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# Scholarly Communications Report on Activities 2016-17

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# Scholarly Communications Report on Activities 2016-17

**Abstract**

2016-17 annual report for Scholarly Communications work at Musselman Library, including Gettysburg College's institutional repository, [The Cupola: Scholarship at Gettysburg College](#). Covers June 2016-May 2017.

**Keywords**

annual report

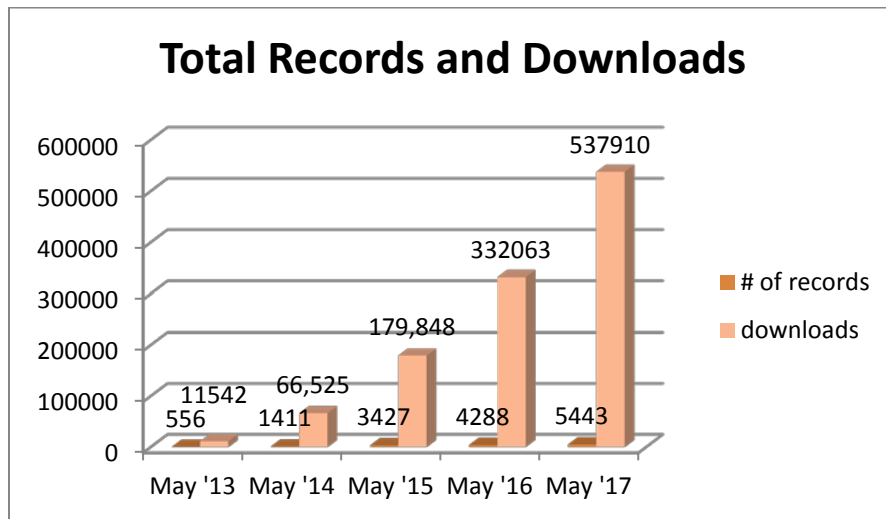
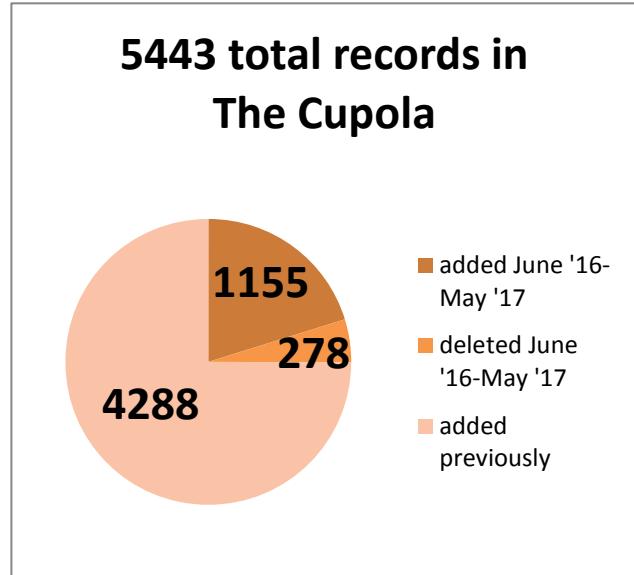
**Disciplines**

Scholarly Communication

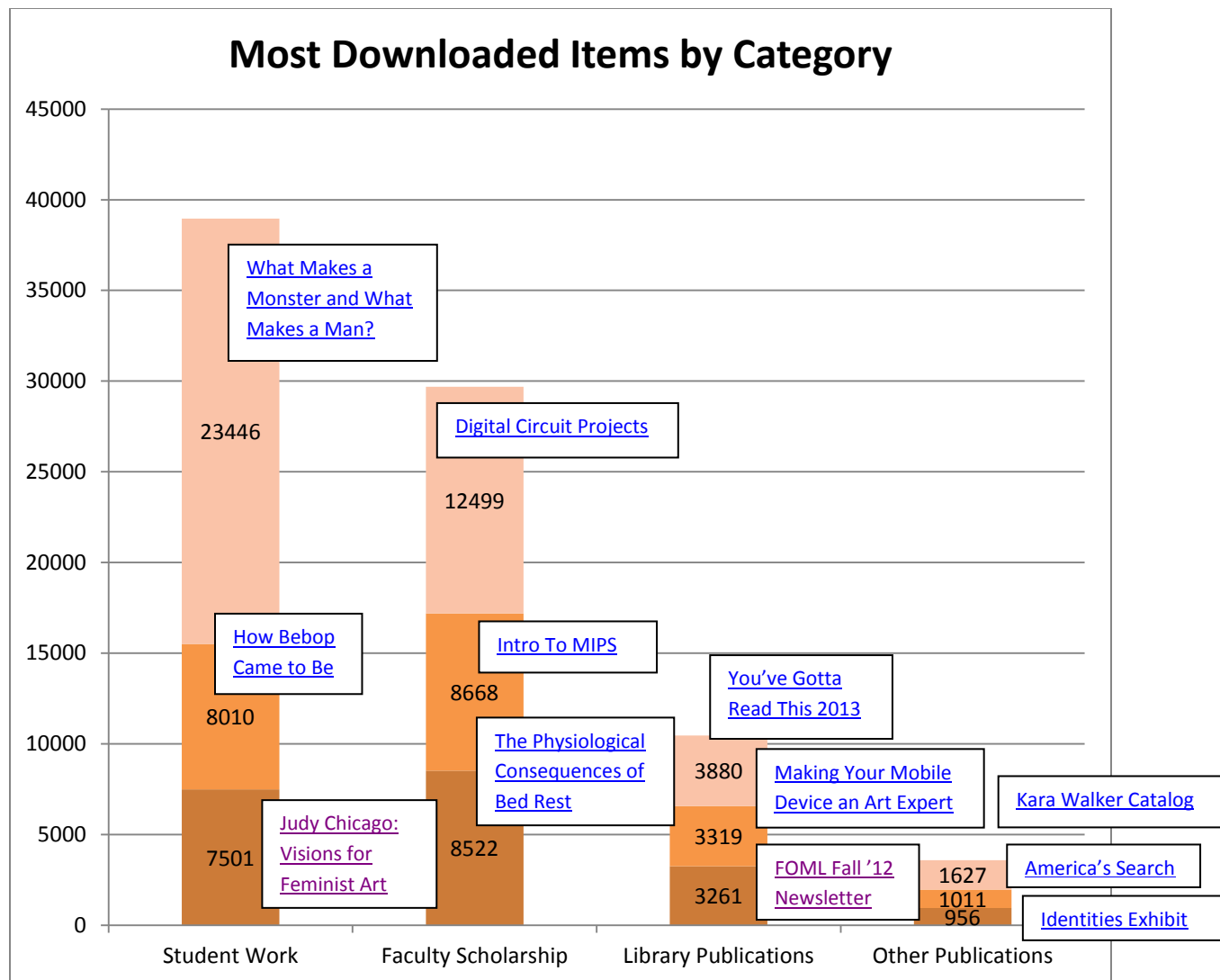
## Musselman Library Scholarly Communications Department Report on Activities – June 2016-May 2017

2016-17 was another year of growth for [The Cupola: Scholarship at Gettysburg College](#), our bepress institutional repository.

- We added over 1100 records<sup>1</sup> this year.
- We established a policy of only including full text student work and deleted the remaining metadata-only student records.
- Our items have been downloaded over 537,000 times total (205,000+ times this year), and our average download/item has risen to 98 (up from 77 last year).
- Most of our traffic (57%) was from within the U.S. We also had visitors from 212 other countries.
- We supervised a Scholarly Communications rotation for the Holley Library Intern, and we hired our first-ever Scholarly Communications Librarian. Christopher Barnes will begin in July, 2017.



<sup>1</sup> We use “record” or “item” to refer to a work that is described with metadata in The Cupola. We use “file” to indicate that there is full content associated with the record/item. Records may have 0, 1, or more files associated with them.



Work that is exclusively available in The Cupola receives the most downloads:

- Student works consistently get more downloads. This work is not available anywhere else.
- The #1 and #2 faculty works are not available elsewhere. Both are Open Educational Resources (OER) written by Prof. Charles Kann. References in Wikipedia articles probably drive traffic to the work.
- The #1 and #3 items in “Library Publications” are not available anywhere else online.
- The Kara Walker exhibit catalog is available exclusively in The Cupola.

## Notable Initiatives from 2016-17

### Open Access Week and Open Education Week

In October, we celebrated [Open Access Week 2016](#) by hosting public screenings of three SUNY OA Week webinars. We displayed the live readership map for The Cupola on a large screen near the library entrance all week. We also delivered [open access cookies](#) to all faculty authors who have published in open journals. We shared a photo collage on social media about why Musselman Library supports open access.



Prof. Whatley received an Open Access cookies during OA Week

Our celebration culminated with a Friday Faculty Lunch presentation titled “What would happen if you ditched your textbook? Gettysburg faculty share strategies.” The program featured Professors Ian Clarke, Sharon Birch, and Charles Kann, who described how they swapped out expensive course materials for more affordable options, including freely available materials, library-licensed items, and original creations.

In March, we marked **Open Education Week 2017** by promoting the work of faculty who have adopted, adapted, or created Open Educational Materials in their courses. We photographed seven professors answering the question “I use OER because...” Here are a few slides from the slideshow shared on Instagram and Twitter:

*Happy Open Education Week!*

These **Gettysburg College professors** use open materials in their classes.

**Why do they do it?**





**Prof. Kann - Computer Science**  
CS 221 - Computer Organization & Assembly Language Programming - Wrote several open textbooks that he uses in class



**Prof Birch - Sociology**  
SOC 203 - Population: Uses open data in class and is writing an open textbook

Interested in adopting, adapting, or sharing open materials for your course?

**Chat with a librarian!**



## College Author Reception

We have used The Cupola to compile a [complete list of publications by college authors](#) since calendar year 2012. In 2016, 103 authors (including 22 student authors) published 151 works. 51% are openly available in The Cupola.

Our faculty speaker was Philosophy Professor Daniel DeNicola. Student a cappella group Drop the Octave contributed to a festive atmosphere.



Holley Intern Melanie Fernandes '16 and Scholarly Communications Assistant Ryan Nadeau '16 co-edited the 2016 volume of *The Gettysburg Historical Journal*. Each also authored a peer-reviewed article in the issue.

## Focus on student work



In June 2016, we launched a new collection of student essays titled "[What All Americans Should Know About Women in the Muslim World](#)." Professor Amy Evrard selected the most compelling papers from her Anthropology 218 course, "Islam and Women," to be included in the series. So far, papers from two iterations of the course have been included. The project is ongoing. In its first year, the thirteen papers (including Evrard's introduction) have been downloaded over 3,500 times from 107 countries.

Sometimes folks are skeptical that public-facing student work is read. Occasionally, we hear from those readers. One of our most popular FYS papers is "How Bebop Came to Be: The Early History of Modern Jazz," written by Colin M. Messinger '17 for Professor Buzz Jones' seminar on *Why Jazz Matters: The Legacy of Pops, Duke, and Miles*. It has been accessed more than 8,000 times since being uploaded in 2014. This spring, the library received an email from an engaged reader of Messinger's piece. Dr. William Stubblefield wrote, "I am a retired computer scientist, and am studying jazz guitar. I stumbled upon your paper, How Bebop Came to Be, in the course of trying to clarify what I believed to be an historical error by one of my own music teachers. I found your paper to be a lucid, thoughtful discussion of the forces behind the early development of bebop, and it helped me to clarify my own thinking." Our students' work really does have an impact in our broader world.

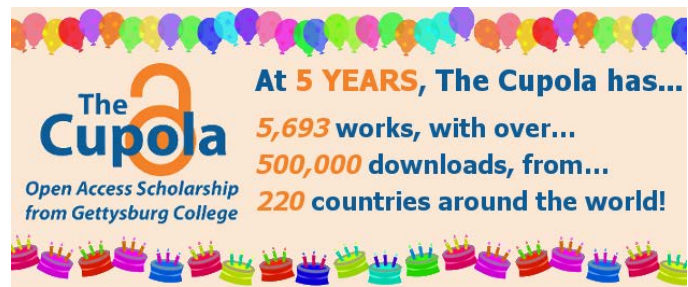
We received 144 nominations of student work from faculty or others this year. Departments with the highest number of nominations include Music (21), Anthropology (20), English (14), Art and Art History (12), and Globalization Studies (9).

Students co-authored with faculty members 17 times during this fiscal year.

## Milestones

The Cupola's 500,000<sup>th</sup> download occurred in March, 2017. We celebrated with cake.

We also marked the Cupola's 5<sup>th</sup> "birthday" at the end of the semester. On April 26, 2012, we posted our first public-facing item. This banner ad appeared on the library homepage.



## Appendix

### The Cupola - Statistical Summary

Quarter	records	files	MDOR (metadata- only records)	percent MDOR	percent uploaded content	total downloads
June-13	556	384	182	33%	67%	11,542
June-14	1411	1122	320	23%	77%	66,525
September-14	2003	1358	662	33%	67%	
December-14	2642	1710	983	37%	63%	119,061
March-15	2845	1931	945	33%	67%	
June-15	3427	2497	996	29%	71%	179,848
September-15	3130	2690	476	15%	85%	202,231
December-15	3267	2796	507	16%	84%	240,271
March-16	3560	3039	558	16%	84%	280,766
June-16	4288	3567	720	17%	83%	332,063
September-16	4822	4052	627	13%	87%	370,893
December-16	5304	4652	650	12%	88%	424,802
March-17	5252	4785	465	9%	91%	478,411
June-17	5443	4971	472	9%	91%	537,910



## Journals

Currently we host four student journals in The Cupola. This year, we worked with student editors from the sociology department to create a new undergraduate journal called [Gettysburg Social Sciences Review](#). The journal has been launched and is accepting submissions for their first issue, tentatively scheduled for fall 2017. It covers all social science disciplines and is open to undergraduate authors from beyond Gettysburg College.

We also host *Adams County History*, the annual publication of the Adams County Historical Society.

The most downloaded article from the June 2016-May 2017 year is listed for each title (not all-time downloads).



THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE  
JOURNAL OF THE CIVIL WAR ERA

**The Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era.** "[Freedmen with Firearms: White Terrorism and Black Disarmament During Reconstruction](#)" by David Schenk (Marquette University) was the most popular article (2,193 downloads this year).



THE GETTYSBURG  
HISTORICAL JOURNAL

**The Gettysburg Historical Journal.** "[The Tavern in Colonial America](#)" by Steven Struzinski '03 was the most-accessed article (2,951 downloads this year).



THE MERCURY  
THE STUDENT ART & LITERARY MAGAZINE OF GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

**The Mercury.** "[One of Us](#)," a fiction piece by Thomas Bender '12, was the most popular item (518 downloads this year).



The Gettysburg  
Economic Review

**The Gettysburg Economic Review.** "[The Economic Decline of Zimbabwe](#)" by Chidochashe Munangagwa '11 was the most popular item (5,448 downloads this year).



ADAMS COUNTY  
History

**Adams County History.** "[Veterans Residing in Adams County, Pennsylvania, 1840-1930](#)" was the most popular article (655 downloads this year).