



# IMPACT



**MICHIGAN PUBLISHING**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sustainable Publishing for Digital Scholarship in the Humanities .....4

Opening Access to Books Increases Reach and Engagement .....6

Student Journals Catalyze Lifelong Learning and Success .....8

Michigan Publishing’s Global Impact.....10

ELT at Michigan—A Staple in the Field.....12

Cultivating the Perfect Guidebook through Teaching .....13

ELT Reflects Humanity and Broadens Access in Its Publishing .....14

Born-accessible Publishing is Good Book-making for Everyone.....15

Adding Diversity to the Data Mix.....16

Digital Infrastructure Makes Scholarship Durable for Generations .....17

When Digs Go Digital .....18

**Thank you to current organizational  
sponsors/funders including:**

- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
- Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
- Institute for Museum and Libraries Services (IMLS)
- LYRASIS Catalyst Fund
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Samuel H. Kress Foundation

# GREAT PUBLIC UNIVERSITY

## The Michigan Difference

It has been a decade since Michigan Publishing was formed, bringing the University of Michigan Press, Michigan Publishing Services, and the Deep Blue institutional repository into a single publishing entity, under the auspices of the University of Michigan Library.

Digital disruption has liberated new forms of publication, and the market for books and journals has changed dramatically since 2009. Our expert team, however, remains dedicated to being indispensable partners in advancing the impact of University of Michigan scholarship and the disciplinary communities it supports.

In a period of profound change and opportunity, we continually reinvent the platform that enables new forms of sharing and creative expression.

While a comprehensive account would be impossible, this report shares some recent stories of Michigan Publishing's impact. These stories show how we advance University priorities in academic innovation; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and faculty public engagement. They also illustrate our focus on sustainability, both in the ways we fund our operations and in our commitment to preserving digital scholarship.

The publications we create and distribute are often the first contact scholars and the general public have with the University of Michigan. As representatives of North America's leading public university, we are always focused on the quality of our publications and are held accountable by faculty governance.

We hope you are inspired to work with us and support our work by the stories of impact shared in these pages. Please visit [publishing.umich.edu](https://publishing.umich.edu) to learn more.



Charles Watkinson  
Associate University Librarian, Publishing, University of Michigan Library  
Director, University of Michigan Press

U-M Press monograph authors came from **17** countries over the last five years. The Press also published authors from **42** of the **50** US states.

**6,000** syllabi list Michigan Publishing resources, used in college classrooms around the world.

**21%** of U-M Press sales came from ebooks in the past financial year. That's a higher percentage than **90%** of university presses, reflecting a strong commitment to digital innovation.

## SUSTAINABLE PUBLISHING FOR DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP IN THE HUMANITIES

**6,500** books are sold to libraries on Fulcrum, the next generation publishing platform developed by the U-M Press and Library staff.

Michigan Publishing is pushing the boundaries of the book. The 2018 launch of Fulcrum—an open source publishing platform developed with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation—was not only a symbol of this innovation, but has opened the door for partnerships that sustain the next generation of humanities scholarship.

Fulcrum helps publishers present the full richness of authors' research in a durable, discoverable, accessible, and flexible form. Several presses already host titles on Fulcrum, which is built on robust, research library infrastructure. "Fulcrum...allows scholars to author the types of multimodal books they have desired for many years," said Beth Bouloukos, Publisher of Lever Press.



### The ACLS Humanities E-Book Collection is available on Fulcrum

Fulcrum is ideal for advancing the American Council of Learned Societies Humanities E-Book collection, an important resource of over 5,000 core humanities titles from over 70 publishers. As a recent library journal noted, ACLS HEB "combines a carefully selected collection of academic monographs related to the humanities with a straightforward user-interface." ACLS HEB has over 900 library clients, including small institutions where it serves as the only ebook collection for students and faculty.

### University of Michigan Press Ebook Collection launches

University of Michigan Press now joins a handful of academic presses selling their own collections directly to libraries. Launched in 2019, UMP EBC began with over 1,100 titles and grows annually. Going directly on Fulcrum ensures that enriched scholarship is widely distributed, and this approach has been well received by purchasing libraries.

Andrée Rathemacher, the Head of Acquisitions at the University of Rhode Island Library, said, "At a time when most of our materials budget goes to STEM content from large commercial publishers, it feels good to support a non-profit university press that publishes monographs on an open source platform. I appreciate the researcher-friendly license terms, affordable pricing, the availability of multiple ebook formats, and the support for multimedia content."



Andrée Rathemacher



Beth Bouloukos

Fulcrum is a publishing platform helping publishers present the full richness of their authors' research outputs in a durable, discoverable, accessible, and flexible form.

[www.fulcrum.org](http://www.fulcrum.org)

**"Fulcrum has enabled us to improve our brand by providing a platform that allows scholars to author the types of multimodal books they have desired for many years. As an open access press, we are thinking about accessibility on many levels and the Fulcrum team is fully supporting us in that endeavor."**

—Beth Bouloukos, Publisher of Lever Press.

**"At a time when most of our materials budget goes to STEM content from large commercial publishers, it feels good to support a non-profit university press that publishes monographs on an open source platform."**

—Andrée Rathemacher, the Head of Acquisitions at the University of Rhode Island Library.

**[ACLS HEB] "combines a carefully selected collection of academic monographs related to the humanities with a straightforward user-interface."**

—Collection Building



## OPENING ACCESS TO BOOKS INCREASES REACH AND ENGAGEMENT

**"The Color of New Media stands for inclusivity and accessibility in new media studies, so it was deeply important to us that our book be made available in an open-access edition. The University of Michigan Press and University of California Libraries helped us realize our dream."**

—Abigail De Kosnik and Keith Feldman  
University of California, Berkeley

**"ESC was an exciting and rewarding scholarly and creative challenge for me personally.... a once-in-a-career opportunity to radically rethink the form that my research might take...Michigan Publishing was a wonderful collaborator at every step of the way."**

—Jacob Smith, Northwestern University

Letting people read a book for free can actually be good business. Open Access (OA) expands the purchasing audience and supports authors' ambitions to reach all readers who need their work, not just those who can afford to buy it.

Making books OA presents special challenges because of high production costs and lack of humanities funding. Author-pays business models create potential new inequities, so Michigan Publishing partners with collective funding initiatives such as Knowledge Unlatched, TOME, and Lever Press.

Authors in disciplines such as political science, area studies, and performing arts are responding to the opportunity the Press now offers, but for different reasons.

Abigail De Kosnik worked with co-editor Keith Feldman and The Color of New Media collective to publish *#identity: Hashtagging Race, Gender, Sexuality and Nation*. As both authors note, the collective "stands for inclusivity and accessibility in new media studies, so it was deeply important to us that our book be made available in an open-access edition....We wanted our work to reach as many people as possible, and open access is facilitating that goal."

Jacob Smith's *ESC: Sonic Adventure in the Anthropocene* uses OA to enrich digital scholarship. His book's "chapters" are mostly audio files. "Michigan had the vision to recognize the potential for this new model for academic publication, and the unique set of skills and infrastructure required to make it work.... Michigan Publishing was a wonderful collaborator at every step of the way," said Smith.

Aswin Punathambekar and Sriram Mohan saw an opportunity to engage a broader international audience for their edited volume, *Global Digital Cultures: Perspectives from South Asia*. For them, OA also facilitates cross-disciplinary engagement, aligned with the ambitions of the University's Global Media Studies Institute.

While authors' primary motivations are different, being able to offer an OA option can provide acquiring editors with a competitive advantage. Through its support of sustainable OA, Michigan Publishing is also catalyzing engagement with the next generation of humanities scholarship.

## Open Access by the Numbers

**5,000:** The average number of times that a UMP open access monograph gets downloaded by users. Users in the Philippines top the list of **180** different countries where the books are used.

**1 million:** Users of the **30+** open access journals produced by Michigan Publishing last year. The **600** articles received **2+ million** page hits, **53,892** article downloads and **8,640** mentions across social media, news and blogs, policy documents, and Wikipedia.

**10 million:** Downloads from the Deep Blue institutional repository last year reflect high demand for U-M scholarship. The **#1** institutional repository in North America contains over **100,000** different research outputs from U-M faculty and graduate students, including research data, technical reports, theses and dissertations, and journal articles.



Abigail De Kosnik



Keith Feldman



## Project Partners

Knowledge Unlatched makes scholarly content freely available to everyone and contributes to the further development of the Open Access (OA) infrastructure.

[www.knowledgeunlatched.org](http://www.knowledgeunlatched.org)

Towards an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) advances the wide dissemination of scholarship by humanities and humanistic social sciences faculty members through open access editions.

[www.openmonographs.org](http://www.openmonographs.org)

Lever Press is a scholarly press operated in partnership between the Oberlin Group, Amherst College Press, and Michigan Publishing Services and is supported by a consortium of fifty-four liberal arts institutions of higher education.

[www.leverpress.org](http://www.leverpress.org)

## Books

*ESC: Sonic Adventure in the Anthropocene*  
By Jacob Smith, Northwestern University  
[www.press.umich.edu/10120795/esc](http://www.press.umich.edu/10120795/esc)

*Global Digital Cultures: Perspectives from South Asia*  
Edited by Aswin Punathambekar and Sriram Mohan  
[www.press.umich.edu/9561751/global\\_digital\\_cultures](http://www.press.umich.edu/9561751/global_digital_cultures)

*#identity: Hashtagging Race, Gender, Sexuality and Nation*  
By Abigail De Kosnik and Keith Feldman  
[www.press.umich.edu/9697041/#identity](http://www.press.umich.edu/9697041/#identity)

## STUDENT JOURNALS CATALYZE LIFELONG LEARNING AND SUCCESS

**"Working on the U-M Undergraduate Research Journal has been an incredibly rewarding experience. Through working on a student journal, I've gained faculty and student connections around campus, and even at other campuses."**

— Matthew Ward, *UMURJ* Editor (2018-2019)



Caitlin Heenan

**"Michigan Publishing helped our editors stay focused on the quality of our publication by taking away the stress of having to copy edit, typeset, and print the journal ourselves. We also found new outlets to share our work with others and expand the reach of our publication through a partnership with Michigan Publishing."**

— Caitlin Heenan, *UJPH* Editor (2018-2019)

In many cases, students go to college for experiences and insights that will prepare them for their professional lives. Michigan Publishing provides a meaningful, measurable output of that experience.

Michigan Journals is home to more than 30 electronic serials, publishing peer-reviewed scholarship in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Among these are unique student-run journals that allow students at Michigan to publish in an impactful way.

"Working as an editor on a student-run publication gave me the opportunity to work on projects I found meaningful with like-minded people," said Caitlin Heenan from the *Undergraduate Journal of Public Health (UJPH)*. "We also found new outlets to share our work with others and expand the reach of our publication through a partnership with Michigan Publishing."

Within the Michigan Journals program, student-led publications are treated like traditional academic journals, with articles provided in a fully searchable HTML format that Google Scholar will index, and with access to copy editors, professional typesetting, and printing.

This seriousness is key to the mission of the Michigan Journals program. "When you can say 40,000 people looked at your articles, that's a lot different than just distributing copies to 50 people in your department," said Michigan Publishing Journals Coordinator Sean Guynes.

For many years, the University Library has supported the ambitious students in U-M's prestigious Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) with the annual publication of the *University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Journal*. Funded through UROP and the Office of Research, the journal has been active for 14 years, a track record which is unusual for student-led publications to achieve.

According to Guynes, this journals program is a way to help students beyond their Michigan Experience. "It's about pride in research. They want the professional experience," he said. "They have the Michigan degree, but now they also have this experience as an editor. They want to show they're more than just a 4.0."

**\$3.5 million** in grants were given to Michigan Publishing in the last five years to support innovative new approaches to scholarly communication from funders including the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Institutes of Health, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

## Student-led publications

- *University of Michigan Undergraduate Research Journal*
- *Undergraduate Journal of Public Health*
- *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- *Michigan Journal of Medicine*
- *Absinthe: A Journal of World Literature in Translation*

**"The way I see it, publishing and research are, in many ways, complements. When you better your skills in one, you better your skills in the other, and consequently, working as an editor for *UMURJ* has improved my own abilities to write and verbalize the information gained through my research."**

—Anna Kang, *UMURJ*  
Editor (2019-2020)



Anna Kang

**"When you can say 40,000 people looked at your articles, that's a lot different than just distributing copies to 50 people in your department."**

—Michigan Publishing  
Journals Coordinator  
Sean Guynes

# MICHIGAN PUBLISHING'S GLOBAL IMPACT

## San Francisco:

Working with the CLOCKSS archive at Stanford University, we are finding new ways to make enriched digital publications preservable for the long term.

**Michigan:** Our definitive reference books on the fauna and flora of Michigan have gone through multiple editions over the last 90 years.

## Atlanta:

A grant from LYRASIS, based in Atlanta, is helping Deep Blue research data services experts to improve scholarship in diversity, equity, and inclusion."

## New York:

For 15 years, we've partnered with the American Council of Learned Societies in New York to distribute a collection of 5,000 humanities ebooks to more than 900 libraries.

# NORTH AMERICA

**UK:** The London Book Fair nominated U-M Press as a finalist for the international publisher of the year in 2019, citing its reputation for innovation.

# EUROPE

**Ecuador:** Ecuador is the largest export market for the publications of the U-M Press English Language Teaching division, working with Michigan Language Assessment.

# SOUTH AMERICA

# AFRICA

**Ethiopia:** MPS publishes CIRHT's case studies, training women's health professionals in Africa.

**Various Countries, Africa:** Edited by U-M faculty members, *African Perspectives* publishes the highest quality and most innovative research from scholars based in and beyond Africa.

**Russia:** In 1957, we defied the CIA and KGB in the name of academic freedom to publish the first US edition of Pasternak's *Dr. Zhivago*, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

**Western China:** We partner with the Smithsonian Institution's Freer and Sackler galleries to publish *Ars Orientalis*, an online journal about the art of the Middle East and Asia.

# ASIA

**Japan:** We distribute over 300 titles from the U-M International Institute's South, Southeast, and East Asian centers. A grant from NEH is making many available open access.

**Philippines:** Scholars in the Philippines are the biggest beneficiaries of our open access book programs, when usage stats are weighted by number of institutions in a country.

**Western Australia:** With funding from the Mellon Foundation, we are working with researchers from Curtin University in Perth to create a data trust for ebook usage information.

# OCEANIA

## ELT AT MICHIGAN—A STAPLE IN THE FIELD

If there is an ESL course taught at an R1 institution in the United States, the odds are good that it has used a textbook from the English Language Teaching (ELT) list at the University of Michigan. For more than 60 years, University of Michigan Press's ELT list has served as the publishing arm of the University's English Language Institute, the first place in the United States to offer English as a Second Language courses.

This partnership has produced essential textbooks from some of the most well-respected authors in the field. *Academic Writing for Graduate Students* has been used in 85% of R1 institutions in the United States and Canada. Renowned author Keith Folse has published over 30 books under the ELT imprint. In addition, the close relationship between ELT and ELI is unique.

"I cannot think of any other situation in any other university where a Press and a unit have been so closely integrated for so many years," said former ELI director Larry Selinker during his remarks at the Institute's 75th anniversary celebration in 2016. "The whole idea of the ELI and Michigan Press over so many years is such an incredible, pure academic success story."

Now in its 3rd edition, *Academic Writing for Graduate Students* (known globally as "Swales & Feak," after authors John M. Swales & Christine B. Feak) has sold nearly 185,000 copies. The book embodies what a Michigan English for Academic Purposes (EAP) book is—one that teaches the skills international students need to get admitted to a university, complete a degree, and establish their voice and identity as a junior scholar in their field.

"Without these texts, many students would not publish the research that launches their academic careers, let alone finish the dissertation that gets them hired or produce the first scholarly monograph and that ultimately gets them tenure," said ELT Director Kelly Sippell.

The ELT list will continue to have an impact on L2 publishing, the field of second language writing, and graduate student development.

**"I cannot think of any other situation in any other university where a Press and a unit have been so closely integrated for so many years. The whole idea of the ELI and [ELT at] Michigan Press over so many years is such an incredible, pure academic success story."**

—Larry Selinker, former ELI Director

**"Without these texts, many students would not publish the research that launches their academic careers, let alone finish the dissertation that gets them hired or produce the first scholarly monograph and that ultimately gets them tenure."**

—ELT Director Kelly Sippell

### Project Partner

English Language Institute  
(ELI) at the University of  
Michigan  
[lsa.umich.edu/eli](http://lsa.umich.edu/eli)

## CULTIVATING THE PERFECT GUIDEBOOK THROUGH TEACHING

University of Michigan Press publishes a rich collection of books that explore the history, culture, and environment of the Great Lakes region. These books are collaborative efforts with campus partners. A particularly fruitful example involves a book that has been in print since 1913 and a beloved undergraduate course taught in the School for Environment and Sustainability.

Originally published as a *University Bulletin*, *Michigan Trees* first appeared under the University of Michigan Press imprint in 1931. Since then, the book has been updated and expanded multiple times, with a new edition due in 2020. *Michigan Trees* has always been an important resource for Michigan's citizenry and professional readers. Today, virtually all public libraries in Michigan own copies of the book, and it is part of the training curriculum run by the USDA and Michigan DNR.

Beginning in the 1960s, the book also became indelibly linked to the classroom when it was adopted by U-M's Woody Plants course, developed by Professors Burton V. Barnes and Warren "Herb" Wagner to teach students about the plant life in the diverse landscapes around Ann Arbor. "Woody plants form the scaffolding of natural communities," Wagner once said. "The study of woody plants may be the only time people get to actually see what they're trying to save."

In the following decades, *Michigan Trees* accommodated the demands of the classroom, including sections on climate change, the impact of invasive species, and the evolution of forests across our region. *Michigan Trees* is now viewed as one of the country's preeminent botanical guides, used in courses at the University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota, and University of Maryland, among other schools. The New York Botanical Garden, Los Angeles County Arboretum, and even the Conservatory and Botanical Garden of the City of Geneva have copies—some 4,000 miles away from the region covered by the book.

**"Woody plants form the scaffolding of natural communities. The study of woody plants may be the only time people get to actually see what they're trying to save."**

—Professor Warren "Herb" Wagner, U-M School of Natural Resources

**"My first semester I took 'Woody Plants' with Burt Barnes and Herb Wagner. . . I was in heaven! I couldn't BELIEVE what was expected of us in Woody Plants. Long afternoons in the field—sun, rain, sleet or hail—and we had them all. And long hours in the indoor lab memorizing soggy leaves and twigs in light-green lab trays. There were compelling lectures, too. I had to write furiously to keep up with Burt and was amazed at Herb's ability to entertain. I just loved it."**

—U-M School of Natural Resources alumna  
Connie Ruth (B.S. '76, M.S. '83)



### Books

*Michigan Trees* (2004)  
By Burton V. Barnes and  
Warren H. Wagner, Jr.  
[www.press.umich.edu/17709/  
michigan\\_trees\\_revised\\_and\\_  
updated](http://www.press.umich.edu/17709/michigan_trees_revised_and_updated)

*Michigan Shrubs and Vines* (2016)  
By Burton V. Barnes and  
Warren H. Wagner, Jr.  
[www.press.umich.edu/296735/  
michigan\\_shrubs\\_and\\_vines](http://www.press.umich.edu/296735/michigan_shrubs_and_vines)

## ELT REFLECTS HUMANITY AND BROADENS ACCESS IN ITS PUBLISHING

Much like all of the work at Michigan Publishing, the values of diversity and accessibility are woven into the English Language Teaching (ELT) list. Not only does the list serve multilingual teachers and students around the world, it supports accessibility through innovative content.

A perfect example is the 2018 title: *Refugee Students: What Every ESL Teacher Needs to Know*, which serves as an advocate for international students, immigrants, and refugees. It was published in the fall of 2018 to coincide with author Jeffra Flaitz being invited to several ESL Advocacy events based on her experience as an advocate in a detainee camp in 2016, her experience in the Florida public schools, and as a professor/teacher trainer (PhD in Linguistics).

"Teachers were thrilled to have a small guide to give to people that reinforce the truth about refugees and immigrants in the U.S. ahead of the 2018 elections," said ELT Director Kelly Sippell. An expanded version is planned due to the success of the book.

As one of ELT's newest e-singles/digi-minis, *Refugee Students* is also an example of how the ELT list is broadening access through more easily accessible content. The e-singles were designed to not only attract new audiences of teachers—both local and abroad—but new authors. These works are short, easily digestible, low-cost ebooks on topics that can (and should) be updated—and often provide a good opportunity for authors to do so.

"In some ways, it helps lure authors into the digital publishing world in a more 'reasonable' way, which can lead to thinking about their existing (or new) print content in new ways," Sippell says.

The increased access also generates more speaking opportunities for authors to talk about their work internationally. These texts can also be included in massive open online courses, thus increasing the visibility of Michigan as an innovative ELT publisher in a "bit" / a la carte purchasing environment.

### The deal with digi-minis:

- 40-60 single-spaced pages or about 18,000 words
- Limited art/figures/tables
- High royalty rate as an incentive to produce quickly
- \$3.99 Net price

**"Teachers were thrilled to have a small guide to give to people that reinforces the truth about refugees and immigrants in the U.S. ahead of the 2018 elections."**

**"In some ways, it helps lure authors into the digital publishing world in a more 'reasonable' way, which can lead to thinking about their existing (or new) print content in new ways."**

— ELT Director Kelly Sippell

### Books

*Refugee Students: What Every ESL Teacher Needs to Know*  
By Jeffra Flaitz

[www.press.umich.edu/10000828/refugee\\_students](http://www.press.umich.edu/10000828/refugee_students)

*MOOCs: What Every ESL Teacher Needs to Know*  
By Pamela S.H. Bogart  
[www.press.umich.edu/10140778/moocs](http://www.press.umich.edu/10140778/moocs)

*The Three Minute Thesis in the Classroom: What Every ESL Teacher Needs to Know*  
By Heather Boldt  
[www.press.umich.edu/11362475/the\\_three\\_minute\\_thesis\\_in\\_the\\_classroom](http://www.press.umich.edu/11362475/the_three_minute_thesis_in_the_classroom)



## BORN-ACCESSIBLE PUBLISHING IS GOOD BOOK-MAKING FOR EVERYONE

Michigan Publishing is committed to leading on accessibility and disability issues. When readers with visual impairments couldn't effectively read Press ebooks, comprehensive work to address the ongoing needs of our readers began.

As a leading advocate for the blind and partially-sighted, Syracuse University professor Stephen Kuusisto notes, "The University of Michigan Press has become the national leader in assuring scholarly publications can be accessed by the disabled....They've imagined publications beyond mere accessibility by pioneering descriptive techniques to make illustrations and technical materials available to readers with disabilities."

Making digital publications and media available to the broadest audience is a core value of the U-M Library. Since Fall 2015, the Michigan Publishing Accessibility Group has helped the organization update its workflows, implement accessible technologies and systems, and spurred the publication of an open access book by Stephanie Rosen, Accessibility Specialist, called *Accessibility and Publishing*.

The Press's disability studies list has also been a catalyst. Since 2015, Michigan Publishing has offered the Tobin Siebers Prize for Disability Studies in the Humanities, awarded in memory of disability studies pioneer Tobin Siebers, Professor of English at the University of Michigan. This prestigious annual prize for the best disabilities studies manuscript raises awareness about the field and ensures the growth of a highly regarded list of more than 50 titles covering topics from literary and cultural depictions of disability to representation on the stage, or even in the classroom.

As of January 2019, University of Michigan Press's Ebook collection on Fulcrum has basic textual descriptions for every image and transcripts and captioning for associated video.

One Michigan State University graduate student from an accessibility testing group was pleased with that work. "A blind person can follow exactly what's going on in this ebook, which is amazing. I'm very impressed with the image description quality."

Michigan Publishing remains committed to leading on accessibility as a publisher and a community partner for authors, publishers, and readers in the arts and humanities.

**"The University of Michigan Press has become the national leader in assuring scholarly publications can be accessed by the disabled. But they've also taken a second more dynamic step. They've imagined publications beyond mere accessibility by pioneering descriptive techniques to make illustrations and technical materials available to readers with disabilities."**

—Syracuse University professor  
Stephen Kuusisto

**"Whoa, that is awesome. Okay, let's do that again, because that just described what the illustration was. Awesome, good job... Holy crap, I'm getting distracted, but I'm very happy right now because all of these are described and a blind person can follow exactly what's going on in this ebook, which is amazing. I don't know who's describing these pictures, but they need to go and describe my math books... I'm very impressed with the image description quality."**

—Anonymous Michigan State University  
graduate student, MSU's Usability and  
Accessibility Research Consulting



Tobin Siebers

### Tobin Siebers Prize Winners:

2019

*Vitality Politics:  
Health, Debility, and  
the Limits of Black  
Emancipation*  
By Stephen Knadler

2018

*Monstrous Kinds:  
Body, Space,  
and Narrative  
in Renaissance  
Representations of  
Disability*  
By Elizabeth B. Bearden

2017

*Foucault and Feminist  
Philosophy of Disability*  
By Shelley L. Tremain

2016

*War on Autism:  
On the Cultural Logic of  
Normative Violence*  
By Anne McGuire



## Project Partners

Data Driven Detroit  
[datadrivendetroit.org](http://datadrivendetroit.org)

## ADDING DIVERSITY TO THE DATA MIX

The University of Michigan Library has always harnessed data to solve big problems. Now, with a recent LYRASIS grant, they will partner with the National Center for Institutional Diversity (NCID) and collaborate with Data Driven Detroit (D3) to develop a toolkit for diversity scholars.

As a part of the LYRASIS Catalyst Fund, the Open Data Toolkit Based on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEI&A) Principles will provide guidance on best practices in collecting, managing, utilizing, sharing, and curating research data for the public good.

"Sharing one's data with others outside of the project is a relatively new expectation and one that many researchers may be unprepared to tackle," says Rachel Woodbrook, Data Curation Librarian at Michigan Publishing and lead PI. "Additionally, there is a tragic legacy of extracting data from communities without care or concern for the consequences of having done so or the rights of people to have access to information about themselves that could benefit them."

That's why, in addition to addressing data management and sharing, the toolkit will incorporate DEI&A principles into the entire fabric of research from the beginning. This includes addressing responsible reuse of data, planning consent for future data sharing, structuring data so that it is shareable and understood more easily, and returning data to the communities in which it originates in usable forms.

Laura Sánchez-Parkinson, the Program Manager for Research at NCID, sees it as an opportunity to include marginalized voices in the conversation.

"The data collection process and data sharing practices can be particularly sensitive for projects that include populations who are vulnerable," Sánchez-Parkinson said. "The Open Data Project allows us to further understand the data practices of diversity scholars and how open data can be leveraged to build on existing work and foster collaboration among scholars."

Michigan Publishing sees this grant as creating new areas for discussion in a practical, actionable way and demonstrates Michigan's continued leadership on areas such as diversity.



Laura Sánchez-Parkinson



National Center for  
Institutional Diversity  
(NCID) at the University of  
Michigan  
[lsa.umich.edu/ncid](http://lsa.umich.edu/ncid)

## DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAKES SCHOLARSHIP DURABLE FOR GENERATIONS



Jeremy Morse

It sometimes feels like you'll always be able to retrieve electronic files or data. Until you can't.

"The problem with digital is that things break easily. Apps go out of date, and all of a sudden you can't open things," said Jeremy Morse, Michigan Publishing's Director of Publishing Technology. "Digital preservation takes active management and care. It also means having contingency plans for things that can go wrong."

When it comes to scholarly research, it's vital to have access to stable source material. That's why a key mission of Michigan Publishing's Fulcrum platform is preservation. Michigan Publishing approaches this from several angles: preserving the data exactly as it is at the smallest, most basic level (bit preservation); reformatting the content to work in future file formats and programs (migration); and taking a "snapshot" of the content in its original form to preserve the initial user experience (emulation).

This approach has required different tools and partnerships for Michigan Publishing: CLOCKSS, a digital preservation archive that preserves scholarly publications in their original format, and Academic Preservation Trust (APTrust), which serves as a disaster recovery service at the bit level, in the event of a massive data loss or a university no longer being able to support the maintenance of the data in question.

CLOCKSS actively scrolls Michigan Publishing's site for data to update, while APTrust requires manually depositing new data every month. It's a lot of work for the tech team, but there's a reason durability is one of the core Fulcrum missions.

"As a scholar, if you're doing research and you cite something in your work, you want future scholars to be able to find that same thing you saw when you cited it so the integrity of your argument is maintained," Morse said.

**"Doing it one way in CLOCKSS and another in APTrust is strategic diversity. If it turns out one approach was better, we've hedged our bets."**

**"Digital preservation takes active management and care."**

—Jeremy Morse, Michigan Publishing's  
Director of Publishing Technology

University of Michigan is one of over **35** institutional partners in Samvera, a grass-roots, open-source community creating best-in-class digital asset management solutions for libraries, archives, museums, and others. The software that University of Michigan Library developers create is donated back to the community. This open source community approach contributes to a stable technology environment.

## Project Partners

Academic Preservation Trust, committed to the creation and management of a sustainable environment for digital preservation.

**[aptrust.org](http://aptrust.org)**

CLOCKSS, provides a sustainable dark archive to ensure the long-term survival of Web-based scholarly content.

**[clockss.org](http://clockss.org)**



## WHEN DIGS GO DIGITAL

When archaeologists dig, they simultaneously erase the evidence of ancient civilizations. This means that publishing their finds is vital. At the University of Michigan, scholars are working with U-M Press to create innovative publications that present data in immersive ways, while still preserving the quality that specialists value.

Since 2007, Dr. Nic Terrenato has led a multinational team sponsored by the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology that studies the evolution of urbanism at the site of Gabii near Rome. Collaborating with the Press technology team and Dr. Ellen Bauerle, Senior Acquiring Editor, Terrenato and his colleagues have created a new form of digital publication.

Their first work, *A Mid-Republican House from Gabii*, was published in 2016. Its production entailed a complex and collaborative set of activities to integrate textual description with a 3D model of the site and the fieldwork database. Lead author Dr. Rachel Opitz worked closely with U-M graduate students Tyler Johnson and Matt Naglak, and the Press's front-end developer Jon McGlone to ensure this integration. Jon, having traveled to Italy to work with the project, notes, "Built on research library infrastructure, Fulcrum offers a perfect platform for disciplines like archaeology where there is rich data that needs to be preserved for the long-term."

Ensuring public engagement is top of mind for Dr. Mike Galaty, Director of the U-M Museum of Anthropological Archaeology, as

he oversees the UMMAA Publication Series, established in 1932 and boasting over 100 archaeological and ethnographic titles. He observes, "If we don't pop up at the top of the list when someone searches on 'archaeology', then we are losing the battle." For the publication series, working with the Press and the Library's Digital Conversion Unit to move from print into a digital format was essential.

U-M archaeologists seek to engage the public in new ways while staying true to the values of their discipline. Through the expertise of its editors and technologists, the Press is finding new ways of bringing the lessons of the past to life.

### Project Partners

Kelsey Museum of  
Archaeology at the  
University of Michigan  
[lsa.umich.edu/kelsey](http://lsa.umich.edu/kelsey)

Museum of Anthropological  
Archaeology at the  
University of Michigan  
[lsa.umich.edu/ummaa](http://lsa.umich.edu/ummaa)

**"Built on research library infrastructure,  
Fulcrum offers a perfect platform for  
disciplines like archaeology where there is  
rich data that needs to be preserved for the  
long-term."**

—Jon McGlone,  
Front-end developer at Michigan Publishing



**Regents of the University of Michigan**

Jordan B. Acker; Michael J. Behm; Mark J. Bernstein;  
Paul W. Brown; Shauna Ryder Diggs; Denise Ilitch;  
Ron Weiser; Katherine E. White; Mark S. Schlissel,  
*ex officio*

© 2019 Regents of the University of Michigan

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office for Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388, institutional.equity@umich.edu. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.

**[www.publishing.umich.edu](http://www.publishing.umich.edu)**

Printed Using Vegetable-Based Inks  
10% Recycled Fiber  
Elemental Chlorine Free