Repository management: an emerging profession in the information sector

Online Information 2010
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Presentation Outline

- Context
- UK landscape – growth in repositories
- The UK workforce
- New skills and roles
- Support for staff - Repositories Support Project and the United Kingdom Council of Research Repositories
Context

Open Access to Research

UK Higher Education

Institutional repository
“Open Access (OA) means that scholarly literature is made freely available on the internet, so that it can be read, downloaded, copied, distributed, printed, searched, text mined, or used for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal or technical barriers, subject to proper attribution of authorship.”

Research Information Network, June 2010
Routes to OA - Gold

Image by Warren Pilkington, zawtowers, Flickr
Routes to OA - Green
Why it’s important

- Access in the developing world
- Institutional showcase for research
- Increased readership and citation
- Quicker dissemination
- Secure storage
- Better discoverability (indexed by Google)
- Encourages collaboration
- Economic impact

http://www.jisc.ac.uk/media/documents/publications/rpteconomicoapublishing.pdf
Permission to archive

Summary: 62% of publishers listed in RoMEO formally allow some form of self-archiving.
Repositories in the UK

Proportion of Repositories by Country

- United States (372 = 22%)
- United Kingdom (177 = 10%)
- Germany (140 = 8%)
- Japan (78 = 5%)
- Spain (64 = 4%)
- Australia (63 = 4%)
- France (55 = 3%)
- Italy (55 = 3%)
- [86 Others (700 = 41%)

Total = 1704 repositories
Why have universities invested in repositories?

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2plF9io3vQE

http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/toolkits/play_3159
Survey of UK Repository staff

- 29th July to 5th September
- SurveyMonkey
- Distributed via UKCoRR list
- 215 members (August 2010) and there were 84 respondents.
- Interviews with a couple of respondents
Backgrounds of UK staff

95% first degree
74% post grad qualification
Multi-tasking

- 76.2% part time
- 73.8% worked as part of a team

Image by Sarah
How would you describe your post? (You can choose more than one option)

- Managerial
- Administrative
- Technical
- Other
Skills
Job satisfaction

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVhSqlhNwcl

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ih4aAKuRSk

http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/toolkits/play_3159
Support in the UK

- Repositories Support Project (RSP)
- Welsh Repositories Network (WRN)
- Enhancing Repository Infrastructure in Scotland (ERIS)
Repositories Support Project - Objectives

- more repositories in higher education institutions in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- more content in existing repositories
- more types of content in existing repositories
- closer integration of repositories into institutional information systems
- promotion of best practice and standards
- investigation of the new role of institutions in research output curation and access
Repositories Support Project – who we are

- Initially a 2.5 year JISC funded project
  - September 2006 – March 2009
  - Lead Institution – University of Nottingham
  - Partner Institutions – University of Southampton, Aberystwyth University, Digital Curation Centre (University of Edinburgh), UKOLN (University of Bath).

- Second phase April 2009 – March 2012
  - University of Nottingham
  - Team of four – Project Director, Project Coordinator, Open Access Adviser, Technical Officer.
The RSP Offers…

- **On site support**
  - Institutional visits – free, impartial consultancy from a team of experts

- **Enquiry service**
  - 📧 - support@rsp.ac.uk
  - ☏ - 0845 257 6860

- **Website Resources**
  - Reusable advocacy materials
  - Briefing papers (technical & procedural)
  - RSP Wiki pages
  - Resource bank of links and references (publications etc)

- **Buddy Scheme**
RSP training and conferences
Recent Events…

- RSP Summer School
  - Three-day residential training event covering most of the aspects of repository management (technical, preservation, metadata, advocacy etc)

- Research in the Open: How mandates work in practice

- Preservation training events

- RSP Software Day

- Communicating for effective advocacy

- http://www.rsp.ac.uk/events/
UKCoRR
UK Council of Research Repositories - www.ukcorr.org

- A group for repository managers by repository managers
- An independent professional body to allow repository managers to share experiences and discuss issues of common concern
- To give repository managers a group voice in national discussions and policy development independent of projects or temporary initiatives
- To grow together as a community and learn from each other’s experiences
- Mailing list.
- 215 members (August 2010)
Library schools
In summary

- Impact of growth of OA repositories on information sector
- Skills required
- Support for development – funded projects, professional networks
Thank you to...

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For their insights into the role.
Links

- Centre for Research Communications  [http://crc.nottingham.ac.uk](http://crc.nottingham.ac.uk)
- Repositories Support Project [www.rsp.ac.uk](http://www.rsp.ac.uk)
- RoMEO [www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/)
- JULIET [www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/)
- OpenDoar [www.opendoar.org](http://www.opendoar.org)
- JISC [www.jisc.ac.uk](http://www.jisc.ac.uk)
- JISC InfoKit [http://www.jiscinfonet.ac.uk/infokits/repositories/index.html](http://www.jiscinfonet.ac.uk/infokits/repositories/index.html)
- UKCoRR [www.ukcorr.org](http://www.ukcorr.org)