

National IR Managers Meeting

Report on November 9, 2016 Meeting
COAR/CARL Where Next for Repositories?
November 10, 2016 Ottawa, ON

Who are we?

43 IR managers

CARL and non-CARL institutions

People who wear many hats

Lone rangers, members of large teams, and
everything in between

Service managers and systems librarians

Our goals

Build community

Reduce isolation

Discuss current operational issues

Share successes

Topic discussions

Rotating topic discussions: everyone discussed all 4 issues.

Selected based on common concerns and some current discourse in IR-land

1. Outreach
2. Service models/resourcing
3. Interoperability and enhancing discovery for repository content
4. Reducing researcher burden for populating repositories

Outreach

One of the biggest challenges for outreach now is **OA fatigue among librarians** and staff. We need refreshed retraining to highlight emergent developments in the OA movement that may directly impact the success of IRs.

Outreach has to be a team sport and should be the responsibility of all library staff. The ScholComm/IR manager cannot attend every OA presentation, and the role of the liaison librarian (or other library staff) is essential to establish and maintain relationships.

Outreach

We need **targeted sales approaches** for effective messaging to different types of groups and content. People have different motivations for using an IR.

E.g. Conference proceedings: these clients want to disseminate immediately and preserve their content. Researchers may be motivated by grant compliance.

Metrics: There is a very strong need for reliable statistics to measure impact effectively and obtain buy-in. It is **one of our most powerful recruitment tools**.

Service models/resourcing

- Should libraries be offering **mediated deposit services**? If so, who in the library should be doing this? In some cases the IR manager does it all. In other cases staff are brought in.
- **We are trying to find our natural service partners, and operationalize IR services across our Libraries. Is there potential to offer supporting work/reskill existing staff where there is capacity?** Cataloguing/metadata services are particularly important and seem a natural fit.

Service models/resourcing

- Service integration across the university: **how do we develop service models in tandem with other university operations?** Embedding the IR in existing processes makes sense.
- How can we integrate services with **University Research Offices?**

There is substantial **pressure to become an RIS-type service** (have metadata-only records for things that cannot be shared) but many feel the IR must hold the line as open archives

Interoperability/discoverability of content

Our various platforms require a lot of **customization to meet interoperability requirements**. If we are going to meet these requirements we need to be adequately resourced with **developer support**.

We are working hard to understand **how our systems/content relate to Google Scholar and how it can be surfaced there**. Google Scholar indexing is not a given.

We are also thinking about IRs as either complementary to or adversarial with Google Scholar (as discovery environments).

Interoperability/discoverability of content

The **LAC harvester for ETDs** is a potentially very successful **interoperability project** & we are all participating in it. We will cooperate with LAC to enable this harvesting program to succeed.

Is there a need for for a meta-platform of repository content? **We're trying to understand how "interoperability" would actually look.**

We recognize the critical role that **DOIs and ORCID** play in the interoperability domain, and would like to **explore and define best practices** for implementation of these. Include us in these conversations.

Efficient workflows for populating the repository

Many people are looking for ways to **connect their IR with other enterprise systems** at the University, most notably RIS systems. **We need help advancing that conversation.**

Copyright management is a challenge for automated ingest. Sharing policies can have subtle differences not captured at the batch level, and we may not want to do this without the awareness/involvement of the researchers.

Postprints and their unavailability - **greatest challenge** to populating the repository with previously published material.

Post-prints

The notion of the author post-print is a key operational problem inside the effort to bring published journal articles into the IR.

We want IRs to share what researchers actually **want** to share.

Our experience is: researchers don't have time to find the post print, and most importantly, a great many **do not want to share the post print**. So, we do not make much headway in our efforts with researchers to share their journal literature.

The Tri-Agencies made a concession to the publishing industry in allowing post-prints to represent compliance. We don't know how we will be able to fix this.

Previously unpublished material

We ARE experiencing significant success in capturing, sharing and preserving materials that are previously **unpublished**.

Working papers, white papers, technical papers, technical series, methods papers, instrumentation documentation for labs, departmentally-published material

This is the area where we have very appreciative clients, we have long-term service relationships, and **we are contributing a LOT of value** in the eyes of the authors.

Rather than dismissing these as irrelevant, **it seems these non-traditional materials are a very important thing for us to examine** in thinking about the role of IRs in non-traditional scholarly communication

Unpublished, precious research material

- [Able to post collection from the Ontario Committee on the Status of Women - YorkU](#)
- Large image collection from an entomologist (Guelph): 2100 images, “we get requests from around the world from people wanting to use the images.”
- Faculty member co-chair of UNESCO community. “We have all his community-based research.”
- Large collection of Alberta government & industry reports on tar sands reclamation - “The researcher did it ALL and we have been thanked by government scientists for sharing these materials openly.” (Alberta)



Research Article

JUMP

Measuring Altruistic Impact: A Model for Understanding the Social Justice of Open Access

At

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Authors: Margaret Heller , Franny Gaede

Abstract

INTRODUCTION Traditional assessment of ways in which open access initiatives and institutional repositories have provided a return on investment normally use pragmatic measures such as download counts and citation benefits. This pragmatic approach misses out on the powerful altruistic impact of improving access to international and/or marginalized communities. Using a frame of social justice, this article considers the

Threads through the topics

Changing role of liaison librarians: How do we help advance that work? We see ways to partner.

Resource challenges:

Technical AND service resourcing are both challenges for some of the big changes we need. The situation of the IR manager siloed in an institution, team of 1 with no integration - that has to change.

Open source does not mean cheap: there is a magical idea that it's a free software so resourcing requirements are lower.

Finding OA allies among researchers

Via our IR outreach work, **we find researchers who are VERY PASSIONATE about OA**, who contribute all their work and find all their post-prints, and who take risks and agitate for change inside their scholarly communities.

Let's not forget how much support we actually have, and ensure we are working together with researchers.