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Digital Commons @ IWU Exceeds 3 Million Downloads

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Digital Commons @ IWU Exceeds 3 Million Downloads

Oct. 18, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Research conducted primarily by Illinois Wesleyan University undergraduate students has been downloaded more than 3 million times over the past decade – by scholars around the world – from the [Digital Commons @ IWU](#) (DC@IWU).

“Reaching the 3-million download mark is a true testament to the quality of student work at Illinois Wesleyan University, and it clearly demonstrates the high standards our faculty have for our students' work,” said IWU Scholarly Communications Librarian and Professor Stephanie Davis-Kahl.

Launched in January of 2008, the DC@IWU exceeded 3 million downloads in September. Its top-10 downloads of all time primarily consist of student honors research across diverse disciplines.

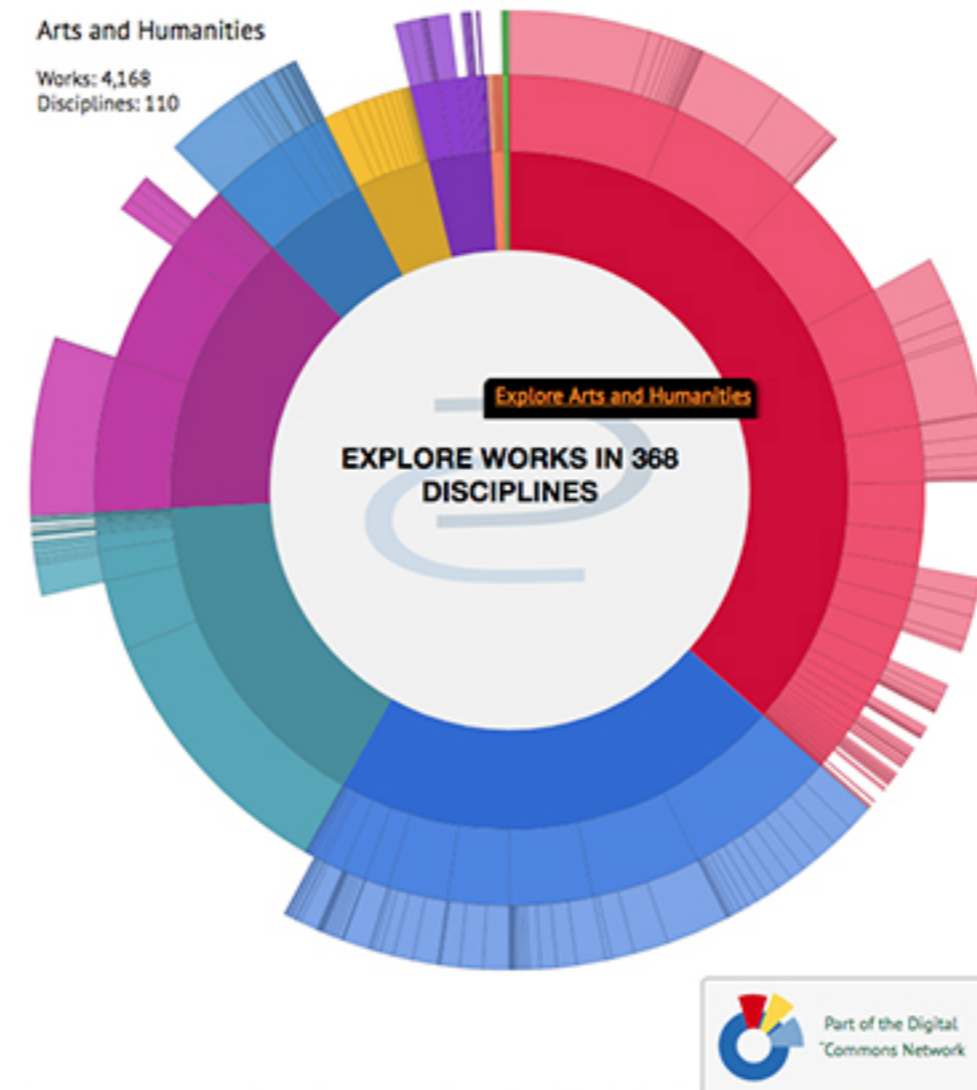
“The variety of materials included in DC@IWU – including honors papers from all disciplines and majors, performances and artwork from our annual John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference, and peer-reviewed, open access undergraduate journals – speak to the opportunities students have at IWU to engage in independent research and establish themselves as scholars, artists, and performers,” Davis-Kahl said.

The DC@IWU is a unique resource because of its focus on undergraduate work in all forms. Not only is DC@IWU a platform for sharing student work, but it is also utilized as a tool for teaching students about publishing, peer review and open access.

“I'm especially proud that support for DC@IWU comes not only from The Ames Library, but also from the Mellon Center, the Office of the Provost, and the Office of the President,” Davis-Kahl said. “Our partnership sends a clear message that undergraduate research is valued at IWU.”

Illinois Wesleyan faculty research and scholarship is also available for download via DC@IWU, including the WGLT Collection, which complements articles, book chapters and links to faculty publications by featuring interviews with IWU faculty on the local National Public Radio affiliate in partnership with Illinois State University.

The DC@IWU can be accessed at: digitalcommons.iwu.edu.



An interactive graphic illustrates work in 368 disciplines available for download from the Digital Commons @ IWU.