



RESEARCH ONLINE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Agenda

Agenda of the second meeting of the Research Online Management Committee, to be held on Wednesday, 10 May 2006, in Seminar Room 2, Library, commencing at 2pm.

Membership

Assoc Prof. Lee Astheimer	PVC(Research)
Assoc. Prof. Brian Martin	Faculty of Arts
Dr. Lenore Lyons	Faculty of Arts
Sharon Hughes	Director – Office of Research
Bob Cole	Research Information Systems Manager
Helen Mandl	Associate Librarian, Planning and Development
Michael Organ	Research Online Project Manager

Agenda

1. Update of Research Online Project
 - RO site implementations
 - statistics generation
 - copyright and policy issues
 - procedures
 - author input
 - personal pages
2. Promotion / Publicity and Rollout
3. Discussion – Mandated Deposit - Recommendation 1
4. Next Meeting

Attachments

- Research Online – Report (December 2005 – May 2006)
- Mandated Deposit of Scholarly Material in Research Online (Paper 2006/1)

Michael Organ
Project Officer – Digital Services
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3 May 2006

Research Online Report : November 2005 – May 2006

Timeline

2005	17 October	Research Archive funding proposal finalised
	25 October	VC approves Research Archive funding proposal
	14 November	UOW signs contract with Proquest for Digital Commons
	23 November	1 st meeting – Research Online Management Committee
	28 November	CAUL Institutional Repository Forum - Melbourne
	12 December	Research Online goes live – ro.uow.edu.au
2006	18 January	First item loaded onto Research Online
	1 February	Training by Hannah Perrott, Proquest UK
	2-3 February	APSR Open Repositories conference, University of Sydney
	22 February	100 items on RO
	7 March	200 items on RO
	24 March	Presentation on RO to Library Consultative Committee
	22 March	300 items on RO
	20 April	374 items on RO
		733 full text downloads in the previous week
	22 April	UOW RO application to ARROW participation
	24 April	Invitation to become partner in APSR
	10 May	2 nd meeting – Research Online Management Committee

Report on the Implementation of Research Online

Following the decision in October 2005 to use Proquest's Digital Commons as the University of Wollongong's research repository solution, funding was secured from the Vice Chancellor and the system went live on 12 December 2005. The first item was loaded on 18 January and to date some 374 research papers have been placed on the system, with up to 700+ full text downloads being generated per week.

Project staff (Michael Organ, Project Coordinator, and Natalie Keene, Digital Services Officer) have, since early February 2006, focused their time on familiarization with the new system. Procedures have been developed for the upload of material, and a framework put in place to make the system user-friendly, in preparation for the roll-out across campus.

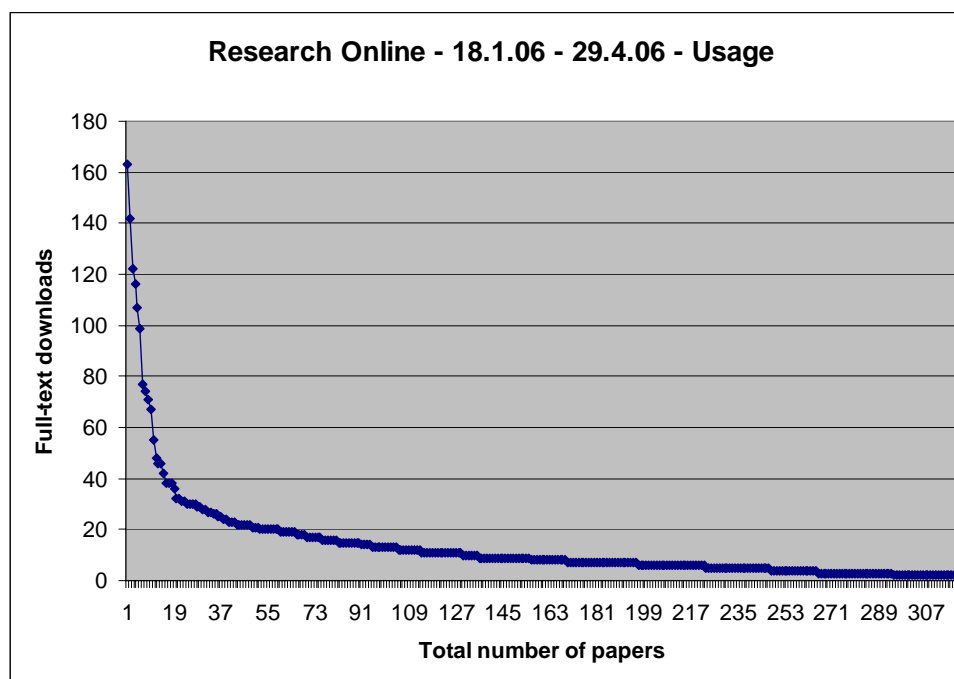
The vast majority of the papers at present on RO are copyright approved items from the IEEE database. These comprise the original refereed publisher version pdf of journal papers and conference proceedings. This source was harvested first because of the lack of any significant copyright impediment. The majority of this material relates to the faculties of Informatics and Engineering. The UOW Research Online site has been identified by Proquest as a good working model of the Digital Commons software, and Proquest UK staff have made use of it in demonstrations to promote the capabilities of the system. Material on RO at this point in time comprises the following:

	Faculty / Division	No. of papers
1	Faculty of Informatics – Papers	265
2	Faculty of Engineering – Papers	79
3	Illawarra Unity journal	10
4	Faculty of Education – Papers	7
5	Faculty of Commerce – Papers	5
6	Faculty of Creative Arts – Papers	3
7	Faculty of Science – Papers	2
8	Academic Services Division – Papers	2
9	Faculty of Arts – Papers	1
10	Faculty of Arts – Theses	1
11	Faculty of Law – Papers	0
12	Faculty of Health & Behavioural Sciences – Papers	0
	Total	374

As of 29 April 2006 there had been 4480 full text downloads of RO material, with the majority of those referral (>96%) coming from off-campus and via Google. The following papers have had the most number of downloads over that period:

Full-Text Downloads for 2005-11-29 through 2006-04-29.		
Title	URL	Count
Clothing the Soviet Mechanical-Flâneuse	http://ro.uow.edu.au/creartspapers/2	163
The pros and cons of RFID in supply chain management	http://ro.uow.edu.au/infopapers/105	142
Modelling the Draganflyer four-rotor helicopter	http://ro.uow.edu.au/infopapers/100	122
Introducing location-based services into information technology curriculum: reflections on practice	http://ro.uow.edu.au/infopapers/7	116
A Century of the Philippine Labor Movement	http://ro.uow.edu.au/unity/vol4/iss1/2	107
Strike 1912 - Looking for Australia's earliest workers' film	http://ro.uow.edu.au/unity/vol5/iss1/4	99
A Century of the Labour Movement in Australia	http://ro.uow.edu.au/unity/vol4/iss1/3	77
Asymmetric kernel regression	http://ro.uow.edu.au/engpapers/29	74
A Disgrace to our Australian Civilisation: Mothers, Miners and the Commemoration of Mortality in New South Wales	http://ro.uow.edu.au/unity/vol4/iss1/1	71
Simmel, Ninotchka and the Revolving Door	http://ro.uow.edu.au/creartspapers/3	67

The download usage is reflected in the following graph, which shows individual papers along the x-axis (total=347) against number of individual full text downloads along the y-axis:



It can be seen from this graph that approximately 10% of the papers have received more than 20 full text downloads since uploading, and 90% less than 20 downloads. One third of the papers have received 4 downloads or less. The slope of this graph may alter as a wider range of material is placed on RO, though the precise outcome is difficult to determine because at the moment RO is skewed with a majority of papers from the Informatics and Engineering disciplines. As it stands, these results reveal the degree to which an institutional repository, closely allied to search engines such as Google and Yahoo, can enable ease of access and give rise to large download figures.

It is interesting to note that the few arts and humanities related papers on RO at present appear in the higher download end of the spectrum, e.g. number 1 is Dr Jon Cockburn's (Creative Arts) 'Clothing the Soviet Mechanical Flâneuse', with 163 downloads. It will be important to increase the number and range of papers on RO, both to equitably service the university community, but also to reveal the impact of RO on research outputs from the different faculties.

Michael Organ, 1 May 2006

Mandated Deposit of Scholarly Material in Research Online

A recent Australian study (Sale, 2006) revealed that, in the absence of compulsory deposit or self-archiving policies, the deposit rate (as a % of DEST output) for scholarly material in university institutional repositories over 2004-5 is 15% or less.

The Queensland University of Technology – the only Australian higher education institution with a formal compulsory deposit policy – has an estimated 2005 deposit rate of 60%, and the rate for 2006 is estimated at 80%.

The University of Wollongong has a mandatory deposit policy for research theses, and this has reached the 100% figure for 2005.

A recent international study (Hannard, 2006) found that “the only institutions approaching 100% self-archiving are those that mandate it,” and that 95% of authors will comply with a self-archiving mandate. It is clear that the long-term sustainability of institutional repositories is contingent upon academic author self-archiving.

The University of Wollongong, over the period 2006-7, is seeking to deposit within Research Online a large proportion of its DEST assessable research output for the years 2000-2005. In order to achieve this, it is clear that consideration should be given to Hannard’s recommendation that the university mandate:

“That immediately upon acceptance for publication, the author’s final draft must be deposited into the institutional repository.”

If such a mandate is not given, it is likely that Research Online will fall short of the target which the Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) sought to achieve when they supported the Project in October 2005.

Recommendation 1

To enable the University of Wollongong to maximize the visibility, usage and impact of its research output, Staff Members and students will, immediately upon acceptance for publication of Scholarly Material, deposit an electronic copy of the author’s final, post peer-reviewed draft in the University of Wollongong institutional repository.

References

Arthur Sale, Comparison of content policies for institutional repositories in Australia, First Monday, 11(4), March 2006. <http://firstmonday.org>.

Stevan Hannard, Maximising Research Impact through Institutional and National Open-Access Self-Archiving Policies. February 2006 (in press). <http://eprints.ecs.soton.ac.uk/12093/>