

Cooperative Digital Repository of Outstanding Academic Papers by Students: Strategies for Creating a Digital Repository

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Digital Repositories are becoming common components of university library collections. This presentation will address the strategies used by the City University of Hong Kong Library to support and enhance the educational process by creating and promoting a Digital Repository (DR) that features the work of undergraduate students. While most university DRs comprise publications of faculty research or electronic dissertations and theses, the Outstanding Academic Papers by Students (OAPS) digital collection is composed of exceptional papers authored by students. In collaboration with faculty members, librarians collect and make available exemplary papers written primarily by undergraduate students as part of the OAPS project. The main objective of OAPS is to contribute to the education process. The OAPS project aims to promote and facilitate student learning by encouraging peer learning, multicultural exchange, academic integrity, and academic excellence. Strategies for achieving these objectives include cooperating with 10 different universities and collaborating with 13 academic departments at City University, practicing quality control and positive recognition to prevent plagiarism, and providing incentives to the students whose papers are collected as part of the project. Since City University of Hong Kong Library and its partners initiated the OAPS project in 2005, they have taken several opportunities to review and realign the project. The emphasis of the presentation will be on collaborating and supporting student learning rather than on the technical aspects of implementing a DR.