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Research Repositories: a national view

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RESEARCH THAT SHAPES AND IMPROVES LIVES

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Scotland punches above its weight in research
and
Scotland punches above its weight in research repositories



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Stakeholders

- Researchers: want to get on with their research (but also want visibility and credit for their research)
- Research administrators: want to manage research outputs
- Universities: want to manage research outputs, and get high credit in research assessment
- Libraries: want to archive the University's research outputs

Everyone wants visibility for the research

Is there a Scottish agenda for research repositories?

- Visibility for Scottish research
- Scottish research pools
- Finding local research collaborators
- Knowledge exchange; business development
- Inclusion agenda—publicly funded research should be publicly available

Benefits of working together in Scotland

- Coordination role for Repository managers
- Sharing of training and expertise
- Collaborative preservation
- Reducing costs
- Competition and collaboration

IRIScotland

- JISC funded project, 2005 to mid-2008
- Collaborative project initiated by SCURL, sponsored by NLS, SLIC and all Scottish Universities
- Work packages involved Universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Strathclyde (CDLR), NLS, Stirling, Abertay

Aims of project

1. Cultural and organisational change at institutional and researcher level
2. Establishment of a framework for institutional repositories in Scotland
3. Provision of 2 services for Scotland: a hosted repository and a cross searching or harvesting repository
4. Exploration of what should be done at international, UK, Scottish, and institutional level

Formal outcomes of IRIScotland

- Development of pilot hosting repository and cross-institution search service
- Good practice toolkit
- Metadata Agreement
- Recommendations for sustainability of the services

Less formal outcomes of IRIScotland

- Scotland is more repository-aware and repository-ready
- More Scottish universities have “mandates” about the deposit of research outputs
- Acceleration in deposit in repositories
- Close work with NLS, particularly important for preserving research outputs
- Demonstration that collaborative cross-institutional working adds value

What next for IRIScotland?

- IRIScotland services being developed
- IRIScotland Council being established
- Institutional Repository Managers Group
- Enhancing IRIScotland (ERIS) project

Lessons learned about getting deposits

- Researchers are happy to do it, but...
- Not enough to build repositories
- Need to understand and think like a researcher so that the services provided will fit in the research workflow
- Provide services add value to the research process and makes life easier for the researcher, eg.
 - Personal bibliographies
 - Ensuring credibility and longevity for research
 - Management of different versions
 - Making it easy to deposit
 - Copyright advice
 - Metadata creation
- “Carrots” and “sticks”

Working together for the benefit of Scotland, we can:

- Ensure maximum deposit across Scottish research repositories
- Maximise research visibility
- Maximise uptake of research
- Provide knowledge transfer into Scottish economy
- Provide best technical solutions
- Scotland is in good position to lead in the world



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