

BENEFITS

- Indexed by all major search engines to increase visibility of your scholarship at a level that is impossible to achieve otherwise.
- Provides a centralized site for your materials. This allows researchers to have easy access to all of your works with only one stop on the web, instead of having your research and creative activity distributed among many different websites and provides an opportunity for you to showcase your accomplishments.
- Increases funding opportunities by allowing funding agencies to find attractive and knowledgeable initiatives.
- Establishes permanent access and readability. Each uploaded file is converted to PDF format and assigned a URL (a handle) that never gets broken. Since it's a permanent URL, there is no need to worry about dead links – once assigned, the link never changes. This ensures easy access to specific works – just copy the URL into an email, your vita, or provide a link at another website, and the user will go directly to the item.
- Offers browsing or searching by subject, author, keyword or title.
- Generates statistics to give authors a view of how often their works are downloaded and which ones are used most heavily.



TopSCHOLAR™
at Western Kentucky University
funded by
Provost's Initiatives for Excellence
and
WKU Libraries

CONTACT US

Connie Foster
TopSCHOLAR™ Project Director
Department Head, Library Technical Services
Phone: 270-745-6151

Rose Davis
Assistant Professor, Library Technical Services
Phone: 270-745-6154

Jue Wang
Assistant Professor, Library Public Services
Phone: 270-745-6122

Email a TopSCHOLAR™ Administrator at topscholar@wku.edu

Visit us online at <http://digitalcommons.wku.edu>

 WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



TopSCHOLAR™

The Research and Creative Activity Database
of Western Kentucky University





TopSCHOLAR™

The Research and Creative Activity Database of Western Kentucky University

What is TopSCHOLAR™?

<http://digitalcommons.wku.edu>

TopSCHOLAR™ is the Research and Creative Activity Database of Western Kentucky University. Offered as a service to faculty, staff and students, TopSCHOLAR™ preserves and disseminates the intellectual output of the University community, making it available to researchers worldwide.

As the first institutional repository in Kentucky, TopSCHOLAR™ offers permanent accessibility and readability to all works deposited. In addition, TopSCHOLAR™ is indexed by Google, Google Scholar, Thomson Scientific *Web Citation Index*™ and Elsevier's Scopus.

TYPES OF CONTENT THAT MAY BE DEPOSITED

Graduate theses, honors theses, working papers, conference papers, photographs, original music, creative writing, original drama, data sets, learning modules, and so much more can be preserved and permanently accessible through TopSCHOLAR™. Not sure if your item fits? Email us to find out at topscholar@wku.edu.

HOW TO DEPOSIT YOUR MATERIALS

Please contact one of the site administrators or email topscholar@wku.edu if you are interested in contributing. We will work with you to upload your content. Deposits must include the name of author(s), title, keywords, an abstract as a separate file (up to 800 words), the complete document and any supplemental files. The email containing the request to upload will serve as the permission to publish. Each author is responsible for securing copyright permission for previously published articles.

WHO MAY CONTRIBUTE?

- WKU students with faculty-sponsored research
- WKU faculty and staff
- WKU administrative units (departments, centers, academic affairs, schools, colleges and branch campuses)

ABOUT TOPSCHOLAR™

TopSCHOLAR™ offers indexing and searching using bepress (Berkeley Electronic Publishing) technology available through ProQuest/CSA's Digital Commons platform. TopSCHOLAR™ is funded by WKU Libraries and Provost's Initiatives for Excellence.

COPYRIGHT

Many publishers now allow authors to deposit their recent publications in institutional repositories. Others may be willing to give permission. More information on copyright as it relates to TopSCHOLAR™ can be found at <http://digitalcommons.wku.edu>, <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php>, or by contacting a TopSCHOLAR™ administrator at topscholar@wku.edu. Each person is responsible for adhering to University policies regarding integrity, research, and other scholarly activities, intellectual property and other guidelines relating to scholarship at WKU. When depositing material, each submitter agrees to the following: All authors must hold ownership rights to the material, and must obtain permission from third party owners, and must agree to sign and submit copyright permission to topscholar@wku.edu.

The screenshot shows the TopSCHOLAR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, About, FAQ, My Account, and Help. Below this is a search bar with a 'SEARCH' button and a link to 'Advanced Search'. The main content area is titled 'Browse Research & Scholarship' and lists categories such as 'Colleges, departments, units', 'Journals and peer-reviewed series', and 'Authors'. There is also a 'Paper of the Day' section featuring a paper by Connie Foster, Rose Davis, Jack Montgomery, and Nelda Sims. At the bottom, there is a footer with links for Home, About, FAQ, My Account, Help, and Search.

