

Bringing Open Scholarship and Open Education to the Public through an Academic/Public Library Collaboration

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What and where is Guelph?

- A city in Canada
- Over 130,000 residents
- University has ~28,000 students
- About 100 kilometres (90 minutes) west of Toronto



What was the project?

- A series of sessions aimed to teach members of the public about the academic publishing environment and how to access scholarly material without an institutional affiliation

Why was this a project I wanted to do?

- Many researchers don't have institutional affiliation
- Evidence Based Practice becoming increasingly common
- Develop new partnerships



Photo by Rebecca Ivanoff

The first step

- Developed a workshop aimed at graduating students

"Oh nuts, I just graduated" How to find scholarly publications without an institutional affiliation

Without the backing of a large institution it can be difficult to do research and find all of the articles you want to read without hitting paywalls. This session will show soon to be graduated students what library services are available to them as alumni and (legal!) methods of getting access to paywalled articles.



University of Guelph Library | [U of G Library](#) | [Library Workshops & Events](#)
| "Oh nuts, I just graduated" How to find scholarly publications without an institutional affiliation - Dimensions/GScholar/The Lens

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**"Oh nuts, I just graduated" How to find scholarly
publications without an institutional affiliation -
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Date: Monday, April 1, 2019
Time: 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Location: Library 289 Scholars Studio
Campus: McLaughlin Library
Categories: [Research](#)

What happened after the workshop?

- Many participants asked for the slides
- We were asked if the slides could be shared with other people
- We realized that there was a great demand for this information
- Decided to offer workshops to people beyond the university campus

Who did we work with?

- Guelph Public Library

- 6 branches (and one bookmobile)
- Over 1500 visits each day
- Offers adult education opportunities



Guelph Public Library
Explore • Connect • Thrive

- Why them?

- Willingness and interest to co-develop and co-teach workshop
- People are already using the public library to do research, it can just be a different sort of research than is done at universities
- They had space to run workshop

Who did we work with?

- 10C Shared Space

- Shared working space in downtown Guelph aimed at “community changemakers”
- Includes arts, health, environmental, and children’s services organizations



- Why them?

- Aim to help independent researchers
- Had already partnered with them through University of Guelph’s Community Engaged Scholarship Institute to run a research data management workshop
- They had space to run a workshop

What was the workshop we offered?

Think Like a Scholar: How to find free and Open Access scholarly resources

Join the McLaughlin Library and the Guelph Public Library for a workshop designed to teach you about accessing open resources like scholars!

Over the past few decades, since the birth of the internet, the research outputs from universities, governments, and other organizations have become increasingly accessible to the general public.

There are now many routes for individuals to access the same information that professional researchers do. In this collaboration between the University of Guelph Library and Guelph Public Library, Librarians from each institution will explain how you can search and access this information for free. We will discuss databases such as Google Scholar and PubMed, full-text finders like Unpaywall, the copyright exceptions that allow article sharing, and the multitude of information resources that Guelph Public Library offers.

What was in the presentation?

- Guelph Public Library Resources
 - Databases
 - Historical archives
 - Genealogy
 - eLearning (lynda.com, etc.)

What was in the presentation?

- Scholarly Publishing 101
 - What is a journal article?
 - What is peer review?
 - Why use scholarly publications?
 - Differences between pre-prints/post-prints/
published versions of articles
- Copyright
 - Fair dealing

What was in the presentation?

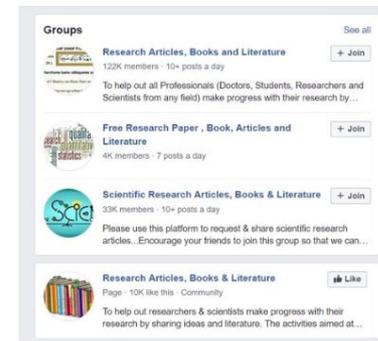
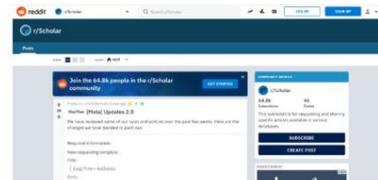
- Finding Scholarly Articles
 - Where to Search for Articles
 - Google Scholar
 - PubMed
 - Other databases
 - Search tips and tricks
- Access problems
 - Why does it cost so much?
 - Where does the money go?

What was in the presentation?

- How to get Scholarly Articles
 - Alumni/public access at the university
 - OA Button/unpaywall/Zotero
 - Institutional & disciplinary repositories
 - Interlibrary loan
 - Academia.edu/ResearchGate
 - Twitter/Facebook/Reddit
 - Sci-Hub

- Is It Legal?

IS IT
LEGAL?



Logistics

- When should we run the workshops?
 - 10C: Weekday afternoon in July
 - Guelph Public Library: Weekday evening in August
- How should we promote the workshops?
 - Created Eventbrite registration page
 - Guelph Public Library created a registration page for the event they hosted
 - Promoted through social media, websites, email newsletters
- Ensure slides were useful and informative outside of the workshop

Who attended?

- Over a dozen attendees
 - Current students
 - Recently graduated students
 - Members of the public interested in doing in-depth research
- Better attendance at Guelph Public Library

What were the results of the workshops?

- Slides have over 60 downloads
- Positive feedback from participants
- Were told slides helped people find and access articles
- At least one participant signed up for a community borrower card at the university library
- Slides have been shared through local farming research organizations

What challenges did we face?

- Who would be our audience?
 - How much previous knowledge of academic publishing would they have?
 - What would they want to know specifically?
- Difficulty in meshing public/academic content
 - We provide different types of services in different ways
- Not overpromising the help we could provide
 - The public library offers Interlibrary Loan, but someone looking to do a full literature review might overwhelm them

What would we do differently next time?

- Targeted outreach
 - Which community groups could we invite?
 - Are there other organizations we could work with?
- More emphasis on search techniques
 - We changed content in this area for the second workshop based on feedback from the first
- Remember to print the assessment forms

What's next?

- Looking for good time to offer the workshop at Guelph Public Library again
- Guelph Public Library wants to work with the university library to offer more workshops in early 2020
 - Potential topics (not finalized):
 - Copyright for authors/creators
 - Research data management

Questions?

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Workshop Slides: <https://zenodo.org/record/3375672>

Slides from this presentation: <http://bit.ly/FORCE-collab>