

Digital Archive

COPYRIGHT: AUTHORS' RIGHTS AND REPONSIBILITIES

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library is hosting and administering the USFSP Digital Archive on behalf of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg community. Authors (including the University) who submit their work to the USFSP Digital Archive retain the copyright to their work, unless they explicitly give it away to a third party, such as a publisher. The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library does not seek nor claim copyright on any of the works submitted to the USFSP Digital Archive. As part of submitting materials to the Digital Archive, authors must agree to a non-exclusive distribution license, granting the library the right to take the necessary steps to preserve the files and make them available to the intended audience. Unlike some formal publications, however, authors may make other copies of their work available on web sites or through other means without obtaining permission from the Library. They may also formally publish their work, in the same form or in a revised form, without notifying or obtaining permission from the Library.

Authors may set conditions on the re-use of their materials in the USFSP Digital Archive by affixing permission and copyright statements to the items. Depositing work in the Archive automatically provides a time and date stamp that will verify the authors' expression of ideas or document the results of research at a given point in time. In addition, authors may place an embargo on the public availability of materials in the archive while they pursue patents or formal publication.

Authors who wish to deposit in the Archive work that has been previously published must verify that their publishers allow such self-archiving. Many commercial and academic publishers allow authors to submit pre- and post-prints of their work online in such institutional digital archives, as long as the file submitted is not the publisher's PDF or HTML file. The Sherpa Web site at http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php provides information on the archiving restrictions of many of the world's publishers. The library will assist individual authors in investigating the copyright restrictions of previously-published works and in creating an acceptable version of the file for submission.