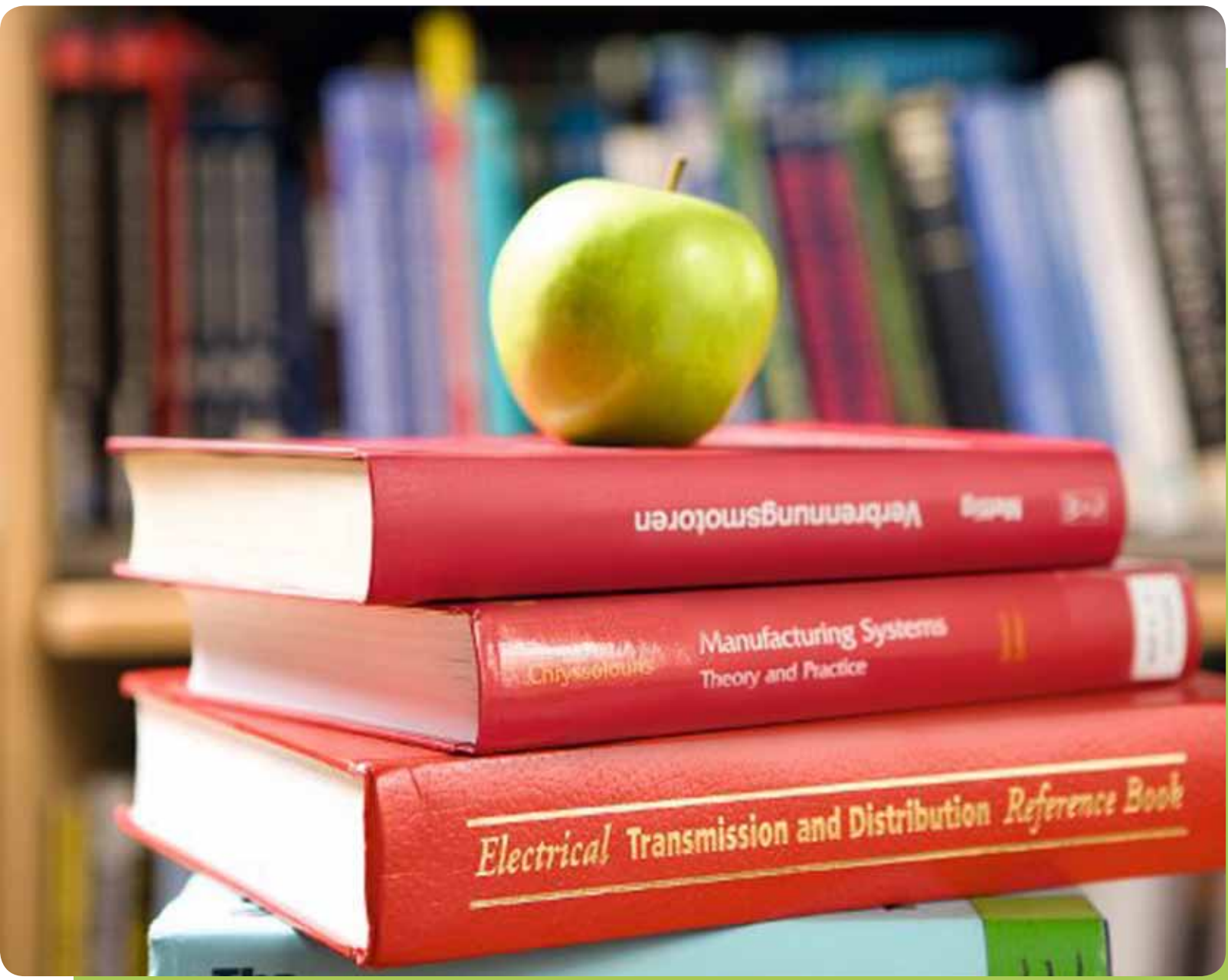


OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING IN THE FINNISH UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES



The universities of applied sciences in Finland have created a digital repository for theses and research publications during the years 2008-2009. The guiding principles of open access and using open source solutions are visible in several parts of the publishing system.

Authentication to the theseus.fi service uses Shibboleth software, the student are given chance to choose a Creative Commons license for the publications and the platform for the service will be open source technology based on DSpace software.

The essential goals in this project - as in all digital library services - are accessibility, user-friendliness, flexibility and transformability.

The Open Access Project

The ministry of education in Finland and the 26 universities of applied sciences founded the project together. The main objective of the project is to promote open access publishing among the collaborating universities. The joint venture consists of two parts:

The web journal *osaaja.net* applies the academic form of publishing and utilizes the peer-review process. *Osaaja.net* is published on Open Journal Systems platform and is available for authors and readers also in English.

Theseus.fi repository will digitally store and make available the 20.000 theses that are produced in Finnish universities of applied sciences annually. The purpose is to solve the problems of access, storage and preservation in a user friendly way. The repository makes use of the DSpace platform provided by the National Library of Finland who is also responsible for the technical implementation of theseus.fi.

CSC – Finnish IT Center for Science

The students will upload the theses to the repository by themselves. The self-archiving requires electronic authentication that will be carried out by Haka Federation, the identity federation of the Finnish higher education and research institutions. Haka Federation, which is operated by CSC, uses SAML 2.0 technology and the open source Shibboleth software. Users, students and teachers, are able to access the services using their home organization's username and password.

CSC also offers a streaming service for the multimedia content included in some of the theses.

Creative Commons Finland

The publishing system will create automatically a copyright information page with responding metadata for every published work. The publishing system offers Creative Commons licenses as they provide free and easy way to express the rights that are granted with the work. The copyright information page is used also to further define the license terms in cases where CC-licenses need clarification. The attachment of legal metadata serves wide dissemination of works by creating clear legal rules for sharing the work but at the same time respects the authors' copyrights.

Arene ry, Amkit Consortium, CSC, Ministry of education in Finland, Seinäjoki University of applied sciences.

www.theseus.fi