

# THE DIGITAL REPOSITORY AS A CENTRAL DRIVER IN THE OPEN ACCESS RESEARCH AGENDA

## INTRODUCTION

The Berlin Declaration was drafted to “promote the Internet as a functional instrument for a global scientific knowledge base and human reflection”, and has played a significant role in advancing open access to research and scholarly material. This declaration has been signed by over 250 organisations from all over the world.

In line with the above, the Digital Repository, has emerged as a dynamic platform for promoting “scientific knowledge and human reflection”. It plays a significant role in promoting the research output of an institution within the Open Access arena.

## What is Open Access?

Open Access can be defined as free, immediate, and permanent, online access to published research coupled with the rights to use this research fully in the digital environment. It provides an opportunity to bring information to a global audience, allowing it's use in new, and innovative ways.



## What is a Digital Repository?

A centrally managed web-based platform that organises an institutions research output.

Digital Collection where scholarly resources within a university or research institution are deposited.



The Digital Repository –whose responsibility?

### COLLECTIVE

- ♦ Institution –OA Mandate
- ♦ Library — hosting, selecting, and managing the repository; strategy; human capital; marketing and Scholarly Communication
- ♦ Research Office — monitoring deposition of research output; funding conditions
- ♦ Academics— permissions; deposition of research output

## OPEN ACCESS BENEFITS FOR RESEARCH



INCREASED VISIBILITY



INCREASED CITATION RATES



DRIVES INNOVATION



GLOBAL IMPACT



PUBLIC ACCESS



COMPLYING WITH FUNDER POLICIES

How does the Digital Repository support the research agenda?

- ♦ Publishing
- ♦ Collaboration
- ♦ Ranking
- ♦ Citation
- ♦ Funding
- ♦ Strategy
- ♦ Quality—Collection development & management

Open Access and the Digital Repository: A way forward for Universities

- ♦ Establish OA Mandates.
- ♦ Digital Repository and deposition of research output.
- ♦ Building an OA community within the university.
- ♦ Raising awareness of Open Access & Digital Repositories amongst the university community.
- ♦ Use of social media for open communication.

The Value of the Digital Repository in the Research agenda?

- ♦ A well organised and managed Repository provides ACCESS for the development of new knowledge
- ♦ Archiving and preservation of intellectual output
- ♦ Broader research visibility
- ♦ Collaboration and interconnection
- ♦ Safe, reliable and accessible archive
- ♦ Global sharing of knowledge and learning through technology encourages social unity thus removing barriers to access.

### Publishing

#### Green Self Archiving

- ♦ Authors archive a freely available version of the published manuscript in their Digital Repository or in a National Digital Repository.
- ♦ Green journal publishers are those that allow self archiving

### References

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### Publishing

#### Gold OA Journals

- ♦ Provides free immediate access to the articles via publisher websites that may or may not carry author fees.
- ♦ Author or author institution can pay a fee to the publisher at publication time, thereafter making the material 'free' at the point of access.



LARSHAN NAICKER

Head: User & Research Support Services

Rhodes University Library

L.naicker@ru.ac.za

