

Promoting Open Access at Mississippi State University Libraries

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LIS 640: Academic Libraries

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March 20, 2022

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Mississippi State supports excellence in research by promoting scholarly communication and open access. This paper will focus on the plan for implementing a project promoting open-access publishing at Mississippi State University Libraries. The plan will involve creating awareness and supporting faculty and students who wish to publish their research works in open-access publications.

The Library:

Mississippi State University Libraries is a system of seven libraries and nine museums and galleries serving the students and faculty of Mississippi State University, a large public land-grant research university in Starkville, Mississippi. The Mitchell Memorial Library acts as the main library. The Mississippi State University Libraries have a collection of over 2.3 million print books and 211,000 electronic resources, and it serves a student population of approximately 22,000 students and over 1,400 faculty members.

Mission:

The mission of Mississippi State University Libraries, a comprehensive research library, supports the University's mission and the land-grant research tradition by providing essential services and collections for its user communities: collecting, managing, curating, ensuring access to, and facilitating analysis and use of scholarly information and technology necessary for excellent teaching, research, and service. In addition, MSU Libraries are committed to instilling the

principles of adequate and appropriate information literacy among its user communities and the ideals of diversity, citizenship, leadership, and service.

Vision:

Mississippi State University Libraries will continue to be the premier research library for an information-rich academic and research environment by providing its communities of users an ongoing, creative, technologically advanced library program that provides new and emerging technologies; enhances and inspires teaching, research, and service of the highest caliber in an environment of free and open inquiry and with a commitment to excellence.

Needs assessment:

The library will conduct a needs assessment to identify the current awareness and understanding of open-access publishing among the faculty and students. This assessment will involve surveys, focus group discussions, and interviews with faculty and students.

Goals and objectives:

Based on the needs assessment, the library will develop goals and objectives. The goals may include:

- Increasing awareness and understanding of open-access publishing among faculty and students.
- Providing training and support to faculty and students wishing to access or publish in open-access publications.
- Promoting the visibility of works published in open-access publications.

Activities/Action Plan:

To achieve the goals and objectives of the project, the library will undertake the following activities:

- The Mississippi State University Libraries has already created a LibGuide on open-access publishing that provides information on open-access and the benefits of publishing in open-access publications. This project will seek to create awareness of the available open-access resources to students and faculty. This Libguide can be found here: <https://guides.library.msstate.edu/openaccess>.
- We will develop and deliver training sessions and workshops for faculty and students concerning open-access publishing and related topics such as copyright, licensing, and author rights.
- We will continue to establish partnerships with open-access publishers and scholarly communication organizations.
- We will develop and implement a marketing and outreach plan to promote open-access and its benefits to faculty and students.
- We will continue to develop and maintain a repository of research works published in open-access publications by faculty and students at Mississippi State University.

Sources of funding:

The library will seek funding for the project from various sources, including grants, donations, and university funding.

Program budget:

The program budget for the project will include costs associated with delivering training sessions and workshops, establishing partnerships with open-access publishers, marketing and outreach, and maintaining the repository.

It is estimated that most funds will be allocated toward staffing and training for personnel such as repository managers, journal editors, and policy implementers. Funds may also go toward advocacy and outreach activities such as conferences, workshops, and promotional materials.

Staffing:

Library staff members who will lead this project include a project manager, a subject librarian, and a digital repository manager.

Staffing needs:

Three full-time staff members of the library

Five student staff, 10-15 hours a week to maintain the repository

Budget for Staffing

Staff: \$120,000

Student: \$20,000

Budget for outreach:

Workshops: \$9000

Promotional material: \$8,000

Total Budget needed: \$157,000

Relevant policies and documents:

The project will adhere to relevant policies and documents, including the university's copyright, open access, and scholarly communication policies. These policies include but are not limited to the following:

OP 01.20: USE OF COPYRIGHTED WORKS FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

AOP 13.11: ACADEMIC FREEDOM

OP 30.03 MANAGEMENT OF COPYRIGHTED SITE LICENSED COMPUTER SOFTWARE

OP 70.01: SPONSORED PROJECTS

OP 70.02: UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY SPONSORED PROJECTS

OP 76.01 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

OP 91.304: FREE SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY

The layout of the service:

The open-access publishing service will be available through LibGuide and Scholarly Communication Services website. The service will include information resources, training materials, and a repository of research works published in open-access publications.

Public relations:

The library will promote the open-access publishing project through various channels, including the library's website, social media, email newsletters, and campus events. We will create an

inbound marketing campaign for students and faculty as our target audiences. All social media and email newsletters will include a call to action inviting them to check out the open-access resources MSU has already offered. This call to action will direct them to the LibGuide or Scholarly Communication Services website.

Measurement:

The success, effectiveness, and sustainability of the open-access publishing project will be measured through various indicators, including the number of faculty and students trained, the number of research works published in open-access publications, the number of partnerships established, and the impact of research works published in open-access publications. The library will collect and analyze data on these indicators and use the results to make informed decisions on the project's future.

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