If you build it, will they come?

Issues in Institutional Repository Implementation, Promotion and Maintenance

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What

An institutional repository is:

1. A set of services for management and dissemination of digital materials

2. An organizational commitment to stewardship of these materials
   - long-term preservation
   - as well as organization
   - access or distribution
Why?

• It preserves unique digital content.
• Provides a unique, persistent identifier to each item.
How?

- Roll your own
- Use a pre-made package
- Use a subscription service
Roll Your Own

- Ultimate control
- High staff requirement for support and maintenance
Use a Pre-made Package

• Easier setup, maintenance
• Clearer future
• Less control over features
• Most popular option
Use a Service

- Easiest setup
- Best support
- Minimal staff requirement
- No control over features
- Most visible cost
- Issues with security, preservation
Major Packages

• DSpace
• EPrints
• Digital Commons
• Fedora/Fez
• CONTENTdm
Points of Evaluation

• Technical skill requirement
• Ease of setup
• Customizable workflow
• Controlled vocabulary
• Data Access
DSpace

- Required: XML, XSLT; Java, SQL helpful
- Setup is easy, customizations tricky, large & helpful user community.
- Workflow: infinite customization
- Controlled vocabularies via XML
- Data Access: Z39.50, OAI-PMH, RSS, XML objects
EPrints

- Minimal requirements; Perl helpful
- Easy to set up, large user community
- Customizable workflows; geared toward e-journals
- Controlled vocabularies: XML authority files (seems limited)
- Data Access: RSS, OAI-PMH
Digital Commons

- No technical skill requirement
- Quick vendor supported setup
- Customizable workflow
- Controlled vocabulary limited to a provided “discipline” taxonomy
- Data Access: RSS, OAI-PMH, XML gateway
Fedora/Fez

- Technical skills: XML; PHP, SQL helpful
- Ease of setup: not bad; helpful user group
- Workflows infinitely configurable via XSD files.
- Controlled vocabularies via XML
- Data Access: OAI-PMH; well defined web services API
CONTENTdm

- Technical skill requirement: HTML; PHP helpful
- Ease of setup: easy, comes with sample content out of the box
- Customizable workflow: no
- Controlled vocabulary: plain text lists
- Data Access: OAI-PMH; Z39.50
Other Considerations

• Preservation — some don’t do it
• Vendor support vs. community support
• “Free” as in speech
Our Architecture

- DSpace with a Manakin XMLUI
- Some elements generated by PHP
- DSpace/Web site interoperability
Challenges and Strategies to Grow an IR
Institutional Repository (IR) may better serve to disseminate “gray literature” documents such as pamphlets, bulletins, visual conference presentations, and other materials that typically ignored by traditional publishers.

IR should be seen as a resource to capture, preserve, and communicate the diversity of intellectual output of an institution’s faculty and researchers.
Challenges

Learning curve
Confusion and uncertainty about intellectual property issues
Developing communities and collections
Gaining campus support – Faculty participation
Learning Curve

There is always a learning curve with any new technology.
Intellectual Property

Creative Commons - allow creators to communicate which rights they reserve, and which rights they waive for the benefit of recipients or other creators. ([http://creativecommons.org/](http://creativecommons.org/))

Provide author’s right information: SPARC Author Addendum is a legal instrument that modifies the publisher’s agreement and allows you to keep key rights to your articles and provide publisher policies ([http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/))

Integrate license in metadata
There is one last step: In order for DSpace to reproduce, translate and distribute your submission worldwide, you must agree to the following terms.

Grant the standard distribution license by selecting 'I Grant the License'; and then click 'Complete Submission'.

NON-EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTION LICENSE

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Developing Collections

• Can be very time consuming
• You need to work with multiple parties to establish community hierarchy, collection metadata, workflow
• Just because you created the community does not mean you will have contributors - Who will maintain the collection and promote the collection?

Create guidelines and a collection development plan
- National Park Service
  - Office of Information
- Research Unit, Center, or Department
  - Architecture and Landscape Architecture, Department of
    - Slides
    - Architecture Program
      - Architecture Student Theses
        - 2003
        - 2010
      - Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity
      - Student Portfolios
        - Academic Year 2009-2010
  - Studio Projects
    - Academic Year 2009-2010
      - 271 - Architectural Design I
      - 272 - Architectural Design II
      - 371 - Architectural Design III
      - 372 - Architectural Design IV
      - 471 - Architectural Design V
      - 472 - Architectural Design VI
      - 771 - Advanced Architectural Design
    - Landscape Architecture Program
      - Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity
      - Landscape Architecture Student Theses
        - 2010
      - Student Portfolios
        - Academic Year 2009-2010
      - Studio Projects
        - Academic Year 2009-2010
          - 271 - Introduction to Landscape Architecture Studio
          - 272 - Parks and Open Spaces Studio
          - 371 - Site Planning and Design Studio
          - 372 - Community Planning and Design Studio
          - 471 - Urban Design Studio
          - 472 - Remediation and Planning Studio
          - 571 - Environmental Planning and Studio
- Centers & Affiliated Organizations
  - Center for Heritage Renewal
  - Admin
Participation

February 2007 *Census of Institutional Repositories in the United States* reports that “operating repositories have had limited success in recruiting voluntary deposit of content”

[www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub140/pub140.pdf](http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub140/pub140.pdf)
Participation

Faculty are best at creating not preserving new knowledge as a result faculty host their digital objects on a personal website, where their long-term preservation is not secure.

Remain flexible on submission and open to experiment with file format – preservation
Promoting
Promoting

• Raise awareness
• Make the site attractive
• Promote depositing
• Engage in conversations with users
What can you do

• Events/presentations
• Focus on “Gray Literature”
• Liaison librarians / one-on-one
• Brand your Repository
• Articles in campus newspapers
• Usage feedback
If you build it…. 

They will come
Questions?

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