



Research Repositories

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Repositories: Definition

- A place to store electronic material so that others can find it
- A key part of the solution to ease of access and use of digital resources
- Many initiatives in Europe, Australia, Asia and USA

Repositories Content & Type

- **Repositories Content**

- Papers for academic journals
- Research theses
- Conference proceedings
- Research Data
- Educational Resources/Learning Objects

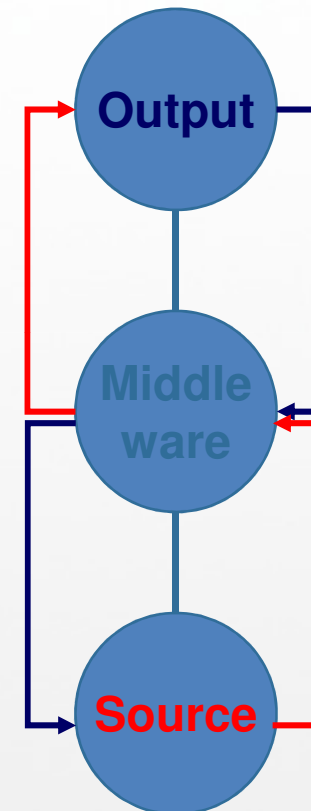
- **Repositories Type:**

- Institutional
- Subject-based
- Content-based

Linking data to publication

The StORe vision

- Seamless transport from research data to research publications and vice versa
- Bi-directional links proven in social science e-research but capable of export to other disciplines



Repositories: Issues (1)

- **Policy**

- Who owns the data?
- How do you select which data is worth preserving?
- For how long?
- Which resources should be open access?
- What quality standards are needed and how are they managed?

Repositories: Issues (2)

- **Financial**

- How much will it cost, now and in the future?
- How can the capital and recurrent costs be met?
- What are the benefits of repositories and to whom?

Repositories: Issues (3)

- **Managerial**

- Should a repository be managed in-house, outsourced, or a shared service with other organisations?
- What meta-data standards should be used?
- How will rights clearance and digital rights management be tackled?
- What availability and quality of service is required?
- Are the necessary professional skills available to manage the repository?

Repositories: Issues (4)

- **Motivation**

- How can researchers and teachers be encouraged to deposit resources within the repository?
- How do such deposits attract recognition and reward?

Repositories: Issues (5)

- **Interoperability**

- How can individual repositories integrate?
- How can we build a national virtual repository from separate institutional & subject repositories?
- How can national repositories link internationally to provide a seamless infrastructure layer of academic and scholarly content?
- To what extent should research repositories link up to other educational and cultural repositories and related areas such as health?

JISC Repositories Programme (1)

- Objective:
 - To improve long term availability and access to digital content, through a network of repositories that provide capability for teachers, learners and researchers to use and share content

JISC Repositories Programme (2)

- £20 million over 5 years
- Financial support for universities to develop or enhance an existing repository
- A repository advisory service for universities
- “The Depot” to deposit research outputs
- “EThOSnet” for post grad research theses
- Repositories Search project to join-up distributed repositories

Repositories UK

**Frameworks for technical interoperability,
policies for management**

Research papers

Data

Grey literature

**Changing staff roles, relationships
& associated skills – in the library and the research dept.**



Repositories UK

- To set technical interoperability (shared standards) and policy frameworks (shared practice) for the evolving UK federated network of digital repositories:
 - Data ownership policies and IP
 - Policies on open access
 - Curation/preservation
 - Technical interoperability

Role of University Libraries

- Real opportunity
- Pivotal role
- Working collaboratively with others
 - research councils, national libraries, university research depts, computing depts, learning technologists, administration depts



GRL2020

A Vision of Global Research Literature

Repository challenges: dealing with data (1)

- Data are different: need domain knowledge
- Appraisal/selection harder
- Broader range of formats
 - Appropriate “standards” for longevity? XML-based?
- What metadata are needed?
 - Descriptive, to find the dataset
 - Context and background
 - Provenance
 - “Representation information” to connect data to information (whatever gives meaning to data)



Repository challenges: dealing with data (2)

- May distort your repository
 - Size
 - Number of objects
 - Rate of deposit
 - Nature of use
- Databases may be dynamic
- Databases may need to be accessed in situ
- Rights and ethical limitations hard to describe and enforce
- Need to build links to publications (cf StORe)
- Need to build discipline links across repositories...

*Food for thought from Chris Rusbridge, Director
of the JISC funded Digital Curation Centre*

- How can Librarians be involved?
- **DISCUSS**