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# Annual Report - 2015

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## Scholarly Commons @ IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law

<http://scholarship.kentlaw.iit.edu/>

### Annual Report May 1, 2015

Prepared by Jona Whipple, Digital Resources Librarian and Administrator of Scholarly Commons

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#### **A Message from Keith Ann Stiverson, Director of the Law Library**

I am proud to present our First Annual Report of Scholarly Commons: the legal scholarship repository at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. The Law Library was an early adopter of Bepress's Digital Commons platform as its repository.

Researchers from all over the world continue download and cite our growing contributions to legal scholarship on a daily basis. Our past achievements, historical documents, esteemed Law Reviews, and other intellectual output of the Law School are now available on a global level. Our download counts indicate that we have been very successful in our mission to provide open access to the scholarship in our repository.

Preserving our history and our contribution to the field of legal scholarship online remains impossible without the participation and interest of our faculty and administration.

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## Introduction

*Scholarly Commons @ IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law* is the institutional repository for the Law School's intellectual work and contributions to the field of law. Research and scholarly output has been selected and deposited by the individual university departments on campus. This report highlights the major accomplishments of Scholarly Commons during the period from April 2014 to April 2015.



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## Our Mission

The mission of Scholarly Commons is to archive, preserve, and increase access to the intellectual products of the Chicago-Kent College of Law.

## System Information

Scholarly Commons is supported by Berkeley Electronic Press (Bepress), using the latest version of Digital Commons. Digital Commons is ADA compliant. To see a complete list of the growing number of law schools using this platform, please visit:

<http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/institutional-repository-law/>

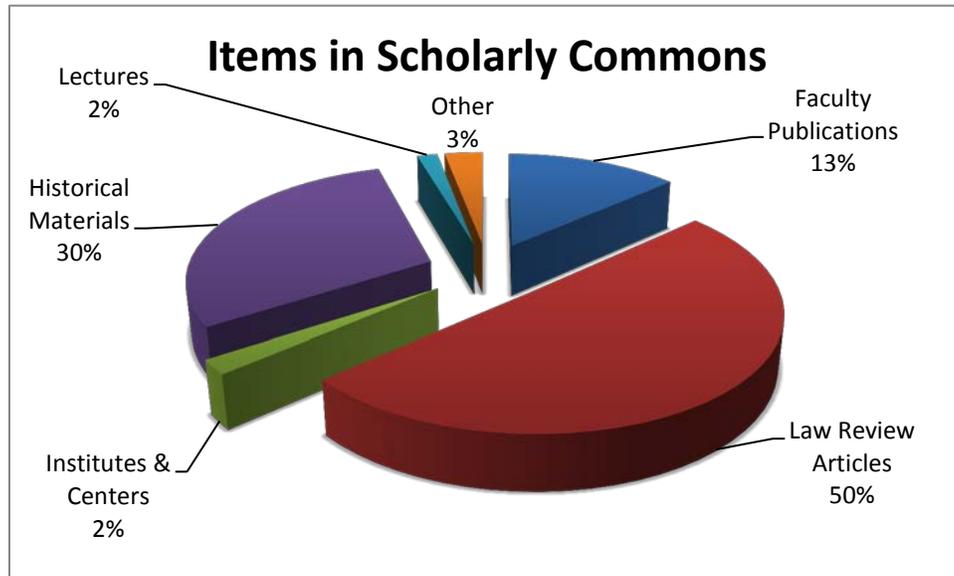
## Law Commons

The Digital Commons Network allows researchers to easily access the scholarship in all Digital Commons repositories by topic. Researchers may also subscribe to email alerts for articles on specific topics. Chicago-Kent College of Law consistently ranks high in Law Commons for the popularity of articles in the disciplines of Estates and Trusts, Bankruptcy Law, Intellectual Property, and Water Law, among others. Explore Law Commons here:

<http://network.bepress.com/law/>

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## At-a-Glance



<b>Distinct Items in Scholarly Commons:</b> <b>6,375</b>	
<b>Cumulative Full-Text Downloads:</b> <b>538,220</b>	<b>Number of Visits April 2014-April 2015:</b> <b>15,526</b>
<b>Full-Text Downloads April 2014-April 2015:</b> <b>423,028</b>	

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## Our Audience

In the past year, Scholarly Commons had 13,328 unique visitors and 3,298 repeat visitors. Most users (48%) found our content via Google searches. Visitors from around the world downloaded items from Scholarly Commons. Below is a list of the top 10 countries:

Country	Sessions	% Sessions
1.  United States	10,609	 64.20%
2.  United Kingdom	902	 5.46%
3.  Canada	445	 2.69%
4.  India	343	 2.08%
5.  Australia	339	 2.05%
6.  Germany	272	 1.65%
7.  China	225	 1.36%
8.  France	183	 1.11%
9.  Netherlands	162	 0.98%
10.  Italy	133	 0.80%

\*“Sessions” indicates individual visits to the repository, including repeat visits.

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## Major Collections in Scholarly Commons

### ***Faculty Scholarship***

The Faculty Scholarship series includes articles, book chapters, briefs, and popular media written by faculty. Each article deposited in Scholarly Commons has been posted by permission of publishers. Faculty authors receive download counts via email directly from Bepress, combined with Selected Works download count data.

Securing self-archiving rights and posting faculty articles in Scholarly Commons not only makes Chicago-Kent College of Law more visible to members of the Law School community, it also broadens the audience to include researchers from across the globe. Each article deposited in Scholarly Commons is permanently linked in that location and will never be moved or changed. Citations to that article will

always lead back to the reliable source. Creating a permanent, functional archive of our faculty's work means that it will be available to researchers for years to come.

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**Number of items in Faculty Scholarship: 834**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 38,624**

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The most popular item in the Faculty Scholarship collection was A. D. Tarlock, *The Legal-Political Barriers to Ramping Up Hydro*, 86 CHI.-KENT L. REV. 259 (2011), with 1,164 downloads.

### ***Institutes & Centers***

The Institutes & Centers collections include materials produced by the various activities of the esteemed institutes and centers at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. Currently, the community hosts event photos and videos, conference proceedings, and symposia sponsored by the Institute on the Supreme Court of the United States (ISCOTUS), the Institute for Law and the Workplace, and the Center for Empirical Studies of Intellectual Property.

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**Number of items in Institutes & Centers: 199**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 1,169**

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The most popular item in the Institutes & Centers collections was the third place winner of the 2014 Louis Jackson National Student Writing Competition, *Healthcare Workers' Religious Objections to Mandatory Influenza Vaccination: Examining Title VII's Religious Accommodation Requirement* by Amy Berenbaum, with 71 downloads.

### ***Journals & Law Reviews***

Scholarly Commons hosts the complete run of two of Chicago-Kent's esteemed student journals, the *Chicago-Kent Law Review* and the *Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property*.

### **The Chicago-Kent Law Review**

The *Chicago-Kent Law Review* began as the "Chicago Kent Review" in 1923. By the 1930s, the journal had adopted its current name and began publishing scholarly articles by law professors and practitioners. Articles appear in an all-symposium format, produced by students under the direction of a faculty editor. Each issue also contains a select number of student articles that the executive board chooses on the basis of contributions to legal scholarship.

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**Number of items in the Chicago-Kent Law Review: 3,018**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 355,993**

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The most popular item in the *Chicago-Kent Law Review* was David B. Spence, *Corporate Social Responsibility in the Oil and Gas Industry: The Importance of Reputational Risk*, 86 CHI.-KENT. L. REV. 59 (2011), with 9,643 downloads.

## The Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property

The mission of the *Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property* is to present both in-depth analyses of fundamental issues affecting intellectual property rights, and timely, succinct analysis of current intellectual property issues.

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**Number of items in the Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property: 128**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 7,266**

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The most popular item in the *Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property* was Grant C. Young, *CAN-SPAM: A First Step to No-Spam*, 4 Chi. -Kent J. Intell. Prop. 1 (2004), with 626 downloads.

### Conferences & Lectures

The Conferences & Lectures collection contains materials from the many well-established academic lecture series and conferences hosted by Chicago-Kent throughout the year. Currently, the community hosts video of Constitution Day lectures and presentations, videos of the Centennial Lecture, the Charles E. Green Lecture in Law & Technology, proceedings of the Futures Conference, and video recordings of the Morris Lecture in International and Comparative Law and of the Palmer Prize Lecture. Video files preserved in the repository are also available to stream online so that users may enjoy them without downloading.

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**Number of items in Conferences & Lectures: 38**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 102**

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The most popular item in the Conferences & Lectures collections was the 2003 Morris Lecture in International and Comparative Law: "Decision-Making in the WTO", delivered by Professor Mitsuo Matsushita of the University of Tokyo, with 12 downloads.

### History & Archives

The Chicago-Kent College of Law Archives has an active digitization system. Over the last year, several archival volumes and collections, from back issues of *The Record* to issues of *The Transcript* from 1917-1924, have been carefully digitized and uploaded to the repository. These items are now available for browsing and full color PDF copies can be downloaded from the repository. Our 125-year history becomes more accessible to staff, alumni, and the community every day.

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**Number of items in History & Archives: 1094**

**Downloads April 2014 - April 2015: 20,354**

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The most popular item in the History & Archives collections was *The Record*, Vol. 26, Issue 6 (February 20, 1995) with 1,055 downloads.

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## Looking Forward

This year, we increased the size of the repository by nearly 17%, adding over 1,000 items: faculty scholarship, conferences, journal articles, and historical items. Our download counts between this year and last year increased by over 362,000. The *Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property* was established, bringing materials that had once been available only in print format into the realm of open access online. Content from the Faculty Scholarship collection was frequently featured in the “Top Schools” section of Law Commons based on popularity in download counts. An item from 1896, the first and only edition of *Precedent*, created by students at one of our predecessors, the Department of Law at Lake Forest University, was digitized for the first time and made available via the repository.

Some of the largest download counts came from items shared via links on social media, including Twitter and Facebook. Next year, we hope to make our collections more visible through these avenues, and reach an even wider audience through shares of our collections and items. We aim to increase the repository size further with an emphasis on faculty scholarship, and we also intend to investigate the opportunities that may be available to digitize and host collections of legal material that previously existed only in print format, have not been archived by another institution, or have been otherwise difficult to access.

## Meeting Strategic Goals

Scholarly Commons at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law meets two of IIT’s strategic priorities:

- Elevate IIT’s visibility and reputation

The collections hosted in Scholarly Commons have attracted a new and diverse audience to the Law School. Genealogists, alumni, and descendants of alumni have contacted the Archives to learn more about the materials they found there. The Law Reviews saw an increase in downloads and shares on social media. Researchers from other countries and institutions have relied on the scholarship found in the Faculty Scholarship collection. The visibility of the Law School and its contribution to legal scholarship has increased in both attracting new audiences at home and expanding the reach of our collections to other countries.

- Develop resources to enable progress

Scholarly Commons should be seen as a resource for the Law School , its students, staff, and faculty. Many departments and groups are already represented, and we will expand the use of the repository as a resource to everyone. We intend to add collections of student materials, create spaces for the output of more institutes and centers, and are open to learn how the repository as a resource can benefit any and all groups on campus.

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## Questions?



If you would like more information about how Scholarly Commons @ IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law can serve your department, please contact:

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