



## What is the Digital Commons?

- The Digital Commons is Miami Dade College's open-access institutional repository of student and faculty work
- The Digital Commons collects, preserves, curates, and makes accessible the research, scholarship, and creative works of the MDC community
- The Digital Commons will be hosted on Islandora, which will allow it to become the central access point for MDC-produced scholarship and creative works while establishing a lasting platform for the materials to be preserved and disseminated.

## Benefits for Students

- Work submitted to the Digital Commons receives a static web address that can be added to resumes, websites, and portfolios. This ensures accessibility even after graduation.
- Students will be able to view the works of their fellow students, allowing them to see what work is produced within classes or in programs they may be interested in.
- Work will be curated and highlighted to the wider college community as exemplars student achievement.

## Innovations of the Digital Commons

### **Open Access**

- The Digital Commons will be an open access platform, meaning that anyone that accesses the site will be able to view the materials in the database.

### **Creative Commons Licensing**

- Instead of using a simple copyright statement, Digital Commons wants to empower students to understand and exercise their intellectual property rights.
- Using Creative Commons licensing allows students to gain a deeper understanding of how they can exercise their IP rights, and gives them the ability to choose how controlled or how freely they want their work to be disseminated.

### **Student Developed Folksonomy**

- There is a gap between controlled vocabularies used within archives and catalogs, and how our users interact with the database.
- Using keyword fields within our submission portal allows us to develop student-contributed terminology that will be linked with our controlled vocabulary (Library of Congress Subject Headings) to make sure that we bridge the gap and ensure higher visibility for materials within the database.

### **Submission Portal**

- Self-sustainability is the main goal of the digital commons project..
- By creating a submission portal, students will be able to freely contribute their own work to the Digital Commons.
- This gives them experience in entering key metadata and getting an understanding of what goes into the development of records within a database.

To visit the  
Digital Commons :

