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OPUS – Open Portal to University Scholarship Overview of Theses and Capstone Series

Paul Blobaum, Professor
Scholarly Communications Librarian
April 28, 2015

Governors State University Library launched a new era in digital repositories in March, 2014, upon joining the Digital Commons network. Digital Commons is a hosted Institutional Repository (IR) platform and is published by the Berkeley Electronic Press (Bepress), Berkeley, California. In preparation for launching a new IR at Governors State, Paul Blobaum was appointed the role of Scholarly Communications Librarian. Professor Blobaum and Sarah Wegley, Digital Metadata and Web Services Manager, attended the Digital Commons Institutional Repository Manager's Certification course in Berkeley, California, March 25-27, 2014.

OPUS (Open Portal to University Scholarship) replaces the legacy GSU Vault repository on the DSpace platform. (dspace.govst.edu) Planning and design of OPUS structures took place in April and May, and on May 19th, 2014, OPUS went live on the web at <http://opus.govst.edu>.

Digital Archives Leads in Size

Archival material is the largest collections in OPUS. University Catalogs, Syllabi, Faculty Senate and Civil Services Senate materials, Commencement Ceremony programs, and University Anniversary and Historical Documents were transferred from the GSU Vault platform. A project to digitize the historical student newspaper, The Innovator was completed and posted, and a partnership was forged with the current editorial staff of The Phoenix newspaper to archive and digitize that publication.

The Digital Commons platform and network resources, including technical and marketing support from Bepress, enabled the creation of new collections in OPUS and new partnerships across the GSU campus, including:

- University Faculty and Staff Newsletters
- E and F Wing Renovation
- Intellectual Life Committee: One Book One University programs
- College of Health and Human Services: Annual Reports and E-Pulse newsletters
- Marketing and Communications: Pierre the Penguin travel photos, Press Releases
- Student Affairs: Student Handbooks, Newsletters
- Center for Performing Arts: Memorabilia, Staff Updates
- Alumni: Alumni Newsletters, Alumni E-Connections

Student Capstones and Theses Leads in Readership

The College of Arts and Sciences is the early adopter of electronic submission and Open Access to student capstone work. The first collections uploaded to OPUS were a 4 year backlog of

digital theses and capstone projects from a pilot project implemented in 2010 with the College of Arts and Sciences. By August 19, 2014, 50 Master’s theses and 79 Capstone projects were publicly posted in the Capstone Series and Theses Series, where a signed copyright permission forms and completed signature pages were submitted to OPUS staff. As of April 2015, 89 Capstones and 52 Theses have been posted.

Student capstones and theses prove to be the most frequently downloaded materials in OPUS. From June 2014 through April 27, 2015, the Capstone series experienced 4,756 capstone documents and supplemental files downloaded, and the theses series counted 5,206 manuscript files downloaded.

Figure 1: Top 10 Capstone Downloads June 2014 - April 27, 2015

	Title	Date first posted	Downloads
1.	Social Media: How Players and Athletic Organizations Can Use Social Media Technology for Positive Brand Awareness	6/17/2014	1387
2.	The Media Bias within Outlets of Media: Television, Radio, and Newspapers	6/17/2014	283
3.	Perfecting the Interview Process Making Yourself Employable	6/17/2014	238
4.	Design and Implementation of E-Commerce Site for Online Shopping	8/14/2014	154
5.	IOS Device Forensics	12/22/2014	132
6.	Online Assistance	6/17/2014	132
7.	Wound Healing and the Role of Biomarkers and Biofilms	7/1/2014	119
8.	Small Business Template	7/16/2014	118
9.	Communication Training for Academic Advising Workshop	6/16/2014	102
10.	Synthesis of a Folate Conjugated Fluorescent Imaging Dye	6/16/2014	94

Figure 2: Top 10 Theses Downloads Jun 2014 – April 27, 2015

	Title	Date first posted	Downloads thru 4/27/15
1	Exploring the Effects of Text Messaging on the Spelling Skills of Ninth and 12th Grade Students	7/7/2014	2501

2	Superman's Ancestors - Beowulf, Odysseus and Roy Hobbs: Application and Analysis of Joseph Campbell's Monomyth Theory	6/12/2014	456
3	The Iconographic Owl through the Eyes of American Artists: From Native Americans to Joseph Cornell	6/10/2014	208
4	A Meditative Art	7/2/2014	196
5	Mulk Raj Anand: Moving India Forward	7/16/2014	147
6	Redefining the Gothic: How the Works of Carson McCullers, Tennessee Williams & Flannery O'Connor Retained Gothic Roots and Shaped the Southern Gothic	6/11/2014	123
7	Burke, Rhetoric and The Doctor: A Rhetorical Analysis of Doctor Who	6/17/2014	116
8	“The Day Everything Became Nothing”: Finding Meaning in the Postapocalyptic	6/12/2014	107
9	The Cultural Consciousness of John Updike: Rhetorical Spaces as Representations of Americana through the “Rabbit” Series	6/10/2014	102

Guidelines established in May 2014 by the Graduate Studies Council, “Guidelines for Preparing and Submitting Documentation of Graduate Capstone Experiences” envisions a future of digital dissemination and preservation of student capstones, theses, and dissertations at GSU. This Guidelines document is posted on the Graduate Studies web page: <http://www.govst.edu/graduate-studies/> .

Worldwide Impact of Student Research

Student scholarship is being read globally. According to Google Analytics, OPUS publications have been downloaded on all continents except Antarctica. Download maps on the Student Theses and Capstone series are replayed for the last 30 days.

The OPUS Theses and Capstone series promote GSU graduate programs by providing a URL on the document cover page that links back to the College graduate program pages. If each program had a direct URL, we could link to that. Potential students and faculty can instantly review what

research is being done at GSU, possibly leading to campus visits, applications, and enrollment.

Figure 3: Student Theses Readership Map, April 24, 2015

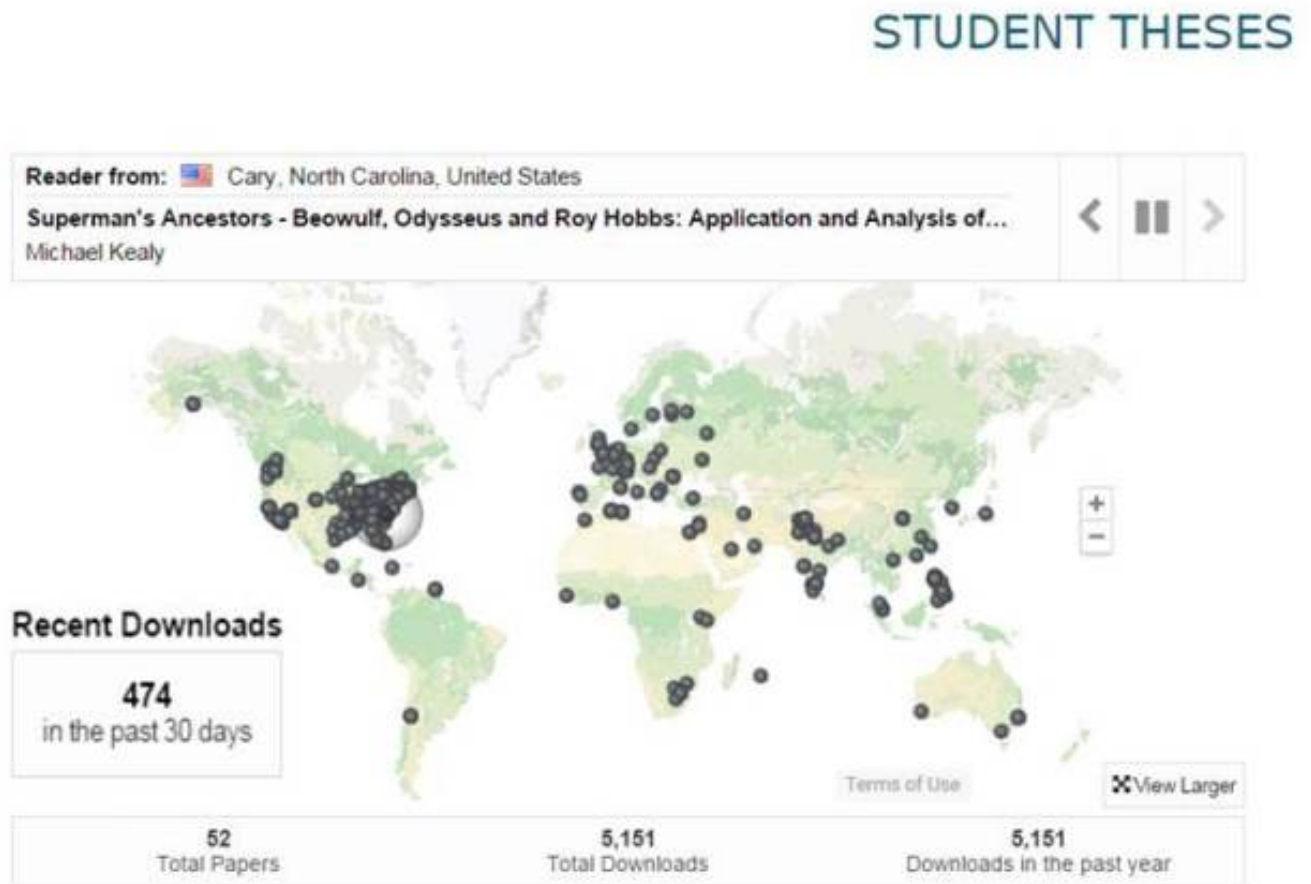


Figure 4: Student Capstone Readership April 24, 2015



Student Capstones, Theses, and Dissertations Workflows

The Digital Commons platform offers the capacity to fully integrate technical support for Theses, Capstones, and Dissertations from the initial capstone proposal outline to completed capstone. A customized workflow can be designed according to each program's needs, including student submission of draft manuscripts, advisor review, and revision, posting of supplemental files and data sets, and final committee approvals. The complete capstone, theses, and dissertations review and revision process can be accomplished on OPUS. Most if not the entire Theses, Capstone, and Dissertation workflow can be accomplished on OPUS without paper copy.

Currently the College of Arts and Sciences uses a "post approval" mediated submission workflow with OPUS staff.

1. CAS collects signature approval forms (faculty committee), copyright permission to post on OPUS, and requests for withholding (embargo request) forms in paper format. Students submit digital capstone and Theses files to the College via email.
2. CAS forwards digital capstone and Theses files by email to OPUS email address.

Supplemental media files submitted by students on DVD or CDROM are forwarded to OPUS staff for archival preservation. Paper approval, copyright, and embargo forms are forwarded to OPUS by interoffice mail.

3. If permission to post is given, OPUS staff scans paper approval, copyright, and embargo forms into PDF format and uploads to OPUS capstone or theses series. These files are suppressed from public view.
4. Digital capstone and theses files are reviewed for confidential information and intellectual property issues. Logos, phone numbers, email addresses, etc. are redacted. Student work is then uploaded to OPUS. MS Word documents are converted to Adobe PDF automatically.
5. OPUS staff creates metadata (title, abstract, author, key words, subject headings, notes, etc.) and a 2nd staff member reviews and edits metadata prior to posting.
6. Upon posting, the work is reviewed a 2nd time and corrected for formatting, etc. if needed.

All authors of student and faculty work automatically have access to their readership (download) reports, and a unique URL that can be used for posting of their own work that does not fall under the parameters of OPUS. This Author portal is called SelectedWorks, and is available to authors who have provided us with an email address, and who have registered with OPUS under “My Account” with that same email address. Currently, student email addresses have not been in the Capstone and Theses workflow, but the CAS is requesting email addresses for the Spring 2015 submissions.

Figure 5: Author Dashboard, Paul Blobaum, Discovery and Downloads Graph

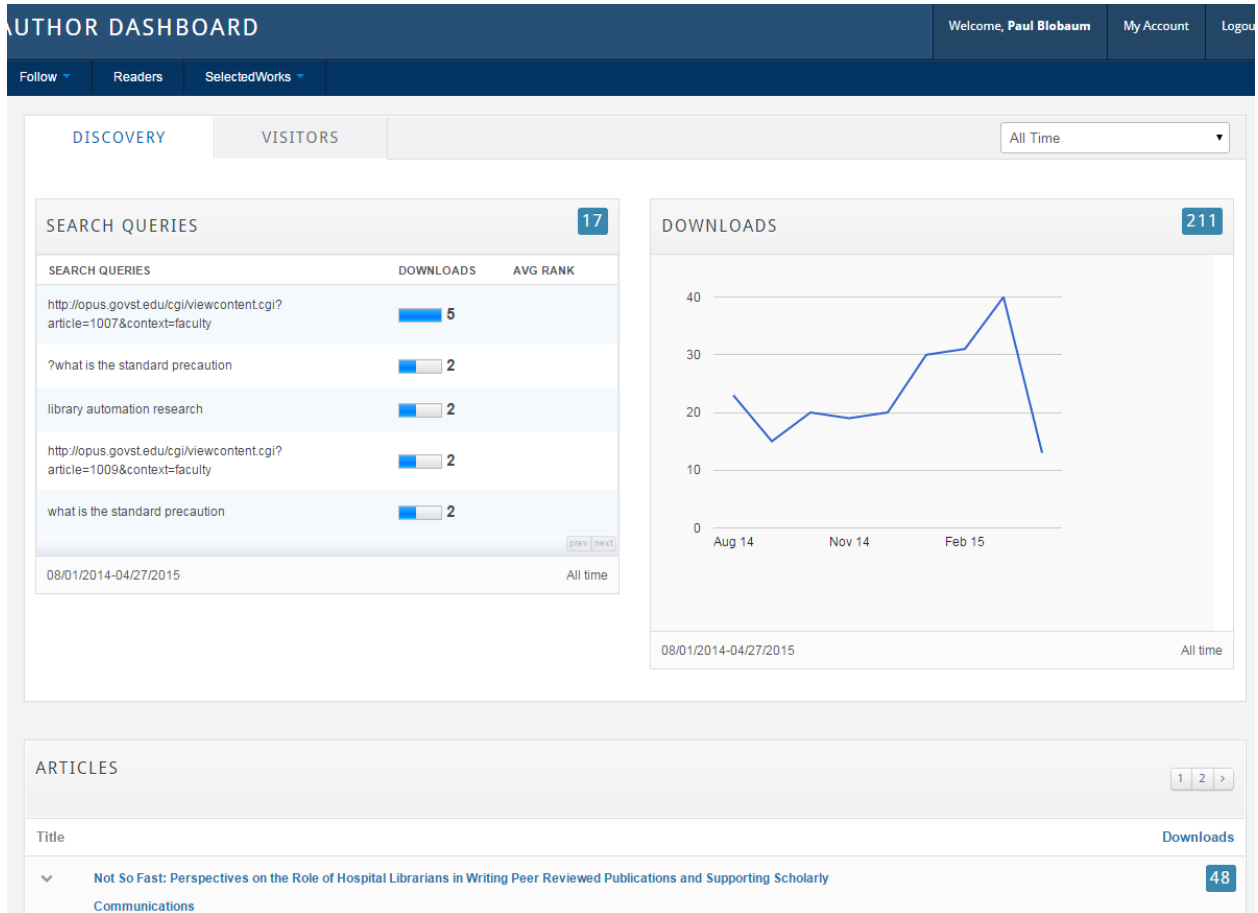


Figure 3 shows Discovery and Download graphics for Professor Paul Blobaum from SelectedWorks. In the Discovery area, search terms for locating downloaded articles within OPUS are displayed. In the Download graphic, there have been 211 historical downloads since August 2014, reaching a peak of 40 downloads in the period of Feb 15-April 15.

In Figure 4, historical downloads for each article in OPUS is shown for the period August 2014 – April 2015.

Figure 6: Historical Downloads for Professor Paul Blobaum, August 2014-April 2015

Title	Downloads
Not So Fast: Perspectives on the Role of Hospital Librarians in Writing Peer Reviewed Publications and Supporting Scholarly Communications	48
Resources for Supporting the APA Publication Style	23
Standard Precautions (Electronic Resource Review)	21
Update: Resources for Supporting the APA Publication Style	21
Morgenstern, Bruce Z., (Ed.), "Guidebook for Clerkshop Directors", 4th Edition. (Book Review)	13
The Development of Hospital Library Consortia and the Legacy of the Chicago and South Consortium	13
Brown-Syed, Christopher. "Parents of Invention: The Development of Library Automation Systems in the Late 20th Century". (Book Review)	12
Forte, Eric J., Hartnett, Cassandra J., and Sevetson, Andrea L.. "Fundamentals of Government Information: Mining, Finding Evaluating, and Using Government Resources" (Book Review)	12
Koltay, Tibor. "Abstracts and Abstracting: A Genre and Set of Skills for the Twenty-first Century" (Book Review)	10
The Hospital Grantsmanship Center: A New Role for Hospital Librarians	10
The Health Sciences Librarian in Medical Education: A Vital Pathways Task Force	8
Tricked Into Submission: Health Science Librarian's Role in Fighting Predatory Publishing and Spamferences	4
Using Digitized Primary Sources from the Library of Congress's American Memory Collection to Enliven Nursing Issues and History Curriculum (multimedia presentation)	4
Bailey, Charles W., Jr.. "Transforming Scholarly Publishing Through Open Access: A Bibliography" (Book Review)	3
Physiotherapy Evidence Database (PEDro) (Electronic Resource Review)	3
Bailey, Charles W., Jr.. "Digital Curation Bibliography: Preservation and Stewardship of Scholarly Works" (Book Review)	2

SelectedWorks author portals can be customized by Authors for promoting their research agenda and products. For an additional cost, institutional members of Digital Commons can administer SelectedWorks on behalf of their authors. For an example, see Eastern Illinois University's The Keep: <http://thekeep.eiu.edu> . Authors unique URL is a permanent address that can be used throughout one's career on business cards, email signatures, etc. For an example, see Professor Paul Blobaum: http://works.bepress.com/paul_blobaum/ .

Figure 7: Selected Works Page of Paul Blobaum 4/27/2015

SelectedWorks of Paul Blobaum

Author Home | Browse Subjects | Browse Article Types

SELECTEDWORKS™

I serve an appointment to the Library Faculty at Governors State University. I hold the rank of Professor with tenure. My research interests are varied but include copyright in the digital age, scholarly writing and publishing, predatory publishing and publishing scams, the GLBT community (inclusion, religious concerns, disparities, civil rights, and social services), and the impact of hospital libraries and librarians on health care. I am the Liaison to the Health Administration, Nursing, Social Work, Addictions Studies and Behavioral Health, Community Health, and Communications Disorders programs. In my role as Scholarly Communications Librarian, I administer a department of 2 FTE that curates the institutional archives and digital archives, as well as the University Library web page. In my role as Head of Reference, I administer the Reference department comprised of 4 FTE professional staff and 4 Faculty Librarians.

Followers can subscribe to email alerts, and other updates under "follow"

Follow

Research Publications

- Link **Evidence Based Interventions for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: A Systematic Review** (with Nancy J. MacMullen and Laura A. Dulski), *Faculty Research and Creative Activity* (2014)
- PDF **The Development of Hospital Library Consortia and the Legacy of the Chicago and South Consortium**, *Faculty Research and Creative Activity* (2014)
- PDF **Brown-Syed, Christopher. "Parents of Invention: The Development of Library Automation Systems in the Late 20th Century". (Book Review)**, *Faculty Research and Creative Activity* (2014)
- PDF **Not So Fast: Perspectives on the Role of Hospital Librarians in Writing Peer Reviewed Publications and Supporting Scholarly Communications**, *Faculty Research and Creative Activity* (2014)

Articles in the Specialty of the House column do not have abstracts. From the Introduction:...

- PDF **Bailey, Charles W., Jr.. "Digital Curation Bibliography: Preservation and Stewardship of Scholarly Works" (Book Review)**, *Faculty Research and Creative Activity* (2013)

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Working Papers

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Paul Blobaum
Governors State University

- Head of Reference
- Scholarly Communications Librarian

Expertise

- Health Science Librarianship
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- Institutional Repositories and Digital Archives
- Open Access Publishing
- Theology and Ethics
- Worship and the Arts
- Developmental Disabilities Service and Support Systems in Illinois
- Policy Development Process - Public and Institutional
- Beekkeeping

Search the SelectedWorks of Paul

Figure 8: Social Media features of Selected Works Author Portal

The screenshot displays the Selected Works Author Portal interface. On the left, there are two PDF entries: "Not So Fast: Perspectives on the Role of Hospital Librarians in Writing Peer Reviewed Publications and Supporting Scholarly Communications, Faculty Research and Creative Activity (2014)" and "Bailey, Charles W., Jr.. 'Digital Curation Bibliography: Preservation and Stewardship of Scholarly Works' (Book Review), Faculty Research and Creative Activity (2013)". Below these is a "Working Papers" section with an entry for "ACUPA: Exploring the Campus Policy Process (with T. Michael Ford, Tom Hipchen, and Rodney Petersen), Faculty Research and Creative Activity (2005)". On the right side, there is a navigation menu with categories like "Scholarly Communications" and "Institutional Repositories and Digital Archives". Below the menu is a search bar for "SelectedWorks of Paul Blobaum" and a "Search" button. Further down, there are buttons for "Search All Sites" and "RSS Feed", along with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, and a plus sign for more options. A red box with a red arrow points to these social media icons, containing the text: "SelectedWorks is integrated with Social Media. Readers can subscribe to updates". At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Start a Site | FAQ | My Account | Contact Us", a trademark notice for SelectedWorks™, copyright information for bepress™ (1999-2014), and links for "Terms of Service | Copyright | Privacy".

Future Directions for Faculty and Student Scholarship

Student creative work, including art shows and media exhibits can be hosted on Digital Commons in the Images Gallery series. Also, the Library would be pleased to digitize historical theses and capstone projects for GSU alumni, and would like to work with the Colleges on making this service available.

OPUS is envisioned to provide free and open access to not only student work and digitized archival materials, but also as an important venue to disseminate the scholarship of faculty and staff.

A Faculty Research and Creative Activity series and Faculty Bookshelf series has been implemented as first steps to engage Faculty, and to highlight Faculty work. The Faculty Research and Creative Activity series will host full text articles as well as abstracts, conference presentations, and white papers. Examples of faculty white papers, presentations, final published versions, as well as final accepted manuscript files are presented using the works of Professor

Paul Blobaum. The Faculty Bookshelf features descriptions, book cover images, and links to publisher websites and Library holdings of faculty books.

OPUS will support data sets, multimedia, and conferences and events. A student research conference series, and Faculty Research event series is under construction to host the recent CHHS Faculty Research Salon, and 2015 Student Research Conference.

Overall Impact and Visibility

OPUS promotes the University worldwide, reinforces bonds to the greater Chicagoland region and state, and strengthens the University’s mission of teaching, research, and service.

Figure 10 shows the top 10 visitor countries of origin according to Google Analytics historical data. Interestingly, The Philippines, India, U.K., and China follow the U.S. in the top 5.

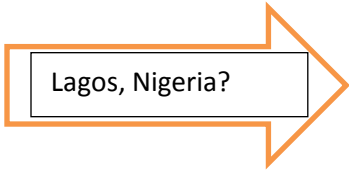
Figure 9: All Time Top 10 Origin Countries of Frequent Visitors (7/14-4/15) – Google Analytics

Country ?	Acquisition		
	Sessions ? ↓	% New Sessions ?	New Users ?
	4,000 % of Total: 100.00% (4,000)	55.93% Avg for View: 55.93% (0.00%)	2,237 % of Total: 100.00% (2,237)
1. United States	3,134 (78.35%)	46.52%	1,458 (65.18%)
2. Philippines	80 (2.00%)	93.75%	75 (3.35%)
3. India	69 (1.72%)	92.75%	64 (2.86%)
4. United Kingdom	67 (1.68%)	97.01%	65 (2.91%)
5. China	60 (1.50%)	85.00%	51 (2.28%)
6. Australia	47 (1.18%)	95.74%	45 (2.01%)
7. Russia	46 (1.15%)	100.00%	46 (2.06%)
8. Canada	37 (0.92%)	97.30%	36 (1.61%)
9. Germany	33 (0.83%)	90.91%	30 (1.34%)
10. Mauritius	26 (0.65%)	30.77%	8 (0.36%)

Figure 10 shows the top 10 cities of origin, using Google Analytics historical data. University Park is top, with most visits presumably occurring on the GSU campus. Next, Berkeley California is popular, likely due to the visits to the OPUS site by Digital Commons staff and visitors from the UC-Berkeley. Next, Chicago, Munster IN, and Tinley Park are the cities where OPUS is most often accessed, followed by possibly Lagos, Nigeria, Beijing, New York, and Austin, Texas. Quezon City is the most populous city in The Philippines and home of the University of the Philippines, and several other universities.

Figure 10: Historical Top 10 Cities of Origin of OPUS Visitors (7/14-4/15)

	4,000 % of Total: 100.00% (4,000)	55.93% Avg for View: 55.93% (0.00%)
1. University Park	1,299 (32.48%)	17.32%
2. Berkeley	272 (6.80%)	21.32%
3. Chicago	189 (4.72%)	48.68%
4. Munster	80 (2.00%)	5.00%
5. Tinley Park	50 (1.25%)	12.00%
6. (not set)	44 (1.10%)	77.27%
7. Beijing	39 (0.98%)	76.92%
8. New York	33 (0.83%)	87.88%
9. Austin	31 (0.78%)	93.55%
10. Quezon City	30 (0.75%)	93.33%



OPUS Staff Support

Services provided by OPUS staff to the GSU community include but are not limited to: identifying digitization projects across campus, reviewing Copyright status and securing permissions and Open Access rights on behalf of faculty, and planning future projects and capacity. The Scholarly Communications Librarian has presented workshops on the Scholarly Publishing Process, and Predatory Publishing and Spamferences (conferences) to the GSU campus, and is available to consult with faculty and students on scholarly communication and publishing projects.

Current staff:

Paul Blobaum, Professor, Scholarly Communications Librarian 708-534-4139

Sarah Wegley, Digital Metadata and Web Services Manager, Library Operations Associate 708-235-7515

Erin Engelbrecht, Archives and Records Manager, Library Operations Associate 708-235-7518