Institutional Repositories

Making a contribution to institutional knowledge management and the global research commons

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Overview

• Long term sustainability, supporting core mission
• Embedding → Mature
• Integration → Flow
• Contributing to institutional knowledge management
• Conduit for effective information flow
Southampton IR Growth embedding phase

• Commitment to global commons - maximise research impact & accessibility
• Deliver research assessment
• Multiple demands
• Service improvements strategy led and informed by user feedback
Enhancements

- Publications lists embedded in the institutional content management system
- Link directly to HR rather than LDAP, legacy information supports whole career pathway
- Select outputs for assessment, store measures of esteem, run reports
- Light-box function to improve presentation of non-textual material
Future growth – mature phase

- Support knowledge workers
- Enhance communities of practice
- Ensure structural change leads to cultural change
- Develop trusted environments
It’s all about knowledge

• Researchers are key knowledge workers – high levels of knowledge and social capital
• Tension between “create” - flexible individual/small group and “process” – institutional e.g. QA, accounts, ethics
• Trend to large scale collaborative grants could be “tipping point” for move away from “lone researcher” paradigm
Communities of practice

• Exposure breeds new global and local partnerships, public and private sector
• Identifies key players in emerging areas – early formation of new cutting edge communities
• Interdisciplinary brokers with knowledge of more than one area
Semantic services add value

- IR contributing to social and technical fibre of communities of practice
- Expert identifier
- Social networking and collaborative interaction
- End-user mash up and visualisation tools
Structural change as cultural catalyst

“In social systems, behavioral and structural changes frequently precede and cause cultural changes” Firestone & McElroy (2003)

“make the importance of sharing knowledge visible” McDermott & O’Dell (2001)
Research life cycle

• Use repository as evidence-base for reward and appraisal systems
• IR contributes to granular reporting on research activity and new models of decision making
• Visible research outputs can promote culture where outcomes influence research lifecycle
Trusted environment: IPR and copyright

- IPR and copyright support must take into account user perceptions and behaviour, not just ensure legal compliance
- Need to develop linked institutional end-user services covering bids, open access, digitization, copyright clearance
- Key requirement for a trust environment and KM
Trusted environment: evidence, stories and services

- Recognise competitive as well as collaborative landscape
- Build on success stories - evidence, symbols and mythology
- Knowledge, experience, social networks
- Personalised services
- Key requirement for successful global commons
Repository managers

- Repository managers contribute to institutional knowledge management
- Mature phase for IRs as part of next generation research infrastructure and collaborative culture
- Library managers and research technologists well placed as key brokers between communities