacted and a short presentation



Marshall Digital Scholar

Scholarship, Publishing, and Preservation

is given to market the publishing capacity of the IR. *Euscorpius* had already established itself as the principal journal for the study of scorpions. Publication of the journal was transferred to Marshall Digital Scholar, which has allowed the journal to have access to a rich set of download data.

After *Euscorpius* migrated to MDS, the library had a tangible product to demo. The School of Medicine embraced the idea of publishing its own journal in the spring of 2015 and rolled out its first issue of Marshall Journal of Medicine (MJM) less than six months later. We created DOI's for each article and citation. The journal has been indexed by BrowZine, a journal browsing app used by over 450 leading institutions including the top 10 medical schools in the United States. We are currently working to have MJM indexed by the major indexing services.

The editorial board of *Sermon Studies* includes faculty from the U.S., Canada, Spain, Ireland and the U.K. This journal uses a rolling publication model where articles become visible to the public immediately upon the completion of peerreview. It published its first

article in January of this year.

A second article has almost completed the peer-review process. Volume 1, Issue 1 remains open until June 30th at which time the issue will be closed and Issue 2 will be opened. Marshall's Center for Sermon Studies is hosting the Conference on Sermon Studies: Sermon: Text and Performance this fall using the same Digital Commons platform that the journal is published on.

In the traditional subscriptionbased business model, university academic faculty are both the producers and consumers of their scholarly work. The open access publication model changes this paradigm as the library provides the platform and technical support that puts journal publication on the radar of our programs at Marshall. This puts Marshall University on the global map in terms of scholarly research and brings enormous value to the university on many levels. Faculty learn how scholarly publication works through direct involvement with it, the university has another venue for scholarly communication, and the library becomes the nexus for this to happen.