

California Digital Library Opens Online Repository for Working Papers

The California Digital Library (CDL) has announced the launch of a Web site and associated digital services to store and distribute academic research results and working papers. The eScholarship Repository (<http://repositories.cdlib.org>) includes a set of author and reader services for the rapid dissemination of scholarship that's authored or sponsored by faculty from the University of California (UC). Its initial focus will be on working papers from the humanities and social sciences.

Built through a partnership with the Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress), the tools behind the eScholarship Repository improve the speed and efficiency of sharing the results of scholarly efforts, according to the announcement. The publishing of working papers is greatly streamlined for participating scholars, departments, and research institutes. The submission, processing, and dissemination of papers is managed through the bepress EdiKit Web interface.

At no charge, readers can discover and view relevant research by topic, author, or sponsoring research department with the site's straightforward organization and search tools. The system also allows users to sign up for a service that can alert them to new content in their specific areas of interest.

Associated with an author's concern for the permanence of the digital versions of his or her papers is a reader's need for reliable tracking of the work's evolution, according to the announcement. The eScholarship Repository accommodates that need by maintaining links and citations for previous or later versions of any posted material.

The repository will first offer early-adopter social science research units at UC Berkeley and UCLA. The Berkeley Olin Program in Law and Economics, the Institute of Industrial Relations, the Institute of Business and Economic Research, the Institute of Transportation Studies, and others are moving existing working paper series to the repository and are using it to publish new scholarship. The eScholarship Repository will also offer papers in the University of California International and Area Studies (UCIAS) peer-reviewed ePublications Program, an eScholarship initiative launched last year (<http://escholarship.cdlib.org/ias.html>).

The repository is an important component of CDL's eScholarship program, which facilitates and supports scholar-led innovations in scholarly communication. CDL plans to make the repository's working papers available over time. It expects the collection to grow quickly with the addition of content from other social science and humanities institutes and scholars. The eScholarship program is working with UC libraries and a 10-campus scholarly communication advisory body to schedule this phased expansion.

Additional information about the eScholarship program can be found at <http://www.escholarship.cdlib.org>.

Source: California Digital Library, Berkeley, CA, 510/987-0425; <http://www.cdlib.org>.