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5 Million Global Downloads!

Expanding the Global Reach & Impact of the University of Northern Iowa

UNI ScholarWorks, UNI’s institutional repository has reached 5 million global downloads! The repository showcases the knowledge, creativity, and innovative spirit of UNI. UNI ScholarWorks demonstrates the reach and impact of campus departments and programs on a global platform. Works by UNI authors are being used to help solve global societal issues and problems. The repository contains over 43,500 works and receives over 1 million downloads per year. The top downloaded work is a student article, “Factors Affecting Economic Growth in Developing Countries” (Major Themes in Economics), by Parash Upreti, which has over 73,000 downloads. The Graduate College page has over 2.4 million downloads and the College of Education page has over 1.7 million downloads. People from all over the world are downloading works in ScholarWorks, including such remote places as Greenland, Falkland Islands, Baffin Island, and Bora Bora. The U.S. Department of Education is a regular user. It is also accessed by many higher education institutions around the world and numerous state education agencies.

Importance for UNI

The significance of ScholarWorks for the University of Northern Iowa is it is elevating the reputation of the institution by expanding the reach and impact of UNI, departments & programs, and individual faculty, staff, and student authors.

We receive feedback from people from all over the world about how specific works have impacted them.
Impact Stories

Germany

- A graduate student from Germany states, “My BSc. [Bachelor of Science] thesis topic is about imperfect fungi and unfortunately as with many topics of mycology, good sources are hard to find and/or not accessible freely so this has been a great help.” The student is referring to the article, “Classification of the fungi Imperfecti,” by Roger D. Goos (1956) out of Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science with 1,951 downloads since March 2018.

Texas

- A professor of Biology at the University of Texas writes, “I authored this article as a high school student in Davenport, Iowa, graduating in 1967. I am now a Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Texas. A colleague was researching a science project for his 7th grade daughter and came across this article and sent it to me asking if it was mine. What a nice surprise. I didn't even know it was published or remember what I wrote. I am now a leading expert on Enzyme Kinetics and have published a 480 page textbook on the subject.” The professor is referring to the article, “Chemical Kinetics of KI Catalyzed H2O2 Decomposition,” by Ken Johnson (1967), out of Iowa Science Teachers Journal with 4,202 downloads since July 2021.

Brazil

- A student states, “Hello. I am a Brazilian psychology student who is always desperate because not enough articles are free to view. Most of them are paid in euros or dollars, which are 5x more than my currency. Works like this are very important to my academic life.” The student is referring to a non-thesis graduate research paper, “Grief and Loss Associated with Divorce: A Counseling Perspective,” by Lisa Lydon (2005) with 2,075 downloads since December 2019.

Location Unknown

- A researcher states, “I appreciate having access to this paper. I have a master’s in history and write a blog about various historical issues. I have been searching for more information about Colbert’s ‘Industrial policy’ in seventeenth-century France. Because I am no longer a student and not a faculty member, access to my university’s library is limited. Having this article accessible means a lot.” The researcher is referring to the article, “The Economic Policies of Jean-Baptiste Colbert,” by Jeri Kurtzleben (1997), out of Draftings In, a UNI publication with 2,714 downloads since January 2022.

Contents
A wide variety of content is located in UNI ScholarWorks, ranging from journals to conferences to image galleries to books developed through course assignments to undergraduate honors program theses to graduate theses and dissertations.

**Faculty work** in the repository includes the **Faculty Publications**, **Faculty Book Gallery**, and **Faculty Projects** collections. The **UNI Impact** newsletter, which lists faculty publications and externally funded awards, is a collaboration between Rod Library and Research and Sponsored Programs. The repository contains the important state publication, **Journal of the Iowa Academy of Sciences | Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science** from 1887 to 2018 which has over 496,000 downloads. There are two undergraduate student research journals, **Major Themes in Economics** with over 181,410 downloads (Department of Economics) and the **Proceedings of the Jepson Undergraduate Conference on International Economics** (Department of Economics.) Conferences include **Research in the Capitol** (Honors Program), **Three Minute Thesis @ UNI** (award winners are indicated), and **Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)**. Image galleries include the **Frank Lloyd Wright Structures Image Gallery**, **Malcolm Price Laboratory School Photographs**, and **Palczewski Suffrage Postcard Archive**, UNI related publications include the **Yearbooks**, **Course Catalogs**, **Commencement Programs**, and **Schedule of Classes**. In addition, there are **Open Access Books** and **OER (Open Educational Resources)** collections and so much more!

**UNI Strategic Plan**

UNI’s institutional repository, UNI ScholarWorks, ties directly to the strategic goals of UNI by aligning and effectively utilizing university resources to improve equitable access, affordability, and quality. UNI created materials are made available on an open access platform which disseminates the materials to a global audience where they are available to help solve societal problems and concerns. The structure of UNI is found within the repository; therefore, each college and department include related works collected to it with a global readership map. Alerts with a link to the global readership map and usage numbers can be set up for campus administrators. Authors receive regular reports and links to the readership map for their works.

**Conclusion**

Together, the University community is creating an important resource for the global community. If you have projects you would like to archive and preserve in UNI ScholarWorks, contact us. We look forward to working with you on future projects.

**Contact Us**

If you have questions about UNI ScholarWorks, please contact your library liaison or Ellen Neuhaus, Digital Scholarship Librarian at scholarworks@uni.edu or (319) 273-3739.

*Ellen Neuhaus, Digital Scholarship Librarian University of Northern Iowa*  

2/28/2024