

Athabasca University Press

AN OPEN ACCESS
EXPERIMENT

The Monograph

Redefinition driven by:

- Cost of storage
- Cost of bibliographic control
- Cost of acquisition (but only marginally so)
- Diminishing university budgets
- New technologies

The Monograph

New Technologies

- Allow for new formats and definitions – perhaps only continuing definition is sustained complex reflection with a focus or interpretation
- Can it now be longer in the digital age?
- Can it be interactive? Or even self generating?
- Can it include multi media?
- Can it be in multiple formats?
- Can it be more easily aggregated/controlled

The Monograph

New Technologies

- Allow for different cost structures
- Demand new business models which lend themselves to:
 - Centralization / and diffusion or anarchy and the chaos of creativity
 - Common platforms and technical practices vs skunk works
 - Greater control / no control

The Monograph

To move forward:

- Academics must drive monograph publishing
- Academics must drive the intellectual changes
- A degree of chaos and innovation must be imbedded in any solution
- A solid business model that is cognizant of the academic enterprise must be “discovered”
- Senior decision makers in the Academy and in funding agencies must be involved – but **MUST NOT** steer solutions

AU Press – 2007

Mandate

To embrace and enhance the reputation and prestige of Athabasca University as a world leader in innovative digital open access publishing.

Principles

AU Press is dedicated to open access and digital publishing to serve the needs of a global community of adult learners.

Management

AU Press is directed by a Management Board (chaired by the President of Athabasca University), and publishing decisions are guided by an Editorial Committee (chaired by an AU academic).

Financial Principles

Will not cost the university more than 1 percent of its budget

Will be a player in the digital and traditional market place

FY 2014 Publishing Overview

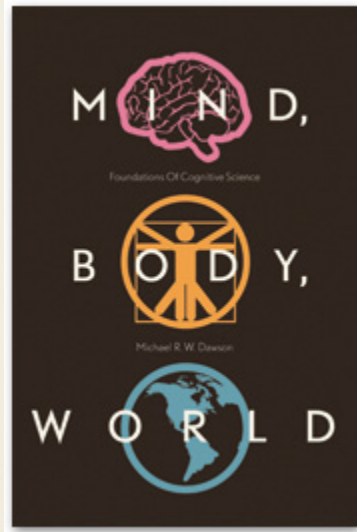
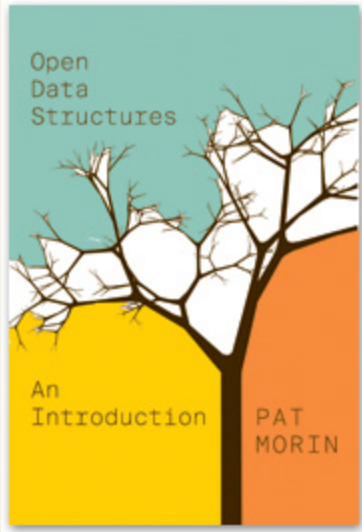
Monographs

- published about 20 monographs per year – total of one hundred to date
- uses Creative Commons license
- encouraged new concepts of publishing e.g. many publications include supplemental audio and video files, others are “chunked” for use in innovative or developing world spaces

Journals - total of 7 open access journals, all using Open Journal Systems (OJS)

Scholarly Websites -2 websites - scholarly publications that do not lend themselves to traditional book and journal format but meet scholarly standards

OPEL -Open Paths to Enriched Learning (course text series)



Series page branding:

OPEL (OPEN PATHS TO ENRICHED LEARNING)

Series Editor: Connor Houlihan

Open Paths to Enriched Learning (OPEL) reflects the continued commitment of Athabasca University to removing barriers – including the cost of course materials – that restrict access to university-level study. The OPEL series offers introductory texts on a broad array of topics, written especially with undergraduate students in mind. Although the books in the series are designed for course use, they also afford lifelong learners an opportunity to enrich their own knowledge. Like all AU Press publications, OPEL course texts are available for free download at www.aupress.ca, as well as for purchase in both print and digital formats.

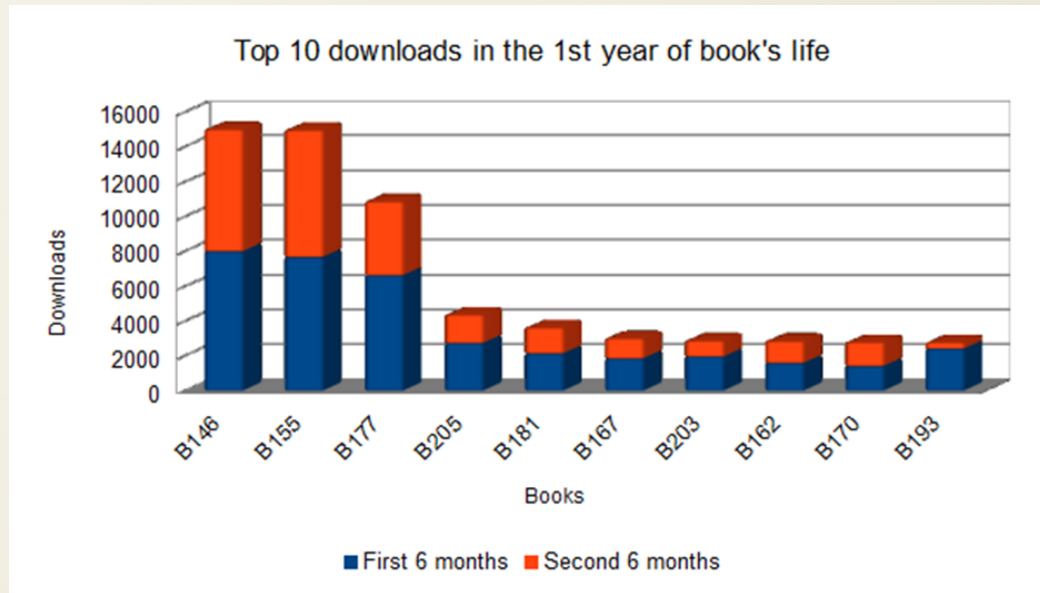
SERIES TITLES

Open Data Structures: An Introduction
Pat Morin

Mind, Body, World: Foundations of Cognitive Science
Michael R.W. Dawson

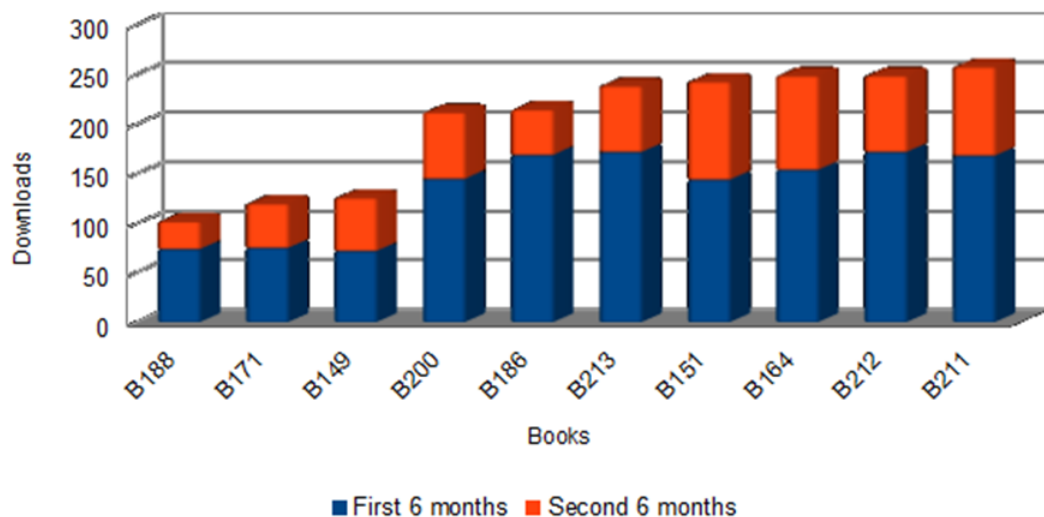


Book Download Stats



Boo No.	Title
B146	The Theory and Practice of Online Learning [Anderson]
B155	Mobile learning: Transforming the Delivery [Ally]
B177	Emerging Technologies in Distance Education [Veletsianos]
B205	How Canadians Communicate IV: Media and Politics [Taras & Waddell]
B181	Recollecting: Lives of Aboriginal Women [Carter & McCormack]
B167	How Canadians Communicate III: Contexts of Canadian Popular Culture [Beaty et. al.]
B203	Flexible Pedagogy, Flexible Practice: Notes from the Trenches of DE [Burge et. al.]
B162	Accessible Elements: Teaching Science Online [Kennepohl & Shaw]
B170	In/Visible Sight: The Mixed-Descent Families [Wanhalla]
B193	Connecting Canadians: Investigations in Community Informatics [Clement et. al.]

Bottom 10 downloads in the 1st year of book's life



Book No.	Title
B188	Praha [Blodgett]
B171	Windfall Apples: Tanka and Kyoka [Stevenson]
B149	Poems for a Small Park [Blodgett]
B200	Man Proposes, God Disposes: Recollections of a French Pioneer
B186	Zeus and the Giant Iced Tea
B213	Reel Time: Movie Exhibitors and Movie Audiences [Seiler and Seiler]
B151	Making Game: An Essay on Hunting, Familiar Things [Atkinson]
B164	A Very Capable Life: The Autobiography of Zarah Petri [Walters]
B212	Voices of the Land: The Seed Savers and Other Plays [Koller]
B211	The Metabolism of Desire: The Poetry of Guido Cavalcanti [Slavitt]

Impact

AU Press has received national and international recognition for its unique OA publishing model

AU Press staff have:

- Been invited to and presented at 15 national and international conferences
- Represented AU Press on 4 external publishing boards/committees in Canada and the US
- Contributed to various papers on publishing
- Provided numerous consultations to other presses and researchers on our Open Access publishing model.