Lightning Talk: Lever Press: A Game Changer for Scholarly Publishing

Jennifer Nutefall
Santa Clara University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.sandiego.edu/symposium


This 10-minute lightning talk is brought to you for free and open access by Digital USD. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Initiatives Symposium by an authorized administrator of Digital USD. For more information, please contact digital@sandiego.edu.
Lightning Talk: Lever Press: A Game Changer for Scholarly Publishing

**Presenter 1 Title**
University Librarian

**Session Type**
10-minute lightning talk

**Abstract**
Several years ago, a group of liberal-arts library directors decided to repurpose funds to support open access publishing and create the lever they lacked.

The result: The Lever Press.

The Lever Press offers a case study in how a group of librarians can seize the initiative and make the changes they wish to see in the scholarly monograph publishing industry—changes that have a big impact on our work as librarians and on the communities we serve. The Press devotes itself to producing the highest quality scholarship in an economically sustainable model, embodying and reflecting the values of the liberal arts, and leading the way in establishing best practices for born-digital, peer reviewed, open access monograph publishing. It embraces diverse voices and viewpoints, it hews to the principles of equity and social justice, and it predicates its work on collective decision-making, working with communities of its members and beyond.

**Location**
KIPJ Theatre

This 10-minute lightning talk is available at Digital USD: [https://digital.sandiego.edu/symposium/2019/2019/37](https://digital.sandiego.edu/symposium/2019/2019/37)
Lever Press: A Game Changer for Scholarly Publishing

Jennifer Nutefall
University Librarian
Santa Clara University
The Lever Initiative

- What is Lever Press?

- **Guiding commitments**
  - Alignment with mission and ethos of liberal arts colleges
  - Platinum OA
  - Digitally native

- Governance
  - Editorial Board
  - Oversight committee
  - Operations group
What does Lever publish?

Thematic areas:

1. Lever Texts - frequently taught texts that challenge the traditional canon

2. Archives and Special Collections - lift up the collections in liberal arts colleges

3. Teaching Learning and Leading in Liberal Arts Colleges.
   - Scholarship of Teaching
   - Critical reflections on the state of liberal arts education

4. New Frontiers in the Digital Liberal Arts - a laboratory for innovation

5. Great Questions and Grand Challenges
Lever Publications

First title
Promissory Notes
ON THE LITERARY CONDITIONS OF DEBT
ROBIN TRUTH GOODMAN

Forthcoming titles
History without Chronology
STEFAN TANAKA

Make It New
RESHAPING JAZZ IN THE 21ST CENTURY
BILL BEUTTLER
Noteworthy features:

- Application of peer-review transparency symbols
- Identifiers -- DOI as well as ISBNs to aid discovery
- Altmetric and other rich usage tracking
- Associated media, in this case a syllabus but can be multimedia, etc.
CHAPTER 1
FUTURES AND FICTIONS
The Right to Make Promises and the Object That Never Was

Nietzsche teaches us that indebted men are not born but bred. Being bred “with the right to make promises” (57), indebted men are made to promise a “future in advance” (58) that is governed by the seeming “certainty” of calculation. Yet, for Nietzsche, debt introduces an epistemological uncertainty into the science of “certainty,” because debt is antilife: it subordinates life to the “exceptional conditions” (76) of the law, and it punishes people for reasons that are “totally indefinable” and for outcomes that “elude definition” (80). Because of debt’s relation to uncertainty, it is less a response to systems and more an excuse for power. In this view, debt is not an agent of need, a boost to development, or a
Why Lever?
Durable

Accessible

https://www.fulcrum.org/accessibility/
Flexible

Discovery, Authentication

- OCLC
  Discovery
- EBSCO
  Discovery
- ProQuest
  Discovery

- Hypothes.is
  Annotation
- LYRASIS
  Sales, Licensing

Preservation

- SimplyE
  Discover, Read
- Rebus
  Discover, Read

- Portico
  Preservation
- CLOCKSS
  Preservation
- HathiTrust
  Preservation

Author

Vega
Review, Selection

Editoria
Production, Workflow

Fulcrum
Preservation, Access

Reader

Reader
Discoverable

Why publish with Lever?

- Platform - Fulcrum’s multimedia capabilities
- Born digital - Flexibility in length, presentation, style
- Liberal arts focus
- Undergraduate focus
  - A place for collaborative student and faculty research
- Values and seeks out interdisciplinary approaches
- Peer Reviewed
- Time to Publication

Oh Yeah And It’s Open Access
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem → Solution</th>
<th>Break from Status Quo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collective Action</td>
<td>Collaboration, Strength in Numbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective Action</td>
<td>Control, Shared Responsibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Liberal Arts College Context</td>
<td>Mission Alignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monographs</td>
<td>Traditional and Experimental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Experience</td>
<td>Proof of Concept, Running a Press</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Feeling inspired?

https://www.leverpress.org/join/