Digital Repositories:

What are they and do we need one?

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December 8, 2009

Digital Repositories

- "…a set of services that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members. It is most essentially a commitment to the stewardship of these digital materials…"

Clifford Lynch, "Institutional Repositories: Essential Infrastructure for Scholarship in the Digital Age"
ARL Bimonthly Report 226
http://www.arl.org/newsltr/226/ir.html

Why now?

- Proliferation of digital content
    - Faculty research showcase
    - Student Handbook
    - Admissions Viewbook
    - Course catalog
    - Undergraduate research projects
    - Performances
    - Learning objects

Advantages

- Broader dissemination of faculty work

- Showcase for University scholarship

- Long-term preservation of scholarly output

Challenges

- Participation

- Management

- Institutional Commitment

- Platform

Participation

- What is the content?

- Who will participate?

- How steep is the learning curve?

- Can initial enthusiasm be sustained?

Management

- Control/ownership/intellectual property

- Collaboration essential

- Library/IT role
  - Library: Organization to ensure consistent retrieval
  - IT: Technical expertise to ensure a robust reliable product

Institutional Commitment

- A Digital repository is a long-term project

- Data formats need to be migrated over time

- What data formats can be sustained?

- How will it be funded and staffed?

Platform

- Open source vs. commercial

- Locally housed vs. hosted

- Lead time to establish

Examples of Digital Repositories

- Open source software

  - Dspace at MIT

  http://libraries.mit.edu/dspace-mit/

MITLibraries

DSpace for MIT Faculty and Researchers

Welcome to DSpace, MIT's online institutional repository — built to save, share, and search MIT's digital research materials.

SAVE

- Store your work in an organized, secure, and searchable archive
- Preserve your articles, datasets, images, course materials, and more
- Let MIT Libraries manage your research for the long term — no need to manage your own web server

SHARE

- Distribute your research quickly
- Enjoy worldwide visibility, permanently

SEARCH

- Get top search results in Google
- Increase accessibility to your work
- Browse others' research

Worldwide Acclaim for DSpace

"In DSpace, ideas are forever."
The New York Times

"DSpace...
has become widely popular in academe in just a few months."
The Chronicle of Higher Education

Examples of Digital Repositories

- Dspace at University of Rochester
  - https://urresearch.rochester.edu/index.jsp

UR Research

— AT THE UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER —

Login

Browse/Search

Search: [   ]

Search

Browse All/Search

Institutional Collections

Anthropology Department The department of Anthropology at the University of Rochester specializes in the comparative study o...

Art & Art History Department Materials from the faculty and students in the Department of Art and Art History.

Biology Department The Biology Department at the University of Rochester provides faculty, postdoctoral fellows

Images

< Previous

Researchers

Browse All/Search

Examples of Digital Repositories

- Digital Commons @ UConn
  - http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/

Enter search terms:

[Search]

in this repository

Advanced Search

Notify me via email or RSS

Links

Using and Citing

Contacts

University of Connecticut Libraries

Browse

Collections

Disciplines

Authors

Author Corner

For Authors

Browse Research and Scholarship

Research unit, center, or department

Journals and peer-reviewed series

Theses and dissertations

Authors

DigitalCommons@UConn is a project coordinated by the Institutional Repository Team within the UConn Libraries. It is an electronic repository of the intellectual output of the University of Connecticut community, and represents a way for UConn to organize, store and preserve its research in digital form in a single unified location. For more information, email digitalcommons@uconn.edu.

At a Glance

Top 10 Downloads
All time

Paper of the Day

Assembly of the FtsZ cell division ring and the action of cell division inhibitors of Escherichia coli

Other digital repositories

Georgetown Law
- http://scholarship.law.georgetown.edu/

CUNY Graduate School of Journalism
- http://journalism.cuny.bepress.com/

Boise State
- http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/

Connecticut College
- http://digitalcommons.conncoll.edu/

Wesleyan
- http://wesscholar.wesleyan.edu/

Acknowledgements

- Marilyn Billings, Special Initiatives Librarian, at UMass Amherst