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Digital Commons Presentation @ AALS

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Digital Commons:

**The Legal Scholarship
Repository @ Golden Gate
University School of Law**

<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/>

What is an Institutional Repository?

- A database that preserves the legacy of our law school's intellectual work, and makes these materials easily findable with a Google search

How It All Began

- AALL 2009
- GGU School of Law - worth preserving! No other mechanism in place to preserve much of anything

How We Sold It

- Meetings with law librarians
- Meetings and presentations with Dean and Faculty

How We Funded It

- Cancellation of unused faculty library
- Other cancellations

Initial Goals

- As many faculty publications as possible
- As much of our law reviews as possible
- As many other school publications that we could find

Learning the Language

- Not a web site
- “Directories,” “folders” and “files” are called “Communities,” “Series” and “Publications”

How We Populated It

- Permission letters to publishers
- Law reviews on DVD from WS Hein & Co., Inc.
- Harvested current web site for archived material

How We Populated It

- We broke a few books
- Scanned many articles and theses
- PDFs reviewed for abstracts

What Have We Posted?

- All back issues of our law journals:
 - GGU Law Review
 - Annual Survey of International & Comparative Law
 - Environmental Law Journal
 - Cal-Law – Trends and Developments

What Have We Posted?

- Professors' scholarly work
 - Law review articles
 - Letters to the Editor (law-related)
 - Other publications

What Have We Posted?

- Ron George Lecture Series
- Annual Environmental Law Symposium
- Fulbright International Law Symposium
- Poverty Law Symposium
- Clinics' briefs & publications

What Have We Posted?

- *Golden Gate Lawyer* (alumni magazine)
- Jesse Carter Collection
- LLM and SJD theses

What Have We Posted?

- Historical Material:
 - Alumni newsletters
- To Come:
 - Commencement bulletins
 - Newspaper articles

What This Does for the GGU School of Law

- Improves community outreach for our scholarship and clinical work
- Increases the law school's visibility
- Is a tool to attract scholars, both faculty and students
- Easily showcases what we do to potential donors

Why It Works: Digital Commons from BePress

- Branded site for GGU School of Law
- Persistent URL for each entry, e.g.:
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/pubs/22/>
- Plenty of training and support

Why It Works: Digital Commons from BePress

- Optimized for fast and accurate indexing by Google and Google Scholar

Why It Works: Digital Commons from BePress

- 99.9% uptime guaranteed
- "Tell a colleague" email function
- Lots of statistics

Contact Us:

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