

Advancing Hyku: Open Source Institutional Repository Platform Development

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Hyku Open Source Institutional Repository Development Partnership awarded Arcadia grant to improve open scholarship infrastructure

The University of Virginia is pleased to announce a two-year award in the amount of \$1,000,000 from Arcadia—a charitable fund of philanthropists Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin—in support of the “Advancing Hyku: Open Source Institutional Repository Platform Development” project.

Through this project, the University of Virginia and its partner institutions—Ubiquity Press and the British Library—will support the growth of open access through institutional repositories. Working with the global open infrastructure community, the partners will introduce significant structural improvements and new features to the Samvera Community’s Hyku Institutional Repository platform.



Beginning October 2019, the project will make the open source community institutional repository product Hyku a more attractive dissemination option by:

1. integrating open-resource discovery tools (e.g. Unpaywall, Open Access Button) to automatically scale repository contents.
2. adding metrics to indicate usage of contents (e.g. citations, social media).
3. connecting and syncing with author identification and profile services (e.g. ORCID).
4. encouraging interaction with contents through in-browser display, visualization and annotation.
5. establishing pathways to long-term preservation services.
6. assessing requirements and jointly creating detailed, component-specific development plans, resulting in the collaborative development of new capabilities.



All code will be released open source, to be merged with the Hyku core codebase in accord with the Samvera Community’s practices.

The University of Virginia Library and the British Library are working alongside fellow Samvera community member Ubiquity Press.

“We’re excited that Arcadia is supporting this significant upgrade of the Hyku platform, the next generation of open source institutional repository software used by libraries and memory institutions worldwide, including UVA. Advancing Hyku will make it much easier for authors to make their work openly available through their institutional repository and safeguard the long-term preservation of their work.” - John Unsworth, Dean and University Librarian, University of Virginia.

“Knowledge has always been shared and preserved through community infrastructures such as libraries. This makes it important for libraries to be actively involved in digital infrastructures like repositories, to contribute to a sustainable open knowledge environment.” - Torsten Reimer, Head of Research Services, British Library

“For many years now, institutional repositories have struggled both for adoption by researchers, and to deliver on the promise of green open access for the academic community, funders and the broader public. We believe that we can use our experience as publishers in this project and help Hyku repositories achieve the tipping point and become places valued by scholars for more broadly disseminating their work.” - Brian Hole, CEO, Ubiquity Press

