An Infrastructure to Measure and Assess HSS?

Platform, innovation, tools, and policies.

by Émilie Paquin & Tanja Niemann
Érudit + Public Knowledge Project

Only HSS national research infrastructure (with Canadian Research Data Center Network) out of 17.
Both founded in 1998.

Provide publishers with an open source software to manage their editorial workflow.

Decentralized and library based journal publishing system.

Provide French and bilingual HSS journals with an XML conversion capacity and a centralized point of access.

4 558,9 km
Governance structure
Non-commercial
Inter-university Consortium

Publications
- 200 scholarly journals
  - 25% annual growth since 2014
  - over 200K articles
  - 97% in OA
- 100+ books and proceedings
- 100 000+ thesis
- 3800+ research reports
Érudit services

Transformative business model to support for OA journal

Research repository for TDM
Governance structure
- Simon Fraser University Based
- Integrated into the SFU library structure

OJS Peer Reviewed Journals
in Canada
- Over 250 journals
- Mostly library hosted
- Supported by the scholcom community

around the World
- 10,000 OJS instances
  - North America,
  - Latin America
  - Europe
  - Africa
  - Asia
PKP Services

How Can We Help You?

Journal Hosting
Work with the OJS experts to host this first-class software application. Enjoy freedom from technical headaches; increased exposure for your journal; and cutting-edge features to better serve you and your readers. Whether you are starting a new

Conference Hosting
Use OCS to help manage one conference -- or as many unique conferences as your institution manages. OCS provides the tools for every step of conference organizing. We can provide a permanent home for recurring conferences, or give

Sponsored Development
Is our software missing some crucial new feature or workflow component? Tell us about it! We are always interested in talking about new features and additions to our software. No hosting necessary.

PKP Consulting
PKP experts provide a range of other services. We can help you export your existing content, implement a new graphic design, run a training session for your editors, or provide a complete security audit of your current server environment.
Partnership created by Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project to advance research dissemination and digital scholarly publishing in Canada, and support the social sciences and humanities journal community in the transition towards sustainable open access.
Coalition Publi.ca

➔ Not a platform
➔ Not a new service
➔ A partnership to:
  ◆ Coordinate publishing services to HSS publishers in Canada
  ◆ Raise awareness around HSS scholarly publishing in Canada and the need to support existing open infrastructures
Advisory Committee

11 representatives from the Canadian community:
Canadian Research Knowledge Network, Compute Canada, Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Research Data Canada, Members of the Canadian SSH journal community

International Committee

10 representatives from the International community:
University library association, publishing association, open access advocacy organization, etc.
Coalition Publi.ca

Three development priorities:

1. Publishing services and support for Canadian SSH journals
   - Partnership for OA
   - Suite of harmonized services

1. Shared technological development for publishing software and platforms
   - XML Publishing tools
   - Usage data and altmetrics
   - Metadata Working Group

1. Research activities investigating the scholarly publishing ecosystem
“National research facilities for which the loss or absence of support would represent a serious setback for Canada.”

“Secure and strengthen state-of-the-art national research facilities that enable Canadian researchers to undertake world-class research and technology development”

“Enable funded facilities to operate at an optimal level”

“Promote the adoption of best practices in governance and management”

Source: https://www.innovation.ca/awards/major-science-initiatives-fund
So **why** an infrastructure to measure research in HSS in Canada?

**Three keys points** to understand dynamics around research infrastructure in Canada
1. Open Science = Open Government

“Canadians are best served by open, accountable and transparent government that builds trust in public institutions.”

“However, we were concerned to see that half of government scientists still feel they can’t openly discuss their work. Culture change takes time and it appears that, in some areas, we need to do more to reinforce our commitment. Too many of our public sector scientists and researchers feel that they cannot fully engage with each other and with Canadians on matters related to their research expertise.”

Source: https://www.canada.ca/en/treasury-board-secretariat/services/access-information-privacy/canada-commitment-open-science.html
2. Publishing is not considered part of the research cycle

“Scholarly papers are both outputs of research and intellection and inputs into further scholarly production.”

Source:
3. Operation and maintenance funds for research infrastructures (Major Scientific Initiative program)

→ are managed and measured as research projects
→ have a relatively short term (3 - 5 or 6 years)
→ impose intensive annual assessment of the impact of the research activities of the infrastructure
→ and mid-term evaluation process that can lead to a cut or a loss of funding
Some examples of our reality with the MSI fund...
While the funding agencies have adopted in 2015 a policy on open access to make funded publications openly available within 12 months, CFI has articulated “developing lucrative activities” as a funding condition.
Annual reporting:

“Describe how the facility contributed to technology transfer during the past year.”

“Describe the research and technology development advances enabled by the facility in the past year.”

“Highlight up to three achievements of the research programs (e.g., high impact publications, keynote presentations, novel methodologies developed, prizes and awards, etc.) enabled by the facility during the past year.”
Annual reporting:

“Highlight up to three benefits that arose from activities enabled by the facility during the past year. Focus on impacts outside of academia such as changes to public policy or health practices, environmental benefits gained by the implementation of new monitoring tools, improved private industry competitiveness through the introduction of new or substantially improved products or services.

Specify the contribution of the facility to the benefit as well as the social, economic, environmental or health implications at the local, regional, or national levels.”
Collaboration is key!

How do you describe impact of your HSS infrastructure?

Do you have similar stories to tell?
Thank you!

Tanja Niemann  
Executive Director  
tanja.niemann@erudit.org

Émilie Paquin  
Director of Research and Strategic Development  
emilie.paquin@erudit.org