Engaging the Web for Scholarship, Pedagogy, and Publication

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As a Research Extensive institution, it is imperative for the academic community to maximize its research output and scholarly activity. One way to accomplish this is through the web, i.e., the Internet and its associated media which can assist in the dissemination and access of these products; Scholarworks@UMassAmherst is one way the campus is supporting this goal. This third installment of the Digital Quadrangle Series at UMass Amherst will further involve our community in the dialog regarding migration to a web-based research showcase and provide tools for achieving this goal. We are pleased to have Dr. Siva Vaidhyanathan, associate professor of Media Studies and Law at the University of Virginia, share his perspectives about this emerging “trans-field,” which is concerned broadly with the politics of information in contemporary, connected societies in a talk titled, “The Googlization of Everything.” He is one of academe’s best known scholars of intellectual property (IP) and its role in contemporary culture. A more detailed biography of our keynote speaker is below.

More locally, faculty members across campus are already part of this digital revolution. After Dr. Vaidhyanathan’s presentation, a few scholars will share their experiences with and provide examples of their use of Scholarworks for teaching and research, online journals, and publication. This exercise is particularly timely as the campus considers an application for the Carnegie Foundation’s Classification on Community Engagement. Vice Provost for Research Paul Kostecki will talk about a new online journal he’s recently launched, Amilcar Shabazz, chair of the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of Afro-American Studies, will …, and {last presenter title and name} will impart … [list names? Ian Beatty, Paul Kostecki, Marla Miller/Julie Hayes,

The luncheon portion of the event will include a facilitated roundtable discussion for UMass Amherst faculty, students, and staff interested in using Scholarworks. ScholarWorks provides the infrastructure and support for creating the access and dissemination vehicles referenced above and also provides for the long-term preservation of the research and scholarly products. Critical for this transformation are faculty awareness of author and IP rights, alternative digital publishing platforms, and knowledge of how to use ScholarWorks. Participants will leave with actionable plans for their use of ScholarWorks.

Please join us for this 3rd Annual Digital Quadrangle series. Dr. Vaidhyanathan’s talk and faculty presentations are open to the public. The roundtable lunch portion of the program is open to UMass Amherst faculty, students, and staff only. Please RSVP accordingly to one of the contacts below by Wed, March 19, 2008.

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Biography for Siva Vaidhyanathan

Siva Vaidhyanathan, a cultural historian and media scholar, is the author of Copyrights and Copywrongs: The Rise of Intellectual Property and How it Threatens Creativity (New York University Press, 2001) and The Anarchist in the Library: How the Clash between Freedom and Control is Hacking the Real World and Crashing the System (Basic Books, 2004). His most recent book is the edited (with Carolyn de la Pena) collection, Rewiring the Nation: The Place of Technology in American Studies (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007). Vaidhyanathan has written for many periodicals, including American Scholar, The Chronicle of Higher Education, The New York Times Magazine, MSNBC.COM, Salon.com, openDemocracy.net, Columbia Journalism Review, and The Nation. After five years as a professional journalist, Vaidhyanathan earned a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin. He has taught at Wesleyan University, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Columbia University, New York University, and now is an associate professor of Media Studies and Law at the University of Virginia and a fellow at both the New York Institute for the Humanities and the Institute for the Future of the Book. He lives in Charlottesville, VA.