

Open Access: An Overview

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Abstract

This paper highlights into the importance of Open Access (OA) and Institutional repository initiatives to the system of scholarly communication. Open Access & Institutional repositories—digital collections that capture and preserve the intellectual output of university communities—respond to two strategic issues facing academic institutions. This paper examines institutional repositories & Open Access from these complementary perspectives, describing their potential role and exploring their impact on major stakeholders in the scholarly communication process. Through literature survey and review the author(s) identify the relevant works on Open Access and its meanings etc.

Keywords: Open Access, Open Software, Institutional Repository

1. Introduction

The technological revolutions have become order of the days. Information technology is a label that reflects the consequence of several streams of technical developments including microelectronics, computer science, telecommunication, software engineering and system analysis. It is a technology that dramatically increases the ability to record, store, analysis and transmit the information. Fast changing curricula and frequent introducing as new subjects impose a great demand on the system in general. Indian universities need to be given the required threat to enter the third millennium with a leading edge. Technology is a driving force in the contemporary education system. Online publication has now become easy than before with the advent of information and communication technology (ICT). ICT also persuade to exchange the way of information professionals' work. Library websites are becoming the place for content creation and publication. Major libraries are setting up their websites as portal for all services and using as a marketing tool to attract users. Library users value timely dissemination of information above library activities and services through library websites.

Open Source and repositories—used in this paper to mean digital collections capturing and preserving the intellectual output of a university community. While institutional repositories necessitate that libraries—as their logical administrative proponents facilitate development of university intellectual property policies, encourage faculty authors to retain the right to self-archive, and broaden both faculty and administration perspectives on these issues.

Open Source and repositories offer a strategic response to systemic problems in the existing scholarly journal system—and the response can be applied immediately, reaping both short-term and ongoing benefits for universities and their faculty and advancing the positive transformation of scholarly communication over the long term.

The open source, institutional repositories and libraries have lot in common. The use of open source software in libraries to have greater control over their computing environment and results can assist librarians in their fulfillment of day-to-day tasks as well as the goals of the profession. Open Access movement has grown from pockets of regional institutions to the increasingly coordinated world wide movement, facilitated by common standards and open source software. It has motivated the development of open access publishing. The Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) was the first global statement "On Open Access" by Open Society Institution (OSI) in 2002, which set out the basic definition of open access and advocate the twin complementary strategies of "Self- archiving" and "Open- access Journals".

2. Open Access: What?

- ◆ Bjork (2004) states that open access means that "a reader of a scientific publication can read it over the Internet, print it out and even further distribute it for non commercial purpose without any payments or restrictions"
- ◆ In April 2003, a meeting held at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Chevy Chase, Maryland resulted in the "Bethesda statements on Open Access publishing". It state that are open access work meets two criteria; The Author (s) and Copyright holder (s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual right to access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicity and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribute of authorship, as well as the right to make small number of printed copies for their personal use.
- ◆ Open Access Journals and Open Access Archives (e-prints) or repositories are the main open access channels. Open Access journals are peer-reviewed journals whose articles may be accessed online by anyone without charge.

From the above meaning, it can be understood that in open access, anything we published is available to all online worldwide. It is redable, downloadable, copyable and can also be distributed. Open Access literature is compose of free online copies of peer- reviewed journal articles and conference proceeding as well as technical reports, theses and working papers. They can therefore be used freely for research teaching and other purpose. It is simply a means to make research results freely available online to the whole research community.

3. Open Access: How?

There are two primary vehicles for delivering Open Access to research article are:

- ◆ **Open Access journals** is free, immediate, permanent, full-text, online access, for any user, to digital scientific and scholarly material, primarily research articles published in peer-

reviewed journals. Any individual user, who has access to the Internet, may link, read, download, store, print-off, and use the content of that article.

- ◆ **Open Access Archives** (EPrint) or Institutional repositories is a electronic prints of journal articles which include theses and dissertations, course materials, or any other kind of digital file. Institutional repositories (IRs) provide researchers with better access to research, and assisting with formal research assessment. Institutional repositories is digital collections that capture and preserve the intellectual output of university which provide a central component in reforming scholarly communication by publishing and serve as tangible indicators of an institution.

4. **Open Access: Why?**

- ◆ Open access aim to change the traditional publishing model whereby publishers financial journals through readers subscriptions to a model where electronic access to journals will be free without legal, electronic and technological barriers;
- ◆ Open access works within the legal frame work of copyright law;
- ◆ Open access initiatives are being supported to makes the published output of their researchers available as part of their digital library;
- ◆ Open access aims to create links to other collections basically for researchers to publish their results.

5. **Open Access: Challenges?**

Staff

- ◆ Manages the 'human' side of the repository including content policies, advocacy, user training.
- ◆ Manages the technical implementation, customisation and management of repository software;
- ◆ Manages metadata fields and quality, creates usage reports and tracks the preservation issues.

Skills

Knowledge and abilities required for the development and management of a successful institutional repository must have the ability to:

- ◆ Manage the user needs in line with resources;
- ◆ Manage the repository service by identifying goals and future strategies for improvement in the repository service;
- ◆ Manage the day-to-day running of the repository including any mediated-deposit service or self-archiving by authors;

- ◆ Coordinate and manage activities of repository personnel and coordinate repository development with associated departments;

Software management staff must have the ability to

- ◆ Customise, deploy and manage repository and associated software;
- ◆ Arrange and carry out testing of the system and evaluate results;
- ◆ Design and develop repository interface and tools;
- ◆ Identify and develop value-added services such as community and collection pages in the repository.

Metadata management staff must have Familiarity with: Relevant metadata standards including Dublin Core, MARC, METS, MODS, OAI-PMH

Storage & Preservation management staff must have the ability to

- ◆ Work with IT Services on the use of their network storage and on backup requirements;
- ◆ Identify best practice and establish requirements for preservation;
- ◆ Develop a policy for how different materials should be preserved.
- ◆ Familiarity with Relevant IPR issues;
- ◆ Able to provide advice on relevant IPR issues.

6. Open Access In India

The first significant repository of research output from India is E-prints eIISc of the Indian Institute of Science, IISc, Bangalore (<http://eprints.iisc.ernet.in/>) which is maintained by National Center for Science Information (NCSI); Librarians Digital Library (LDL) (<http://drtc.isibang.ac.in/>) of DRTC; DSPACE @ INFLIBNET (<http://dspace.inflibnet.ac.in>) which introduces post prints and pre-prints article, CALIBER and PLANNER full text Proceedings, training materials and other scholarly publications; Vidyamidhi Project of the University of Mysore (<http://www.vidyamidhi.org.in/home/index/asp>) is designed to act as a national repository for e-theses providing support to universities which may not have resources to manage their own repositories; Indian Medical Center (IMC) offer e-prints achieve Open Med @ NIC (<http://openmed.nic.in>); IIA repository of Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore (<http://prints.iiap.res.in>); D Space at INSA – Indian National Science Academy (<http://61.16.154.195/dspace>); National Chemical laboratory (NCL) (<http://dspace.ncl.res.in/>) ; National aerospace Laboratories (NAL) (http://nal_ir.nal.res.in/) has a repository of aerospace science with 418 e-prints records; Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (<http://eprint.iitd.ac.in/dspace/>); DSpace @ NITR National Institute of Technology Rourkela (<http://dspace.nitrkl.ac.in/>); Eprints@IIIT, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad (<http://eprints.iiita.ac.in/>); C.B Pant University of Agricultural and Technology (<http://202.141.116.205/dspace>)

7. Suggestion

In India Open Access is still in infancy, so it is suggested to develop if to go for "Open Access":

- ◆ To train skill professionals;
- ◆ To develop repositories;
- ◆ Library professional are to be trained in setting up the institutional repositories;
- ◆ To develop high-tech infrastructure for digital content management.

8. Concluding Remark

The Open Access movement coupled with greater network collaboration among researchers should give rise to disciplines – scientific federated repositories hosted by institutions, research projects or professionals associations, open access channels are a visible manifestation of the emerging importance of knowledge management with higher education. Institutional repositories and Open Access represent the logical convergence of faculty-driven self archiving initiatives, and availability of digital networks and publishing technologies.

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