UKSG webinar – Redefining the Institutional Repository, 27 November 2014

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Should you have a question arising from the webinar and not answered below, please e-mail Chris who will be happy to respond.

Questions arising from the Q&A session and the registration forms:

Q1: Dorothea Salo's "Innkeeper at the Roach Motel" is well cited and still quoted. How are IR's faring 6 years later?
A: I think the webinar covered much of this, in my experience IRs are still struggling with engagement from researchers, lack of resourcing, and software which is not as easy to use as it should be. Some Universities report that their CRIS – which can harvest metadata/fulltext from external sources - can help with some of these issues.

Q2: How would you like to see usage metrics develop, as applied to IRs/ETDs?
A: It's a broad area. There are metrics of interest to Researchers, Deans and University/Library Directors.
IR software already provide download statistics for an item, which is probably the main area of interest for researchers, though they seem to lack a nice dashboard like area where researchers can see all their stats in one place.
For Deans and Library/University managers the needs seem to be more complex. How is my School/faculty performing, when compared to others on campus, and others in comparable institutions, regarding downloads, publication outputs etc. Library/Research managers want to see how much the IR is a reflection of true output and which Departments are not engaging, and again want to see how we compare with similar institutions.

Q3: To what extent do file owners metatag their data as opposed to repository technicians? How can self-taggers be supported?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q4: How do you raise awareness in your institution about the repositories?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q5: How do other universities manage student dissertations? Is this a library or "graduate services" or subject departmental function?
A: I think we are quite typical in the UK in that we accept/mandate theses from PHD and similar doctoral awards, but do not accept student dissertations (from masters/undergraduate).
How PHD theses are accepted does vary widely; for us, the student hands in a PDF along with a bound copy of the thesis after their Viva, the bound copy goes to the School (each School will have their own practices with what they do with them). The office that handles PHD submissions sends the file and data (title, student, date, embargo) to the library, in the form of a helpdesk ticket. Once the ticket is allocated to the library we add it to the IR. All embargos are handled by the office that deals with submissions, not by the Library – we apply the embargo to the item on the IR, but only on the instruction from the submissions office.
Q6: Role of linked data and identifiers in relation to local repositories.
A: Linked Data. I’m aware Eprints has basic functionality to export RDF (Linked Data) though we haven’t used or explored its use. Identifiers are of course very important. All repository software I have seen provide stable URLs to research output records. A simple, but important feature. Most items have a DOI, which I think is key as people increasingly expect one for scholarly works. I’m interested in how we can add DOIs to other items in the IR including those, such as theses and data where we are the primarily source. I’m also interested in ORCID, though to some extent the driver for this needs to come from outside the Library within the institution for us to spend money and resource on it.

Q7: How to handle embargoes?
A: Eprints provides a feature to allow us to apply embargos on to full text items. If Sherpa Romeo, or another source (of course the real source is the CTA that the researcher signs with the publisher, though we don’t have access to this), stipulates this, we will apply it as part of the review process. The length of embargo is much more critical now that funders are stipulating limits on the length of embargo in order to comply with their policy.

Q8: Is there a difference between LOCKSS and institutional repositories? I’m thinking about the final use of the information.
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q9: Which IR software package would you recommend and why?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q10: Does Chris think that now, latest CRIS systems can mainly overlap with IRs, or do they remain separate things serving different strategic goals? Thanks, this is a key business question for us (and suspect other HEIs in “have-not” camp...)
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q11: What are repositories lacking at present, in terms of software features?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q12: Do you have any plans to (or view on) expand the repository to better support academic collaboration (e.g. as a platform to disseminate or facilitate interdisciplinary work across departments or institutions)? I’m thinking of the role of ORCID, FundREF, and potential for integration or interoperability with platforms like Impact Story, Kudos, Vivo, mendeley etc.
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.
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Q13: It seems one key feature is to get researchers to be somewhat positive - one way to do this would be to reduce the administration for them. Do you have any more thoughts on how to do that?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q14: What is the state of play in terms of multi-media/non-text output?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q15: What is your opinion on the use of IRs not JUST for published research materials, but also for other resources as well (unpublished works, teaching materials, student works/papers, etc.)? How about university documents/records?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.

Q16: In response to the question about non-text outputs: the kultur project developed some functionality for this in eprints in 2007-9: http://kultur.eprints.org/ We are interested in further developments for arts repositories and data at UCA arobinson@ucreative.ac.uk
A: Shared with audience.

Q17: My report from 2010 still relevant http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue64/wrn-repos-2010-05-rpt and Specialised implementations of eprints e.g. http://www.edshare.soton.ac.uk/ http://ualresearchonline.arts.ac.uk/
A: Shared with the audience.

Q18: Are Sussex planning to have a separate research data repository or to use their research outputs repository?
A: Answered in session – please review the recording.