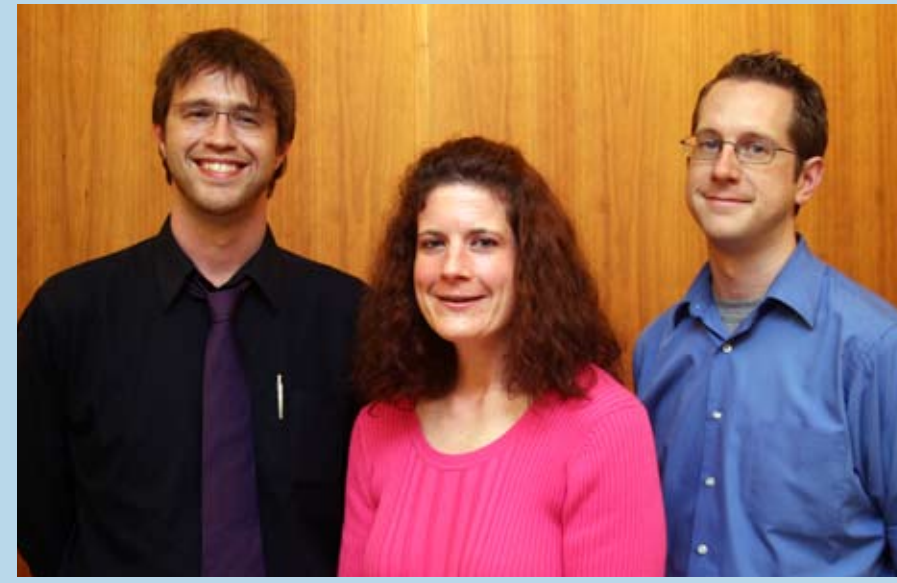


Faculty Showcase '07



Jason Wood,
Megan Fox,
Nathan Mealey,
Simmons Library

Goals

- Use a web-based tool to preserve and share our institution's intellectual and scholarly output.
- Provide a means to capture, store, index, preserve, and redistribute research material in digital formats.

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Digital Institutional Repository

Project Overview

Faculty and staff are developing research material and scholarly publications in increasingly complex digital formats. Preserving and distributing this content is a time-consuming chore for individual faculty and their departments to manage themselves. A Digital Institutional Repository (DIR) manages research material and publications in a single institutional archive that is professionally maintained and gives scholarly output greater visibility and accessibility over time.

A DIR manages, organizes, and disseminates digital materials created by the institution and its community members. It also ensures long-term preservation. Content can include publications, datasets, images, video, animations, and more.

The Simmons DIR, named SCHOLAR and spearheaded by the Library, benefits the entire community by providing:

- a uniform presence for Simmons scholarship;
- organized, consistent access to the body of a researcher's work for students and other;
- an internal and external showcase for the full range of research conducted at Simmons;
- a highly visible platform (indexed by in OAIster, ROAR, and OpenDOAR, leading to inclusion in Google, Yahoo and elsewhere);
- fast distribution of research results;
- a single, easily navigable source for users;
- remote access to Simmons research and scholarly materials from one web-based location; and
- persistent identifiers for content (a long-term stable URL that can be used in a vita or in a citation that links to items).

SCHOLAR is in its pilot phase, content is being added and the look and feel of the user interface is being fine-tuned. In its earliest stages, this digital archives currently includes:

- student theses and dissertations;
- faculty research; and
- materials by and/or about Simmons College.

Applications Beyond

Given the wealth of information on the free and fee web, it is increasingly important to make Simmons produced content visible and easily accessible. This is essential to our building our reputation as important contributors to the bodies of scholarship in our fields, and an essential way to encourage collaboration and further research.

SCHOLAR provides a means for any faculty member in any field to collect and share their content. SCHOLAR can be used to make a working paper easily available to students, assemble a portfolio for tenure and review, and share materials with professional colleagues around the world.

