

7.10 – Digital Commons Release Notes

Version: December 2014

Available at <http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/79>

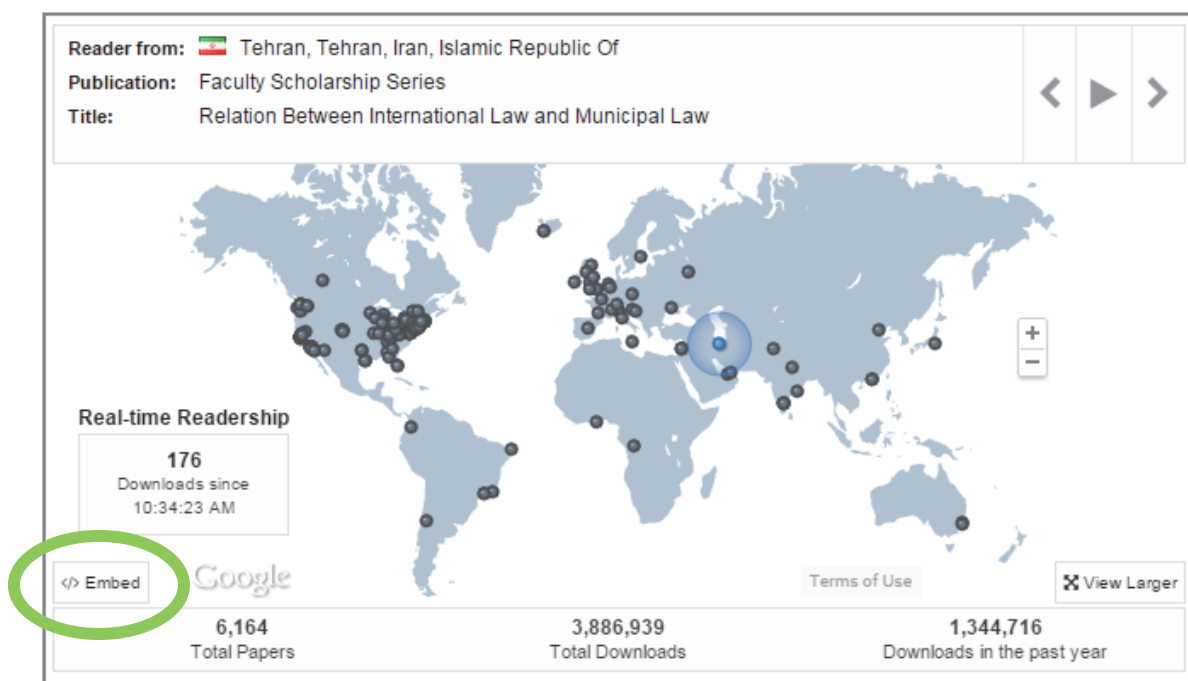
The 7.10 release of bepress Digital Commons includes new features for the Readership Activity Map, enhancements to searching within Digital Commons, updates to support long-term preservation programs, improvements to OAI, a new content classification by Author Type, and more outlined below. New features will be automatically available to subscribers after December 12, 2014.

Readership Activity Map: New Features

The live readership activity map has been a huge hit among the Digital Commons community, providing an engaging, interactive visualization to showcase repository readership. We've heard your requests to extend the map's usefulness, and added the following new features.

Historical Playback of Downloads – For smaller collections, where “live” playback of downloads isn't as dynamic as on large collections, the readership map can now automatically adjust to display historical downloads based on the site's recent download activity. A new site's map could, for example, initially playback downloads from the past 30 days. As the site's popularity grows, the map would automatically adjust to show downloads from the previous week, day, or hour, and eventually switch to a live display when the download rate is high enough to support it. Live maps will also preload the three most recent downloads, to avoid any chance of visitors viewing a blank map for an extended period.

This feature will be available in beta mode after the release. To enable, please contact Consulting Services.



Maps offer new playback options and embed link (circled) for placement on external sites

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Maps for Any Context – Now that the maps can provide the same engaging experience for sites with less traffic, we've extended the feature to support readership maps in all communities and publications. Administrators may customize the color of these maps to match the publication, or maintain the default appearance of the site-level map.

Embeddable Readership Activity Map – A picture says a thousand words, so save yourself some typing and embed a favorite readership map on the website for your campus, library, or Office of Research! There's no better way to tell the story of a publication's reach or draw attention to the repository's impact. You might also consider showing off the map to library patrons or campus visitors by using an embedded readership map in a display kiosk. The map will automatically refresh after an hour to clear the display and resume with a fresh playback.

Embedding the map is simple: click the new "Embed" link on your map, and follow the instructions on the resulting page to copy and paste a code snippet into the destination site. View an example at <https://www.lib.purdue.edu/scholarlyComm>.

Readership Maps on Mobile Devices – The map has been so effective at expressing the demand for your scholarship that we are expanding support to include mobile devices. You'll be able to bring an iPad to casual meetings and wow your faculty with downloads.

Search ALL Fields

Over the years, we have steadily improved our internal search tools, first by replacing our search engine with the industry leader, Solr, and then implementing periodic upgrades to help ensure Solr's peak ability. One of the most popular feature requests is to expand the search capabilities to include more metadata fields. With this release, we are extending support for internal searches to include ALL of the custom metadata fields attached to your content.

Why is this important? Currently, researchers can search the full text of most records and all of the default fields; however, they are often searching for unique terms that are outside the default fields. Authors, too, may be required to provide metadata, such as grant information, outside of the defaults, and make that metadata easily accessible. We are pleased to be able to provide visitors with the ability to use a Simple Search or an All Fields search to locate content wherever their search terms were recorded.

Updates to Support Long-Term Preservation

In addition to maintaining best practices for backing up your published content, we have been proud to support for several years the LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) program from Stanford University. Via LOCKSS, institutions can form a Private LOCKSS Network which allows them to store independent archival copies of their content.

With this release we are implementing some updates to our code to help LOCKSS crawlers more scalably gather content from Digital Commons repositories. This also has beneficial implications to institutions that use MetaArchive for their preservation needs. To read more about the methods we employ to safeguard your content, see <http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/18/>.

OAI Improvements for Interoperability

Members of our community use OAI in myriad ways to generate inbound links to their repositories and to include their content in collaborative endeavors such as SHARE in the US, Library and Archives Canada (LAC), and OpenAIRE in the UK and Europe. We pride ourselves on the discoverability of our community's content, and we are pleased to include several major improvements to OAI with this release.

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More comprehensive set specifications – Your OAI outputs automatically use an <identifier> tag to denote the published URL of every record in your repository. It can also be useful to identify via OAI the locations where a record has been virtually collected in your repository. With this release, we will display the virtual locations via OAI using a <setSpec> tag. This request has many potential applications and is important to SHARE requirements.

Modified xml namespace – For those schools requiring the ETD-MS format for the display and aggregation of theses and dissertations, we are modifying the xml namespace to help meet the needs of our Canadian schools, participating in LAC. The new namespace is <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance>.

More robust metadata – We are expanding our standard OAI output to add support for several additional fields: coverage, language, and relation. These fields are required for compliance with the OpenAire Initiative in the UK and Europe.

Author Type

Administrators can classify the works of a collection by a new category: “Author Type.” The options include Administration, Faculty, Graduate Student, Researcher/Staff, Undergraduate Student, and None. Administrators can set the category per collection using a new setting on the Configuration tab. More granular options are also available. If a collection holds a mixture of author types, e.g., works from both faculty and researchers/staff, please contact Consulting Services to request a new field on your submission form to set author types on per-article basis.

Selections will not have an immediate effect, but by starting to classify content in this way, you will be laying the groundwork for future enhancements. First we will be able to develop tools to display your undergraduate content automatically in the Undergraduate Research Commons (<http://undergraduatecommons.com/>), and then we are investigating applications to searching and reporting within repositories as well.

More Enhancements in This Release

Improved Filter to Measure Downloads

We spent significant time this year fighting a new rash of bots that was artificially inflating the download reports. Much of that work was in response to particular patterns of abuse that we were trying to quash. We are completing related improvements that make our algorithm easier to adjust so that we can be more responsive to sudden shifts in behavior.

Better Support on Mobile Devices

We heard you here. On some mobile devices, the header of Digital Commons sites was “fixed,” i.e., visible even when visitors scrolled down from the top of a page. Though fixed headers are a common attribute of mobile design, we agree that the content should have the spotlight. With this release, the header will have the same behavior as in desktop mode. It will be visible only once at the top of the webpage, and visitors will be able to remove it from view by simply scrolling down.

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Discipline Taxonomy Updates

New entries in the Digital Commons three-tiered taxonomy of academic disciplines include:

Arts and Humanities: Comparative Literature: Translation Studies
Arts and Humanities: History: History of the Pacific Islands
Arts and Humanities: Pacific Islands Languages and Societies
Arts and Humanities: Pacific Islands Languages and Societies: Hawaiian Studies
Arts and Humanities: Pacific Islands Languages and Societies: Melanesian Studies
Arts and Humanities: Pacific Islands Languages and Societies: Micronesian Studies
Arts and Humanities: Pacific Islands Languages and Societies: Polynesian Studies
Arts and Humanities: Race, Ethnicity and Post-Colonial Studies: Latina/o Studies
Arts and Humanities: Slavic Languages and Societies: Russian Linguistics
Arts and Humanities: Slavic Languages and Societies: Russian Literature

Education: Disability and Equity in Education: Accessibility

Engineering: Automotive Engineering
Engineering: Aviation: Aviation Safety and Security

Social and Behavioral Sciences: Public Affairs, Public Policy and Public Administration: Emergency and Disaster Management

Modified:

Arts and Humanities: Race, Ethnicity and Post-Colonial Studies (changed from lowercase "post")
Arts and Humanities: Race, Ethnicity and Post-Colonial Studies: Chicana/o Studies (changed from Chicano Studies)
Social and Behavioral Sciences: Sociology: Civic and Community Engagement (changed from Community Engagement)

Any submissions with a modified discipline were migrated to the closest match.

To browse the full taxonomy see <http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/reference/9/>.

For more information about the 7.10 release, please contact Consulting Services at 510-665-1200, opt. 2 or support@dc.bepress.com.