

Benefits of IRRs

IRRs can compliment traditional research publishing models. They also offer some practical value in potentially enhancing the professional and social value of research.

More Exposure

IRRs help ensure the widest possible sharing of your work. For academic staff this can help to generate more interest in a research project, helping to develop collaborative research efforts. For PhD and Masters students, it exposes research beyond the library and department.

Easier Information Discovery

IRRs are indexed on Google and Google Scholar, and tend to feature highly in internet search results.

Long Term Preservation & Accessibility

IRRs tend to be managed by the research library, due to their experience in maintaining long-term, stable access to collections (as well as their preservation). The library ensures ongoing maintenance and back-ups of these digital collections and persistent URLs mean no more dead links.

Wide range of content

In addition to journal publications, digital repositories collect other types of materials such as; conference proceedings, images and sometimes research data.

Guides in this series:

- Glossary
- Institutional Research Repositories
- Open Access
- OUR Archive: Introduction
- Research Networks
- Rights Management
- Versioning

All Guides available from:

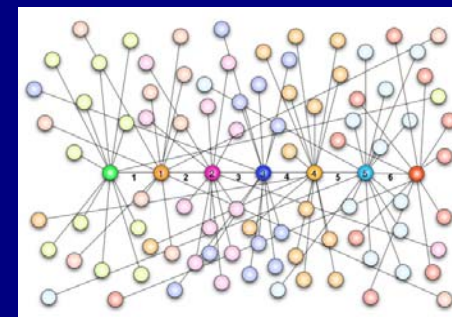
<http://unitube.otago.ac.nz/album?a=il5S1drFBEEd>



Creative Commons License:
Attribution – Non-Commercial – Share-Alike
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-ncsa/3.0/nz/>

Scholarly Communication @ Otago
University of Otago Library

Version 1.0 October 2010



Institutional Research Repositories

ourarchive@otago.ac.nz

ourarchive.otago.ac.nz



What is an Institutional Research Repository?

An Institutional Research Repository (IRR) is a secure and stable store of an institution's research output in digital format. IRRs also provide free, open access to this research.



IRRs are now common in the University and research environment worldwide.

Our Archive

www.ourarchive.otago.ac.nz

The University of Otago's IRR is called OUR (Otago University Research) Archive. It provides public access to the University of Otago's quality research outputs, both published and unpublished.

There are also two departmental repositories at the University of Otago:

- University of Otago's School of Business ePrint repository
- University of Otago's Te Tumu ePrints repository

All three repositories can be searched simultaneously via OUR Archive.

Questions	Answers
Won't material be easier to plagiarise if is freely accessible?	Plagiarism is actually easier to detect if the original is openly accessible to all.
Are materials in digital repositories peer-reviewed?	The repository does not perform peer review, but collects peer-reviewed publications; many publishers allow this. IRRs also offer access to other types of materials, including data and other content that are not traditionally peer-reviewed.
Will I be giving up ownership of my work if I deposit in a digital repository?	No. Authors retain the rights to their work when depositing in a digital repository. (Refer to the <i>Rights Management</i> guide).
What can be posted? Who decides?	Digital repositories collect scholarly works of all types that have enduring value. Contact your library for guidelines specific to your institution. (See also the <i>Our Archive: Introduction</i> guide).
Can I restrict items I deposit from being made available for Open Access?	Yes. During the depositing process you can choose to suppress the full text and only make the citation and abstract searchable.
Is depositing in an IRR considered 'prior publication' by publishers?	Sometimes, so if in doubt, check with the publishers concerned. Many publishers seek only 'first publication' rights now, so depositing in an IRR is still possible.
How do people find material held in IRRs?	All repositories are searchable via global search services such as Google, Google Scholar or Yahoo.
Will items deposited in an IRR be permanently available?	Yes. The long term digital preservation of research is a major goal of IRRs and items deposited will continue to be maintained even if the author moves institutions.
Can co-authored/co-created work be deposited in an IRR?	Yes, as long as a member of the collaboration is a University staff member.
Is there a permanent way to cite work in the repository in my CV?	Yes. Once deposited, there will be a permanent Web address assigned to your work, which you can link to from your CV.