Towards a Definition of Sustainable Scholarship...

Isaac Gilman
Pacific University Libraries

Sustainable Scholarship: Open Access and Digital Repositories
Pacific University | October 20, 2009

Elements of logo created by Snap2Objects, Monofactor and PLoS used under a Creative Commons Attribution license.
Sustainability: Four Factors

Business  
*Breaking even (or better)*

Environment  
*Saving trees and shipping*

Continuity  
*Perpetual staffing and support*
Knowledge Encouraging creation & dissemination
Sustaining Knowledge

- Academic institutions* use knowledge

- Academic institutions create knowledge

- Academic institutions are the key to sustaining the availability of knowledge (as expressed in scholarship)

*Academic institutions – faculty, administrators, staff, students, etc.
Sustainable Practices

• Support technology that allows easy publication of scholarly journals

• Provide an open repository for faculty work published elsewhere – and for unpublished, in-progress, un-reviewed work (presentations, drafts, data sets, etc)

• Educate faculty about their rights as authors

• Implement mandates for faculty authors to publish in OA venues or to request changes to copyright agreements

• Pay OA author fees for faculty

• Give more “credit” in the P&T process for ALL contributions made to creating/disseminating scholarship – and encourage faculty to take on diverse roles

• Don’t penalize faculty in P&T for not publishing in “established” journals, but respect/count any publication that evidences strict editorial standards/review processes
Sustainable Scholarship is:

An institutional commitment to supporting faculty efforts in disseminating their work as widely and as freely as possible

A faculty commitment to contributing to the efforts needed – beyond authorship – to sustain publishing venues

The recognition/protection of authors’ rights and the recognition/protection of others’ rights to benefit from authors’ knowledge
sustainable scholarship *n.*

The precise confluence of faculty/author engagement and institutional support that results in created knowledge being shared as openly as possible and being available to serve as the genesis for new ideas.