

Institutional Repository

"A university-based institutional repository is 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."

Lynch, Clifford. "Institutional Repositories: an essential infrastructure for scholarship in the digital age." ARL Bimonthly Report 226. Feb 03.

“Open” Movements

- **OpenSource software** – programming code that is readily and freely available and can be modified by users
- **Open CourseWare** – educational content available on the web free of charge
- **Open Content** – electronic content and archives freely available on the web
- **Open Access** - a scholarly publishing philosophy and process to make scholarly materials available freely on the web. Contrast with “subscribed” or “gated” access, which requires authorization and money for access
- **Open Access Journal** – an electronic journal that is freely accessible to the world via the internet

The narrow view: Alternative to formal publication

- An open-access solution to unsustainable increases in journal pricing in some disciplines, especially the sciences
- Issues
 - Scholar reward systems: prestige and impact
 - Impact on established publishers

The broader view – Collect and preserve record of intellectual life

- Manage dissemination, stewardship and long-term preservation of:
 - Intellectual work created by community
 - Records of the intellectual and cultural life of the community (Performances, symposia, classroom activities)
- Public Engagement
 - Make visible the range of economic, intellectual and cultural contributions to the state

What do we hope to accomplish?

- Short-term – offer a simple, low-barrier-to-submission, basic repository service that provides open access and ensures long-term preservation for scholarly materials
- Longer-term - “facilitate greatly enhanced access to traditional scholarly content by empowering faculty to effectively use the new dissemination capabilities offered by the network” .” (Lynch)

Challenges

- Cultural, economic and legal – NOT TECHNICAL
- COPYRIGHTS and PERMISSIONS
- Convincing researchers to submit their materials
- Finding boundaries in the IU environment rich with “repositories” (DLP curated collections; mass storage; Oncourse, etc.)