Digital Repositories: To Be or Not to Be?

by Marilyn Gane

Overview

- Avondale - setting the scene
- What is a digital repository?
- What can it contain?
- What are the benefits?
- What is available?
- Build or buy?
- Issues to consider
- Further information

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Avondale - Setting the scene

- Established 1897
- Private Christian higher education provider
  - "Avondale experience"
- Degree programs
- Quest for university status
- AUQA report
- Research profile

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What is a digital repository?

- Central database
- Scholarly content
- Full text (citation/abstract where full text is not available)
- Open access
- Subject or institution specific
- Searchable by Google, Google Scholar and other Internet search engines

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What can it contain?

- Journal articles
- Conference & workshop papers
- Theses & dissertations
- Electronic journals, newsletters
- Books & book chapters
- Images, artworks, photographs
- Multimedia & audio visual materials
- And more…

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What are the benefits?

- Centralised, searchable location
- Showcases institutional research
- Increased accessibility – students, faculty, colleagues
- Greater visibility and impact
- Networking opportunities for researchers
- Long term preservation
- Timely access to recent research
- Speedier distribution and wider exposure could lead to earlier and increased citation of work

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What is available?

- **Open source**

  - DSpace – MIT (USydney, UTS, FlindersU, ANU, Moore College)

  - ePrints – University of Southampton (UQ, USQ, UTasmania, VictoriaU)

  - Greenstone – University of Waikato, NZ (international)

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Build or buy?

Open Source
- Free
- Hardware in house
- Technical expertise in house

Proprietary
- Subscription
- Hosted
- Training provided
- Technical support provided

Software isn't "free" unless the labor to maintain it is "free". Maybe you have the in-house expertise to deal with OSS…but even so, it's still your time and therefore money, and if you don't you'll have to buy it.

– Karen Schneider

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Issues to consider

- Cost? build or buy
- Content
- Copyright
- Contributions
- Commitment
- Promotion
- Name

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Where are we now?

- Promotion of concept
- Demonstrations
- Consultation – IT, Research VP & committee
- Decision to have!!
- Decision to buy
- Gathering content
- Decision on product in August *
- Promotion, policies, procedures
- Implementation

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Further information

- **ARROW** Australian Research Repositories Online to the World   http://www.arrow.edu.au
- **OAKLIST** database of publishers' open access policies (Queensland University of Technology) https://www.oaklist.qut.edu.au/
- **SHERPA/RoMEO** database of publisher copyright policies and self-archving http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/
- **OAIster** union catalogue of digital resources http://www.oaister.org/
- **Ranking Web of World Repositories** http://repositories.webometrics.info/about.html

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Further information 2

- **Digital Commons** http://digitalcommons.bepress.com/
- **DigiTool** http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/DigiToolOverview
- **DSpace** http://www.dspace.org/
- **ePrints** www.eprints.com
- **Greenstone** www.greenstone.org
- **Hive HarvestRoad** http://www.giuntilabs.com/HarvestRoad_Hive/index.php?info.php?vvu=12&
- **Learning Edge** http://www.thelearningedge.com.au/index.php

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Thank you

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