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# What's In It For Me? The advantages of using Digital Repository @ Iowa State University

Harrison W. Inefuku

Iowa State University, hinefuku@iastate.edu

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# What's In It For Me?

The advantages of using  
Digital Repository @  
Iowa State University

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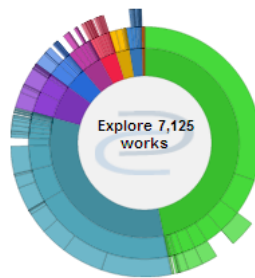
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As a **full-text** repository, Digital Repository @ Iowa State University provides access to the complete scholarly work. As an **open access** repository, work found in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is freely available over the Internet, worldwide. As an **institutional** repository, we collect and showcase the work being done by Iowa State faculty, students and staff. We'll work closely with you to showcase your scholarship in the repository.

## Who can participate?

Digital Repository @ Iowa State University collects the scholarship of faculty, students and staff of the university. This means current Iowa State University faculty (including emeriti faculty), students and staff are allowed to contribute their works. We also collect publications issued by the university and its constituent units, including academic departments and programs, administrative offices, extension programs, research centers and institutes and student organizations.

## The Benefits of Digital Repository @ Iowa State University

### *Increasing Impact*

The repository is regularly crawled and indexed by Google, Google Scholar, Bing and other popular search engines, which makes our scholarship easy to find. As an open access repository, the work deposited in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is accessible by readers worldwide. In 2012, we received visitors from 260 countries and territories.

In many journals, your articles are hidden behind a subscription paywall—potentially making your work inaccessible to faculty at smaller universities, corporate and independent scholars, international researchers, students and the general public. Digital Repository @ Iowa State University can free your work from this paywall. For all previously published work, we provide complete bibliographic information for the original publication, so readers will always be able to cite the version of record, helping your citation rates.

Many journals and databases are discipline-specific, which can be a barrier for scholars engaging in interdisciplinary research. If your methodological or theoretical approach is useful for researchers unfamiliar with the journals and databases in your field, your work will be easier to find in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University.

### *Share Hard-to-access Scholarship*

There are forms of scholarship that are ephemeral, such as conference presentations, exhibits and performances, or have not traditionally enjoyed wide dissemination, such

as technical reports, white papers and student research. These works contain valuable information and complement peer-reviewed publications. Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is an opportunity to share these works with the world.



Readership statistics in the Author Dashboard

### *Measure Readership*

Our authors receive monthly e-mail reports that indicate how many works they have in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University and how many times their works have been downloaded in the preceding month.

Authors who sign up for an account with the repository are given access to an Author Dashboard, which presents readership statistics graphically and in greater detail.

### *Open Access Mandates*

A growing number of granting agencies are requiring grant recipients to deposit peer-reviewed scholarship from their projects in open access databases. Using the resources available at the Iowa State University Library, including Digital Repository @ Iowa State University, is a great and easy way to ensure that you're compliant with your granting agency's requirements.

### *Creating an Online Presence*

Digital Repository @ Iowa State University offers Iowa State scholars SelectedWorks author profiles. These profiles are a great opportunity to build or enhance your branding and online presence. By making your work available online, others can see the scope and quality of your work. Because we work to enhance the metadata that describes your work, your scholarship can rise to the top of search engine results. For our faculty, this is a great way to attract collaborators, future colleagues and graduate students.

We make it easy for your colleagues to follow and share your work. Through your SelectedWorks profile, your readers can subscribe to RSS feeds and mailing lists that announce newly added work and they can share your articles through Facebook, twitter and other social media platforms.

Your profiles are also portable—you can take them with you and continue to update them if you leave Iowa State University. For our students and post-docs, this is a great way to build a scholarly reputation, while compiling an online portfolio they can use on the job market.

### Manage and Preserve Your Work

Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is a place where you can aggregate your scholarly output in a single location, and the output of your grant-funded projects and programs, instead of having your works spread out across different journals. Repository staff are on hand to help you through the permission checking process, ensuring that works are deposited in accordance to copyright law and publisher policy, and to aid in the creation of descriptive metadata that will allow potential readers to search for, find and use your work.

Every item deposited in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is given a stable URL. This means that no matter who cites your work, or how many times you redesign your Web site, readers will always be able to find it. It can also be a lifesaver for you—if your flash drive breaks or your laptop dies, you can download copies of your work from the repository.

The work deposited in Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is backed up multiple times, so you don't have to worry about losing your work because of a server glitch or hardware failure. Iowa State University Library is also investigating digital preservation solutions, so your work will continue to be readable through changes in technology.

### It's Easy

To get started, all you need to do is send your vita or publications list to the Digital Repository Coordinator. Repository staff will then work with you to get as much of your work available in the repository as possible. We do the heavy lifting—we'll describe your work, assist you in clearing permissions and copyright with your publishers, and create your SelectedWorks profile.

Senior Vice President and Provost Jonathan A. Wickert's Selected-Works author profile ([works.bepress.com/jonathan\\_wickert](http://works.bepress.com/jonathan_wickert))

### Need more convincing?

If you have any questions or need more information about the repository, please contact Harrison W. Inefuku, Digital Repository Coordinator at [hinefuku@iastate.edu](mailto:hinefuku@iastate.edu).

—Harrison W. Inefuku  
*Digital Repository Coordinator*  
 April 4, 2013

Digital Repository @ Iowa State University is Iowa State's institutional repository, managed by the University Library with support from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

This educational bulletin has been produced by Digital Repository @ Iowa State University. For more information, please contact the Digital Repository Coordinator:

Harrison W. Inefuku  
 204 Parks Library

[hinefuku@iastate.edu](mailto:hinefuku@iastate.edu)  
 515-294-3180

<http://lib.dr.iastate.edu>

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