University of Pittsburgh. | Library System

Hello, friends!

Read below for these updates:

- Open Access Week 2025 (Oct. 20-26)

- Call for Participation: GIS Day 2025 (Nov. 12 @ CMU)

- October Workshops and Events

As always, we're available to chat with you about your digital or data-intensive research, teaching, and publishing! Please contact us anytime at ULS-DigitalScholarshipServices@pitt.edu.

Open Access Week 2025

Open Access Week is an international effort to build community around increasing free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need.

OA Week 2025 will take place the week of **October 20-26**, with events held around the world on the theme of **Who Owns Our Knowledge?** From the conveners: "This year's theme asks a pointed question about the present moment and how, in a time of disruption, communities can reassert control over the knowledge they produce."

Here at Pitt, Phoebe Duke-Mosier (Scholarly Publishing Librarian) will be hosting a series of **informal lunch-and-learns online**. Join us for any of the following sessions during OA Week!

- [OA Week Lunch & Learn: What is open access?](#) (Monday, 10/20)
- [OA Week Lunch & Learn: What does generative AI mean for open access?](#) (Tuesday, 10/21)
- [OA Week Lunch & Learn: Open access publishing in D-Scholarship@Pitt](#) (Wednesday, 10/22)
- [OA Week Lunch & Learn: Finding open access publishing venues](#) (Thursday, 10/23)

All OA Week Lunch & Learn events will be held online from 12:00-12:30pm ET. [Register here to receive the Zoom link to attend!](#)

Call for Participation: GIS Day 2025

Join us at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) for a GIS Day celebration on **Wednesday, November 12th, 2025**. We are getting a head start on [GIS Day](#), which is traditionally celebrated on the 3rd Wednesday of November as an international forum for users of GIS technology to demonstrate real-world applications that are making a difference in society and for people to learn more about Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and its benefits. This in-person, all-day event will be hosted in CMU's Cohon University Center. [Register to attend the event](#).

The event is a **day-long symposium** with talks, a roundtable, map gallery, open house, and more. We welcome wide participation in a variety of topic areas including: social and economic research, arts and culture, broad implementations of the sustainable development goals, spatial applications of AI, creating a sustainable local GIS community, using GIS tools, and of course research in Policy, Architecture, Urban Studies, Geography, GIScience, Digital Humanities, Environmental Studies, Engineering, and more. This year each submission will be asked to spotlight the data used - in quality of sources, the nuances of collecting the data, etc.

We would love for you to **share your work at GIS Day**! If

you aren't sure - submit it to us anyway! We especially want students across the region to submit talks and maps. Your map doesn't have to be perfect and we will have two workshops on Making Nice Maps including a Map Clinic where you can get feedback on your own map to help you prepare for submission.

This event and our workshops are open to all. We hope this event is a day for people to mingle and learn. Submissions are open to anyone in the Western PA region.

- Submit your work for participation by **October 15th**
- Notification of acceptance: October 24th
- Maps due for printing: November 6th

We are accepting submissions for the following:

Lightning talks (3-5 minutes) Short 3-5 minute talk about something you've been working on or think people should know.

Maps (to be displayed in a map gallery) A map that you created. We will have a virtual map gallery for all submissions and a select few will be chosen for display at the event.

Tabling at Open House (1.5 hours) Organizations, companies, informal groups or people with research demonstrations can set up a table at the open house to share your services, swag or research.

Volunteers If you want to help out leading up to or during the event, you can submit your name as a volunteer and we will contact you to learn your interest.

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Coordinated by the Pittsburgh GIS Day Organizing Committee

Oct 2025 Workshops and Events

Digital Sculpting Essentials: An Introduction to ZBrush

A 3D model is just the beginning. To truly bring it to life, you need the tools to refine, reshape, and add creative details. Welcome to ZBrush, the industry-standard software for digital sculpting and character creation.

This workshop is your introduction to the powerful world of ZBrush. We will demystify its interface and focus on the core tools you need to get started. You will learn how to clean up imperfections in 3D scans, combine different models, and use digital "clay" brushes to sculpt imaginative details onto a 3D surface.

Attendees of our "Physical to Digital: An Introduction to 3D Scanning" workshop are encouraged to bring their own scanned models to work on. For those new to the process, we will provide high-quality 3D models for you to practice with.

Date: Wednesday, October 1, 2025
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Location: Digitization Lab in the Open Lab @ Hillman, 1st Floor

Register online for this event

Python and R Drop-In Hour

Need help getting started with Python or R? Have questions about your code, packages, or plotting? This informal, drop-in session is designed to support researchers, students, and staff at any level who are using Python or R for data wrangling, data analysis, visualization, or developing reproducible workflows in environments like Jupyter and RStudio. Whether you're just getting started or want assistance with specific packages, we're here to help.

Date: Thursdays throughout Fall 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: Hillman Library, Digital Scholarship Lab, G-30

Registration not required - just stop by!

Digitization Drop-in Hour

Are you interested in how 2D or 3D scanning tools might enhance your research or publications? Do you have a personal or academic digitization project you need help developing?

Drop by Open Lab on Thursdays from 2:00 to 3:00 PM for support. During this time, we offer brief demonstrations of 2D or 3D scanning and are available to address your project-specific questions.

Date: Thursdays throughout Fall 2025
Time: 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Location: Digitization Lab in the Open Lab @ Hillman, 1st Floor

Registration not required - just stop by!

How to Create Effective Data Visualizations: Understanding Color and Accessible Design (Hybrid)

Data visualization is a vital part of data analysis as we conduct our research, but accurate and readable charts are also important for conveying information to our colleagues, students, or other audiences. This workshop introduces resources and best practices for creating effective data visualizations, specifically how to use color appropriately and understand how to make accessible visualizations using a universal design approach. We will discuss commonly made mistakes related to the use of color for visualizing different kinds of variables or patterns in data, as well as how to check that your charts are accessible for colorblindness and how to write informative "alt text" for charts published in electronic formats.

This is a hybrid workshop: you are welcome to attend in-person at Hillman Library or online via Zoom.

Date: Friday, October 3, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: Hillman Library, Digital Scholarship Lab, G-30

[Register online for this event.](#)

Let's Write a Data Management and Sharing Plan (DMSP) (Online)

Data management and sharing plans (DMSPs) are short documents that outline how a research team will organize, store, preserve, and share their research data during and after data collection. Attend this workshop to learn how DMPTool, a free online resource, can help you write your DMSP, through interactive templates and customized guidance, for grant or institutional requirements like the [National Science Foundation Data Management and Sharing Policy](#) or the [University of Pittsburgh's Research Data Management Interim Policy](#).

Date: Friday, October 3, 2025
Time: 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Location: Online

[Register online for this event.](#)

Adobe Study Group

Whether you're a researcher, student, or artist, the Adobe Study Group is your dedicated time to work on projects in a supportive environment.

Join us to connect with fellow creatives, get advice on tricky techniques, or simply make progress on your work. We welcome everyone using Adobe tools like Photoshop and Illustrator, from complete beginners to seasoned pros. There's no formal structure—just a great opportunity to chat, share tips, and get inspired

Date: Tuesdays throughout Fall 2025
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Location: Digitization Lab in the Open Lab @ Hillman, 1st Floor

Registration not required - just stop by!

Storytelling with Data: Infographic Design for Beginners (Hybrid)

This workshop will introduce participants to resources and strategies for creating infographics that combine visual and narrative elements with data visualizations, sometimes referred to as "storytelling with data." Together we will explore examples of compelling infographics in order to understand what components they often include. We will also discuss design strategies for creating successful infographics by considering how to combine data, color, and text into a structured narrative that communicates effectively with data.

This is a hybrid workshop: you are welcome to attend in-person at Hillman Library or online via Zoom.

Date: Friday, October 10, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm
Location: Hillman Library, Digital Scholarship Lab, G-30

Register online for this event.

From Physical to Digital: An Introduction to 3D Scanning

Have you ever wanted to turn a real-world object into a detailed digital model? 3D scanning is a powerful technology that makes it possible, and it's your first step into the world of digital creation.

In this hands-on workshop, you will learn the fundamentals of 3D scanning using our state-of-the-art equipment. We will guide you through the process of capturing an object's geometry, performing basic data cleanup, and exporting a finished model that's ready for 3D printing, animation, or further artistic refinement. You'll leave with a 3D file of the object you scanned and a new, powerful skill.

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Location: Digitization Lab in the Open Lab @ Hillman, 1st Floor

[Register online for this event.](#)

Do We Lie with Maps? We Do, and We Have No Choice (Online)

All maps inevitably distort reality. They project a complex, three-dimensional world onto a flat, two-dimensional plane. Mapmakers use generalization and symbols to highlight the points they want to make. Therefore, depending on the goals of its maker, a map can be deceptive, even threatening, especially if used as propaganda. This workshop will briefly trace the role of the map in the history of humanity take a closer look on how we lie with maps.

Date: Friday, October 17, 2025
Time: 2:00pm - 3:30pm
Location: Online

[Register online for this event.](#)

OA Week Lunch & Learn: What is open access? (Online)

In celebration of Open Access Week, join us online for the first of four Lunch & Learn sessions that will cover various aspects of open access. This session will provide a brief overview of the open access movement and its history, the benefits and challenges of OA publishing, and some common terms you may encounter.

These Lunch & Learn events are designed to be casual workshops that you can drop in or out of as your schedule allows. In order to receive the link to each session's Zoom meeting, you will need to register for the event, but registration will remain open throughout the session. Bring questions if you have them!

[Open Access Week](#) is an annual global event that serves as an opportunity for the academic and research community to continue to learn about the potential benefits of Open Access, share what they've learned with colleagues, and help inspire wider participation in helping to make Open Access a new norm in scholarship and research. Open Access to information – the free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need – has the power to transform the way research and scientific inquiry are conducted. It has direct and widespread implications for academia, medicine, science, industry, and for society as a whole.

Date: Monday, October 20, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 12:30pm
Location: Online

[Register online for this event](#)

OA Week Lunch & Learn: What does generative AI mean for open access? (Online)

In celebration of Open Access Week, join us online for the second of four Lunch & Learn sessions that will cover various aspects of open access. This session will discuss the effects of the rise of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) on the open access movement.

These Lunch & Learn events are designed to be casual workshops that you can drop in or out of as your schedule allows. In order to receive the link to each session's Zoom meeting, you will need to register for the event, but registration will remain open throughout the session. Bring questions if you have them!

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research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need – has the power to transform the way research and scientific inquiry are conducted. It has direct and widespread implications for academia, medicine, science, industry, and for society as a whole.

Date: Tuesday, October 21, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 12:30pm
Location: Online

Register online for this event.

OA Week Lunch & Learn: Open access publishing in D-Scholarship@Pitt (Online)

Omeka ("Oh-meh-kah") is a free, open source platform for creating digital exhibits. Omeka is best for projects focusing on objects and curation, and it can be a powerful tool for sharing research, showcasing archival materials, and teaching. This workshop will provide an overview of Omeka's basic functions and features and demonstrate how to build and manage your own site. This event is the second in a two-part series of workshops on Digital Exhibits.

Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 12:30pm
Location: Online

Register online for this event.

Digital Sculpting Essentials: An Introduction to ZBrush

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This workshop is your introduction to the powerful world of ZBrush. We will demystify its interface and focus on the core tools you need to get started. You will learn how to clean up imperfections in 3D scans,

combine different models, and use digital "clay" brushes to sculpt imaginative details onto a 3D surface.

Attendees of our "Physical to Digital: An Introduction to 3D Scanning" workshop are encouraged to bring their own scanned models to work on. For those new to the process, we will provide high-quality 3D models for you to practice with.

Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025
Time: 4:00pm - 5:30pm
Location: Digitization Lab in the Open Lab @ Hillman, 1st Floor

Register online for this event

OA Week Lunch & Learn: Finding open access publishing venues (Online)

In celebration of Open Access Week, join us online for the last of four Lunch & Learn sessions that will cover various aspects of open access. This session will discuss how to find open access publishing venues, including by taking advantage of Pitt's agreements with various publishers that allow Pitt-affiliated researchers to receive a waiver or discount on charges associated with open access publishing.

These Lunch & Learn events are designed to be casual workshops that you can drop in or out of as your schedule allows. In order to receive the link to each session's Zoom meeting, you will need to register for the event, but registration will remain open throughout the session. Bring questions if you have them!

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you need – has the power to transform the way research and scientific inquiry are conducted. It has direct and widespread implications for academia, medicine, science, industry, and for society as a whole.

Date: Thursday, October 23, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 12:30pm
Location: Online

[Register online for this event](#)

Learning How to Learn to Code: Making Sense of Python Resources, Tools, and Your Own Learning Process

Python is one of the [most popular programming languages today](#)—but learning it can feel overwhelming. Tutorials, books, YouTube channels, AI tools, integrated development environments (IDEs), and coding platforms all promise to help. But how do you actually *choose* what works for you?

This presentation and interactive workshop goes beyond just learning Python syntax. It's about becoming an adaptive learner—someone who can make informed decisions about their learning path, spot valuable resources (available via the library, university, and beyond), and solve unfamiliar coding problems.

Grounded in learning sciences research— including [Daniel Schwartz's framework for adaptive expertise](#)—the session will help you critically evaluate the resources you use, and build habits to learn programming more effectively over time.

Date: Monday, October 27, 2025
Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm
Location: Hillman Library, Digital Scholarship Lab, G-30

[Register online for this event.](#)

Visit our full events calendar

We hope to see you soon!

— The DSP Team (Rachel, Boris, Carl, Phoebe, Dan, Marin, and Jonay)

Located in Hillman Library (Oakland campus), the Digital Scholarship and Publishing team provides access to the library's resources, expertise, and services in support of a broad range of digital and data-intensive scholarly activities. We also support the publication and sharing of data and scholarship. From designing a digital humanities project to writing a data management plan for a grant application, we're here to help. Reply to this email to contact us!

Our services: https://pi.tt/dsp