*CSUN ScholarWorks Open Access Repository (SOAR)*

*CSUN* *ScholarWorks Open Access Repository (SOAR)* (<http://scholarworks.csun.edu/> ) is California State University Northridge’s open access institutional repository (IR). Its mission is to organize, distribute and permanently preserve CSUN student and faculty research, publications, and instructional materials. By default items added to the repository are publicly accessible, but can be restricted to specific users or groups at the collection or file level when needed.

*ScholarWorks* is based on the well-established open-source software platform DSpace, which was developed in the early 2000s by Hewlett Packard and MIT. Since 2007, a DSpace implementation has been hosted by the California State University Chancellor’s Office, which provides technical support and ongoing digital preservation strategies. A *ScholarWorks* DSpace instance is offered to all campuses in the CSU system at no direct cost. As a result, repository services at CSUN are provided by the University Library to faculty without charge.

The system utilizes the Dublin Core metadata scheme to ensure interoperability with other repositories and external content indexers such as Google. Through the Handle System every item is provided with a persistent URI, a vital component of Digital Object Architecture as defined by the Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI). Data integrity is confirmed through checksum validation routines, and, although any file type is acceptable, the system will recognize 41 standard MIME types. The repository is backed up daily, with copies of data stored offsite by established cloud-based services. The CSU Chancellor’s Office also provides cloud storage, enabling the long-term storage of data in the petabyte range, and streaming server capabilities.

Administratively speaking *ScholarWorks* is a recognized entity, which is vital for the long-term sustainability of and access to the data it preserves. The repository is officially registered with the *Registry of Open Access Repositories* (ROAR) ( <http://roar.eprints.org/6249/> ). CSUN’s Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) mandate is likewise registered with *Registry of Open Access Repositories Mandatory Archiving Policies* (ROARMAP) (<http://roarmap.eprints.org/724/>). CSUN’s Faculty Senate Resolution on Open Access is also registered in ROARMAP (<http://roarmap.eprints.org/971/>). Content is harvested, indexed and subsequently made searchable through these registries.

Support staff members for the IR are hired at each campus’s discretion. At CSUN, three full-time faculty and staff work on projects directly related to the repository, including outreach, training, copyright clearance, metadata creation and the uploading and preservation of digital files. The IR staff members include Elizabeth Altman, Web Services Coordinator and *ScholarWorks* Project Manager, Andrew Weiss, Digital Services Librarian, and Martha Steele, *ScholarWorks* Assistant.

Included among student and faculty publications are data sets. Currently, data sets related to several research grants and projects are stored in the repository as separate records with robust Dublin Core metadata appended to each for improved search and access. (See link for example: <http://scholarworks.csun.edu/handle/10211.2/2342?show=full> ). Data set access and subsequent publications can also be embargoed for specific purposes and for limited amounts of time as needed or as required by publisher copyright agreements.