



Slevin, Alan (2007) Why are repositories important? University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, United Kingdom. (Unpublished)

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Why are Repositories Important?



Research Publishing Barriers

- Research is publicly funded
- Authors sign away rights with publishers in order to publish
- No tangible reward for authors
- Readership limited by economics
- Emerging Publisher monopolies
- Knock on effects

What is Open Access?

Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions

- ***A research need***
 - As an author I want my research papers to be read and cited. For the sake of my academic career I need my research to have professional visibility & the maximum possible impact. (Jones 2006)
- **Budapest Open Access Initiative (2002)**
 - ... we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print search or link to the full text of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose

Open Access: Why?

To maximise:

research visibility
research usage
research uptake
research impact
research progress

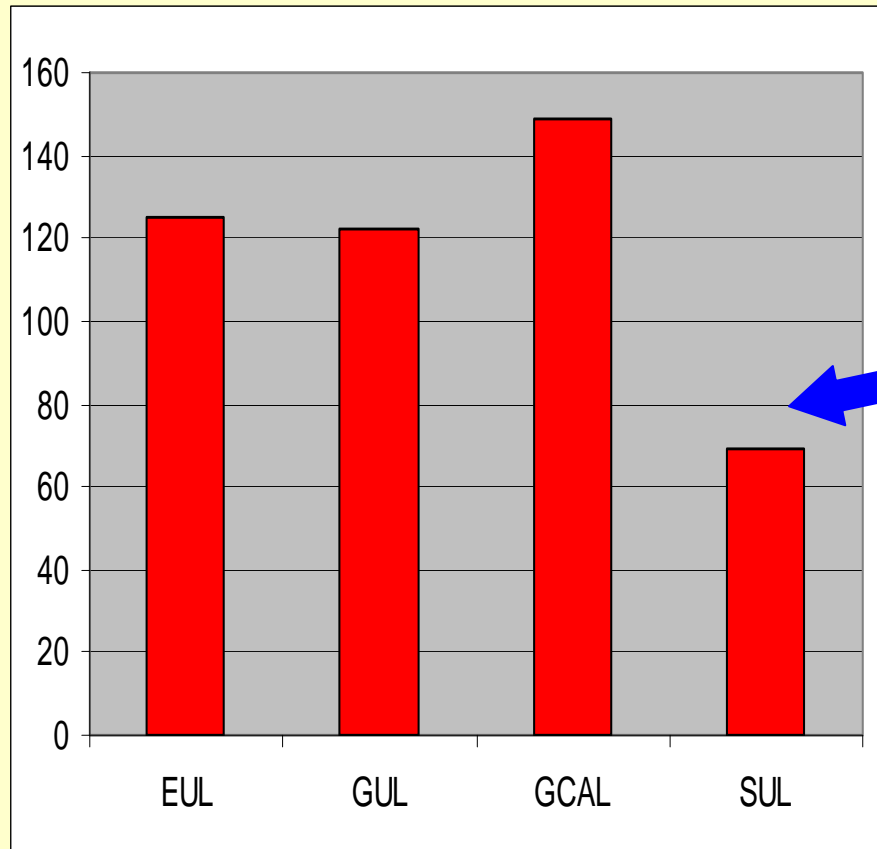
By maximising:

research access



SCONUL statistics 2004/5

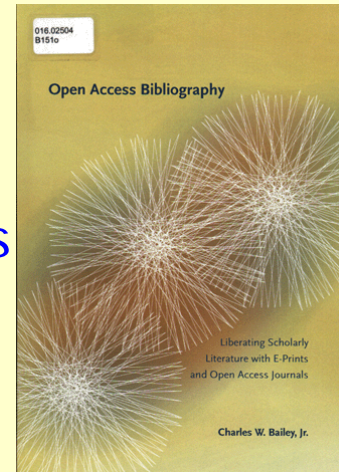
Digital content: Databases



Strathclyde has, on average, half the number of database services provided by its rivals.

The World of Open Access

- Global movement
 - Projects & initiatives since the late 1990s
- UK Scene
 - 100 UK OA Repositories
 - Not an activity in isolation
 - Differing funding, staffing & policy models
- Open Access is not just repositories
 - Open Access journals exist with very different funding models
- Research Funding Council statements & policy
 - Supporting or mandating OA deposition



Who Benefits from Open Access?

- OARs enable a wider global readership

Which means:

- ↑ Improved citation rankings
- ↑ Communication
- ↑ Improved long term preservation
- ↓ Decreased potential plagiarism

Leading to:

- ↑ Professional standings
- ↑ Departmental & Institutional respect/promotion
- ↑ Long term accessibility
- ↑ Ease of access for colleagues and students



Who Loses from Open Access?

- Publishing Industry
- Reduced subscription revenues
- Changed cost-recovery model?

Is there

- Government interference?
- A threat to Peer-review?

Broader Benefits

- For the institution

Facilitates use & reuse of information assets
Raises profile and prestige of institution
Potential long term cost savings

- For the research community

Frees up the communication process
Avoids unnecessary duplication
Assists in truly global collaboration

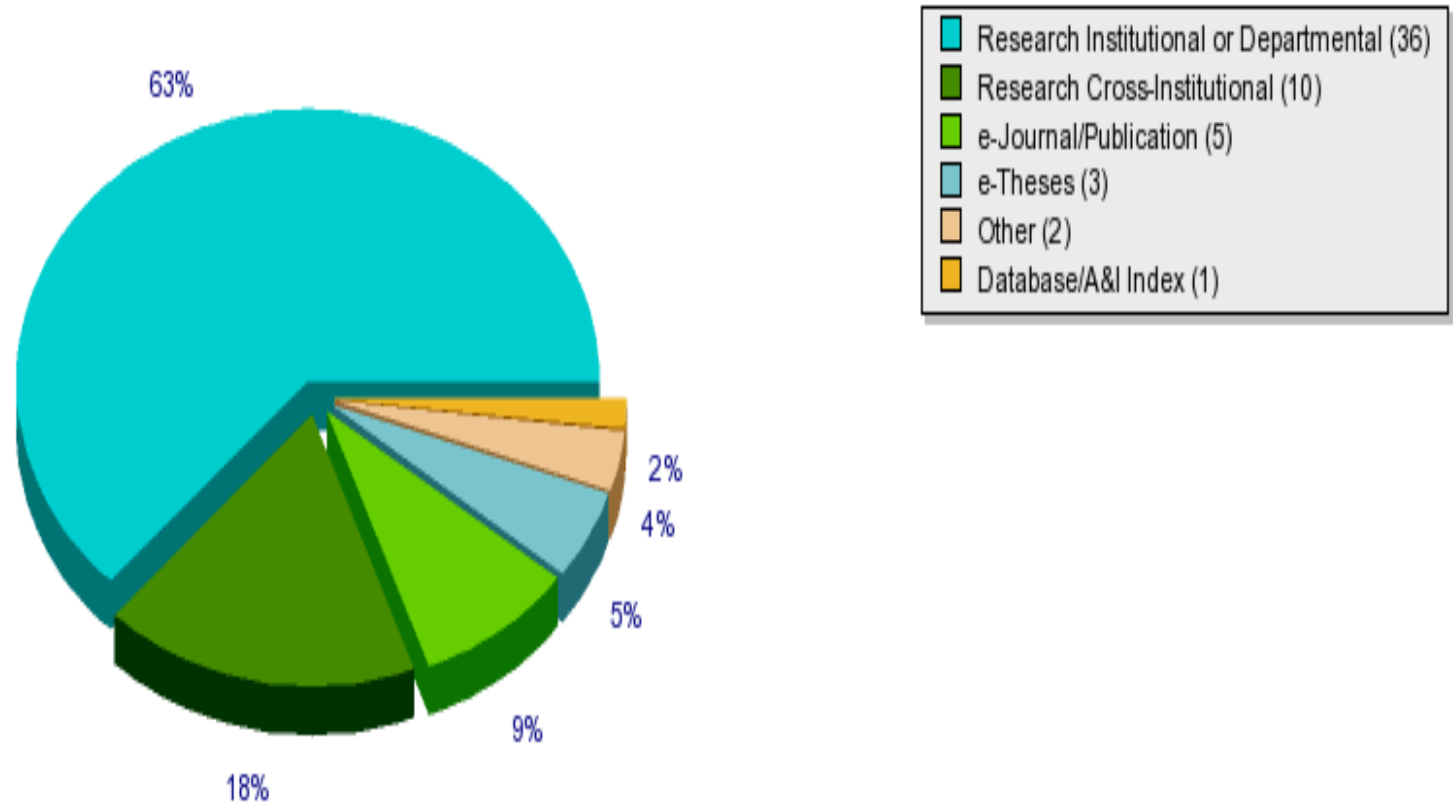
- For society at large

Publicly funded research publicly available
Aids in public understanding of research



UK Repositories

Repositories by Content Type





Why Institutional Repositories?

- They have greater longevity
- Subject repositories more at risk in the long term
- IRs allow easier management of intellectual assets
- Provide readily reusable material
- The OAI-PMH allows a single gateway to search and access many repositories
- Practical reasons

Repository content

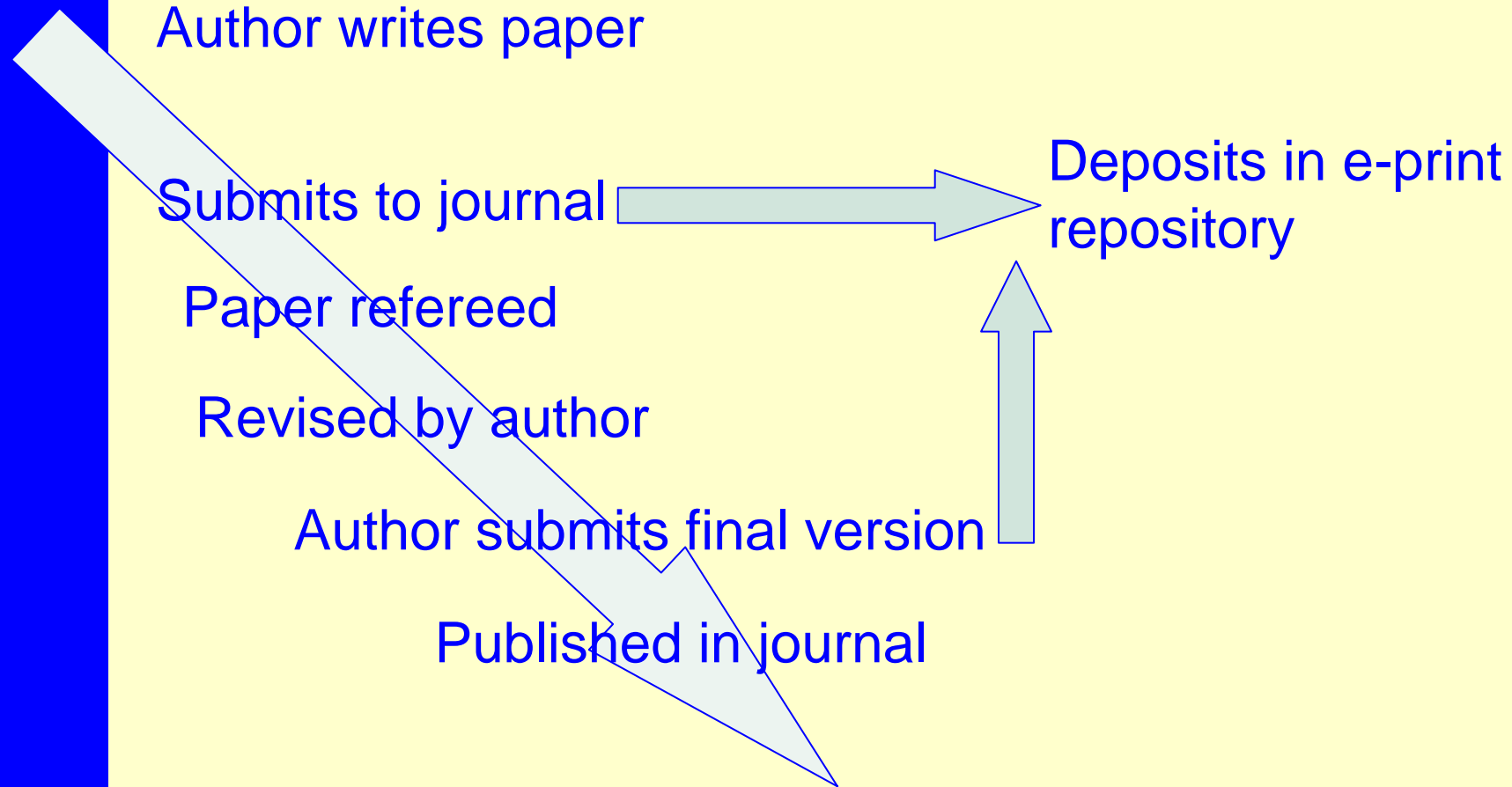
- Preprints
- Postprints
- Datasets
- Learning objects
- Videos
- Sound files
- linkage between these objects
- Theses
- Dissertations
- Conference papers
- Technical reports
- Grey literature



Repository use

- Access to material
- Citation analysis
- Overlay journals
- Review projects
- Evidence based work
- Data-mining
- Cross-institutional research
group virtual research
environments
- . . . *Services built on top*
- RAE-like submissions,
activities and management
- Archival storage
- “Shop-windows”
- Facilitate industrial links
- Career-long personalised
work spaces

publication & deposition



Academic concerns

- Subject base more natural ?
- Quality control ?
- Plagiarism
- "I already have my papers on my website . . . "
- Threat to journals?



Issues for academic use

- Copyright restrictions
approx.. 93% (of Nottingham's) journals allow their authors to archive
- Embargoes
defines relationship of publisher to research
- Cultural change
like email
- Deposition policies from funders



Policy Decisions

- e-Print Archive vs Institutional Repository
- Scope
- Informed by environmental assessment?
- Database/s?
- Software?
- Research Deposit Types
- Resources: Team, Hardware, Funding
- Stakeholders/Partnerships
- Uses



Management and Organizational Issues

- Deposit options
- Metadata quality
- Mandatory metadata fields
- Digitization
- File formats
- Preservation guaranteed?
- Only full text database or a publication database?
- Copyright
- Quality assurance
- Deposit Agreement and Use Agreement

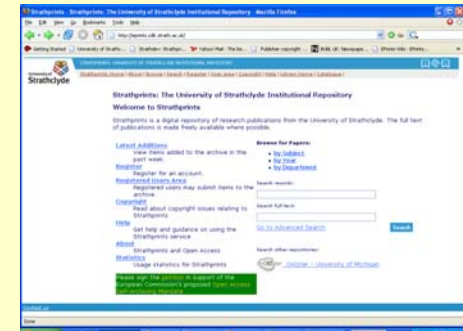


Cultural Issues

- Advocacy – educate, publicise, influence, reward
- Prior art
- Copyright
- One record – for many purposes
- Positioning – where to place access to the IR
- Branding

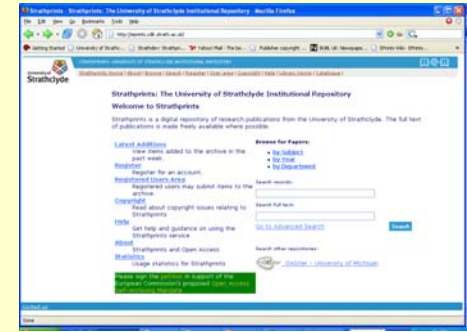


Strathprints



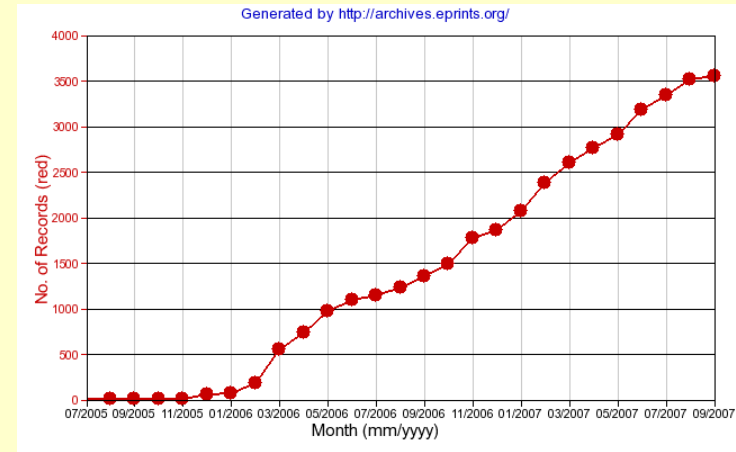
- started in October 2005
- 1 full-time member of staff and p/t support
- 3500+ ePrints
- All departments covered
- 20% with full-text (mainly pdf)
- 90% DOI or other url
- 75% articles, 10% book chapters, pre-prints, presentations
- Jan-Jun 2007: 182368 abstracts, 28245 articles

Strathprints



- 50 most downloaded articles - 26 different main subject areas covered
- Four papers were downloaded over 1000 times each from 25 different countries per paper
- Harvested by OAIster (www.oaister.org) and IRIScotland (cdlr.strath.ac.uk/iriscotland/)

Strathprints Deposit



- upload hundreds of records at once from selected departmental spreadsheets and databases
- varying formats and conventions
- manually checked and edited by Library staff
- moved to the live repository
- some self-deposit
- check copyright
- request full-text (AFDs) where copyright permits and no DOI

Strathprints Experience

- Attend research committees
- Engage with RAE
- Contribute to publications
- Develop advocacy materials – re-design website, faqs, wiki, etc...
- Work with 'database holders' in departments
- Trial self-deposit with 'ePrints friendly' department
- Technical support issues
- Liaise externally
- Train staff
- Copyright and deposit policies
- E-theses



Strathprints: The University of Strathclyde Institutional Repository

Welcome to Strathprints

Strathprints is a digital repository of research publications from the University of Strathclyde. The full text of publications is made freely available where possible.

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Please sign the [petition](#) in support of the European Commission's proposed [Open Access Self-Archiving Mandate](#)

Some key lessons learned



- Last version not always stored by author – often not totally digital – figures may be hard copy - publisher’s journal version?
- Some disciplines are often not so IT familiar
 - eg *what is a pdf?*
 - try to provide tailored support
- Assisted deposit and quality control is extremely time consuming
- Adopt a champion
- IT support is crucial
- Statistics help promotion
- Copyright is always an issue

Way Forward

- Promote self-deposit
- Choice of deposit options including full mediation
- Accepting variety of file formats
- Some conversion offered?
- Institutional Opt-In - lobbying for submission of e-theses, mandates
- Harvested by global and national search services
- More departmental liaison, branding for content, promotion
- Copyright permission – advising and encouraging rather than proactively seeking permission
- Contact authors for AFDs
- Promote open access
- Value added services
- Technical Support



Future

- will there be any effect on traditional publishing processes?
- what happens when people move between institutions or retire?
- what is the relationship between institutional repositories and subject-based repositories such as arXiv?
- substantial increases in availability, access and usage of the scholarly output of this University and other institutions
- how will we preserve full-text in IRs?

Services

- RoMEO
 - www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo
- JULIET
 - www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet
- OpenDOAR
 - www.opendoar.org
 - www.opendoar.org/search

Strathprints

- Strathprints usage statistics:
<http://strathprints.strath.ac.uk/es/>
- Content manager: Alan Slevin, Library:
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- Database manager: Alan Dawson, Centre for Digital Library Research:
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