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### **Documents**

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Purpose The purpose of this article is to review the trend in academic libraries toward including scholarly communication, and by extension, electronic publishing, as part of their core mission, using the Cornell University Library as an example. Design-methodology-approach The paper describes several manifestations of publishing activity organized under the Library's Center for Innovative Publishing, including the arXiv http:--arxiv.org-, Project Euclid http:--projecteuclid.org, and DPubS http:--DPubS.org. Findings Libraries bring many competencies to the scholarly communications process, including expertise in digital initiatives, close connections with authors and readers, and a commitment to preservation. To add publishing to their responsibilities, they need to develop expertise in content acquisition, editorial management, contract negotiation, marketing, and subscription management. Originality-value Academic libraries are making formal and informal publishing a part of their core activity. A variety of models exist. The Cornell University Library has created a framework for supporting publishing called the Center for Innovative Publishing, and through it supports a successful open access repository arXiv, a sustainable webhosting service for journals in math and statistics Project Euclid and a content management tool DPubS to enable other institutions libraries, scholarly societies, presses to engage in similar ventures to increase the dissemination of scholarship and to lower the barriers to its access. © 2006, Emerald Group Publishing Limited

#### **Author Keywords**

Academic libraries; Electronic publishing

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