Open Access as a Strategic Imperative for the Stellenbosch University

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20 October 2010
Strategic objectives

Strategic objective of Vice Rector Research

_Leave a scientific footprint in Africa_

Action plans associated with this strategic objective

- Supporting, developing and contributing to **high-level scholarly publication output and sharing research data and results** with the rest of the world, especially with researchers from the developing world
- Establishing a **Central Open Access** fund to support and facilitate the University’s Open Access mandate
- Establishing an **e-Repository Research system** (for primary data, research output, Open Access publication based content, digitized special collections, and rich media content types) to ingest, preserve and disseminate the intellectual output of the institution
- Organising an **African Conference on Open Access and Scholarly Communication**
Comments by Lor (2007)

Aptly describes the path followed by academic and research institutions in developing repositories.

States that:

*an old tradition, a new technology and a new role have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good. The old tradition is the willingness of scientists and scholars to publish their research in scholarly journals without payment, for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. The new technology is the internet. And, the new role is that of the librarian as the publisher of the scholarly information for public good.*
Implementation of strategy

- Growth of the repository into SUNScholar
- Exploitation of technology
- Cataloguers creating expert metadata
- Use of cell phone technology and satellite television technology
- BioMed Central
- Berlin 10 Conference
Thank you!
Taking action ...

Opening up access to our research
Institutional Repositories (SUNScholar)

SUNScholar is an electronic archive for the collection, preservation and distribution of digital theses, dissertations, research articles, inaugural addresses, conference proceedings etc and is built using open internet standards with open source software.

Please use the standards based Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome internet browsers when working on this repository. Click here for help and check the links in the page footer for further information.

Communities in SUNScholar

Select a community to browse its collections:

- Faculty of Agrisciences [39]
- Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences [944]
- Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences [549]
- Faculty of Education [100]
- Faculty of Engineering [428]
- Faculty of Health Sciences [161]
- Faculty of Law [74]
- Faculty of Military Sciences [9]
- Faculty of Science [43]
- Faculty of Theology [65]
- University of Stellenbosch [359]

http://scholar.sun.ac.za
Open Access Journals

Directory of Open Access Journals - Mozilla Firefox

Find journals

Institution of Mechanical Engineering

Find journals

found 1 journals matching your query

R&D Journal

ISSN: 02579669
Subject: Mechanical Engineering
Publisher: South African Institution of Mechanical Engineering (SAIMechE)
Country: South Africa
Language: English
Keywords: mechanical engineering
Start year: 2001

found 1 journals matching your query
Become an OA Publisher

http://pkp.sfu.ca/?q=ojs

Open Journal Systems

“Scholars need the means to launch a new generation of journals committed to open access, and to help existing journals that elect to make the transition to open access...”

Budapest Open Access Initiative, 2002

Open Journal Systems (OJS) is a journal management and publishing system that has been developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research.

OJS Features

1. OJS is installed locally and locally controlled.
2. Editors configure requirements, sections, review process, etc.
3. Online submission and management of all content.
4. Subscription module with delayed open access options.
5. Comprehensive indexing of content with part of global system.
6. Reading tools for content, based on field and editors' choice.
7. Email notification and commenting ability for readers.
8. Complete context-sensitive online Help support.

OJS assists with every stage of the refereed publishing process, from submissions through to online publication and indexing. Through its management systems, its finely grained indexing of research, and the context it provides for research, OJS seeks to improve both the scholarly and public quality of refereed research.

OJS is open source software made freely available to journals worldwide for the purpose of making open access publishing a viable option for more journals, as open access can increase a journal's visibility and make content more accessible to the widest possible audience.
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Open Source Software
Open Educational Resources

THE CAPE TOWN OPEN EDUCATION DECLARATION

Read the Declaration

Cape Town Open Education Declaration: Unlocking the promise of open educational resources

We are on the cusp of a global revolution in teaching and learning. Educators worldwide are developing a vast pool of educational resources on the internet, open and free for all to use. These educators are creating a world where each and every person on earth can access and contribute to the sum of all human knowledge. They are also planting the seeds of a new pedagogy where educators and learners create, shape and evolve knowledge together, deepening their skills and understanding as they go.

This emerging open education movement combines the established tradition of sharing good ideas with fellow educators and the collaborative, interactive culture of the Internet. It is built on the belief that everyone should have the freedom to use, customize, improve and redistribute educational resources without constraint. Educators, learners and others who share this belief are gathering together as part of a worldwide effort to make education both more accessible and more effective.

The expanding global collection of open educational resources has created fertile ground for this effort. These resources include openly licensed course materials, lesson plans, textbooks, games, software and other materials that support teaching and learning. They contribute to making education more accessible, especially where money for learning materials is scarce. They also nourish the kind of participatory culture of learning, creating, sharing and cooperation that rapidly changing knowledge societies need.

However, open education is not limited to just open educational resources. It also draws upon open technologies that facilitate collaborative, flexible learning and the open sharing of teaching practices that empower educators to benefit from the best ideas of their colleagues. It may also serve to include new approaches to assessment, accreditation and collaborative learning. Understanding and embracing innovations like these is critical to the long-term vision of this movement.

There are many barriers to realizing this vision. Most educators remain unaware of the growing pool of open educational resources. Many governments and educational institutions are either unaware or uninterested in the benefits of open education. Differences among licensing schemes for open resources create confusion and incompatibility. And, of course, the majority of the world does not have access to the computers and education that are integral to realising open education efforts.

These barriers can be overcome, but only by working together. We invite learners, educators, trainers, authors, schools, colleges, universities, publishers, unions, professional societies, policymakers, governments, foundations and others who share our vision to commit to the pursuit and promotion of open education and, in particular, to these three strategies to increase the reach and impact of open educational resources.
“New knowledge is built on existing knowledge. If existing knowledge is not accessible – or is increasingly privatised – then the whole enterprise of creating new knowledge for the benefit of society in general and the planet, is hobbled.” – Ralph Pina

Ralph Pina
Director: E-Business, Information Technology, Stellenbosch University