Open scholarship programme @ the University of Pretoria

UNESCO Regional Workshop on the Benefits of Open Access for Research
Pretoria 23 November 2010
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Few libraries exist in a vacuum, accountable only to themselves. There is always a larger context for assessing library quality, that is, what and how well does the library contribute to achieving the overall goals of the parent constituencies. (Pritchard 1996)
Determining factors for the Open Scholarship strategy

1. Networked digital environment
2. South Africa – on the African continent
3. University of Pretoria’s strategic plan
4. Department of Library Service’s strategic plan
1. Networked Digital environment & trends

- Internet has changed the library environment
- Speeds up retrieval & dissemination
- Information providers like Google & Yahoo provide easy searching
- Social web - web 2.0, blogs, YouTube, Facebook, Flickr & wikis
- Repositories - enhanced visibility
2. South Africa – on the African continent

- Director of the Institute for Technological Innovation University of Pretoria (Pouris 2010)
- South Africa makes out 19% of the population
- Responsible for 60% of the regional GDP
- Publishes 79% regions publications
- BUT produces 0.55% of the world’s literature (India produces 2.94%)
- The region still has a long way to go to develop research
More about the University of Pretoria

• One of the largest universities in South Africa
• 9 Faculties on six campuses & the Gordon Institute of Business Science
• 140 departments, 85 centres, institutes and bureaus
• Offers more than 1800 academic programmes in Afrikaans and English
• More than 50 000 students
• Worldwide collaboration with partners in research
Research outputs

• Since 1997, UP has been the leading producer of research outputs among higher education institutions.

• According to 2008 audit of the Department of Higher Education & Training, 1183.92 audited units were approved for subsidy.

• 71.25% of these journal units appeared in internationally recognized journals.
Faculty distribution of audited publication units 2009

Units

- ECO
- EDU
- EBIT
- Health
- Humanities
- Law
- NAT & AS
- Theology
- VET
- GIBS
- SUPPORT

0 50 100 150 200 250 300

ECO  EDU  EBIT  Health  Humanities  Law  NAT & AS  Theology  VET  GIBS  SUPPORT
3. University of Pretoria’s strategic plan

- Central theme & primary goal: Becoming an internationally recognised South African teaching and research university
- Essential characteristics: academic excellence, quality & innovation
- 3 Key areas for achieving the University’s goal:
  - Being a people-centered institution with excellent staff & students
  - To excel in teaching, research & community engagement
  - Adequate assistance from the University’s support departments
4. Department of Library Services’ strategic plan

• We strive to be a world-class modern academic research library thereby enabling the University of Pretoria to become an internationally recognized research university

• eService unit was created as part of the UPLS

• Responsible for the implementation of the e-Information strategy

• Library’s strategic plan is an extension of the UP plan

• DLS is mentioned explicitly
Little bit about the Department of Library Services

• One of the leading academic libraries in South Africa
• Six floor Merenssky 2 Library on the Hatfield campus is the head office of the UPLS
• UPLS occupies space in 11 other buildings spread over the 6 campuses of the university
• 242 staff members (75 professional, 82 support and 85 hourly)
• 8534 journal subscriptions
• 707 paper and 63 both paper & electronic subscriptions
Open Scholarship programme: UPeTD 2000

http://upetd.up.ac.za/UPeTD.htm
Open Scholarship programme : Policy for etds 2003

Office of the Registrar

Policy on University of Pretoria electronic theses and dissertations

Policy Group/Category: Academic

1. Position statement

The University of Pretoria supports free access to research literature for all researchers worldwide and takes responsibility for the dissemination of its own research outputs. Where these are published in electronic form, it is even more important that the University itself should provide access to them.

2. Purpose

This policy provides directions for the archiving and dissemination of theses and dissertations resulting from postgraduate work done by University of Pretoria students.

The policy aims to ensure that:
- the student, in conjunction with the Faculty and the Library, is able to publish a non-commercial version of the information contained in their theses and dissertations;
- the University’s Research Report is complemented with the full text of theses and dissertations;
- mechanisms exist for the long-term preservation of UP theses and dissertations.

3. Policy statement

3.1. Each student should submit an electronic copy of their thesis/dissertation to the Postgraduate Office of the relevant Faculty/Institute. Students are advised to submit their electronic thesis/dissertation in PDF format. The electronic thesis/dissertation will be checked for plagiarism. If any plagiarism is detected, the student's thesis/dissertation will be removed from the repository.

3.2. The electronic thesis/dissertation will be available for public access through the University's repository. The student is responsible for ensuring that the electronic thesis/dissertation is complete and accurate and that all necessary permissions are obtained for the inclusion of copyrighted material.

3.3. The following exceptions are permitted:

- The thesis/dissertation contains material that is protected by copyright and the student has obtained permission from the copyright holder to include the material.
- The thesis/dissertation contains material that is confidential and the student has obtained permission from the appropriate authority to include the material.
- The thesis/dissertation contains material that is protected by trade secrets and the student has obtained permission from the owner of the trade secret to include the material.
Open Scholarship programme: OS Office 2007

http://www.library.up.ac.za/openup/inex.htm
Open Scholarship programme: Mandate 2009 – first in Africa!

Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR)
http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/policysignup/
Have you published research articles in 2010?

By Elsabet Oliver

Pasted on 11 November 2010

Support the Open Access mandate which was accepted last year and forward the postprint versions of your research articles to openup@up.ac.za.

What is a postprint? The postprint is the author's final, complete but unformatted version after peer review, that in terms of content will be similar to the published article, but in terms of appearance will not be the same as the published article. Most international publishers such as Elsevier, Springer, Taylor & Francis and Oxford University Press often reserve for themselves their own arrangement of typesetting, branding and formatting.

What are the most important benefits for you?

- More readers for your articles at an early stage and hence more citations
- An updated list of all your research articles while you are employed at the university - even after your retirement
- The University's annual Research Report is complemented with the full text of the research articles
- Mechanisms exist for the long-term preservation of UP research publications

Do you need to know more? Please contact openup@up.ac.za.

Send us your comments

<< Back to the newsletters
Open Scholarship programme

- Office
- Two full time staff members, 4 contract workers & volunteers
- Programmes in operation
  - UPeTD
  - openUP
  - Research Report collaboration
  - Open Access journal initiates on campus
Characteristics of an Open Scholarship institution

• Theses and dissertations are available online – policy-based (UPeTD)
• Research and conference papers are available online – policy-based (openUP)
• Researchers and students actively use open access material
• Researchers publish in available open access journals and the institution has policy and financial support in place for that (Open Access mandate)
• Researchers actively manage the copyright of their publications (Copyright addendum)
• Publications from the institution's press/publishing house are available in open access based on policy - PULP
• The institution publishes its own online open access journals OR provides infrastructure and support for members
• Dissemination forms part of its publication strategies
Open Scholarship goal

Change scholarship practice at UP towards becoming an Open Scholarship institution
openUP success: Research finds 131.90 units

Unit finds

R117 000 per unit

56% linked  2007    62% linked  2008    62% linked  2009
UPeTD success: 5980+ items & no 65 world ranking

http://repositories.webometrics.info/index.html/

Ranking Web of World Repositories
Usage Statistics for upetd

Summary Period: Last 12 Months
Generated 24-Oct-2010 06:48 SAST

## Summary by Month

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UPeTD success : NDLTD Awards

- NDLTD Innovative ETD 2005 : Pienaar, Rousseau
- NDLTD Innovative Learning through ETDs 2010 : Orton, Jacques
- NDLTD Leadership Award 2010: Monica Hammes

http://www.ndltd.org//
UP journals in Open Access mode

- African Human Rights Law Journal
- HTS Teologiese Studies/Theological Studies
- Verbum et Ecclesia
- South African Journal of Art History
- Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research
Conclusion

• The Open Scholarship programme
  – is aligned with the strategic focus & objectives of the university & the library
  – is integrated with the UP structures and systems
  – provides access to information & contributes to research, teaching & learning

• But it also
  – contributes to enhancing Africa’s research outputs
  – contributes to national and international university librarianship

• Cost values
  • Cost value of UPeTD is more than R90 million according to cost analysis
  • openUP’s cost value lies in the Research article finds
So, the transformed library is not only mission-focused, but also assesses its effectiveness by the degree to which it realizes direct impacts within the campus community and in the scholarly world. (Simmons-Welburn et al 2008)
References


Simmons-Welburn, J et al. 2008 ‘Transforming the library: the case for libraries to end incremental measures and solve problems for their campuses now’, *Library Administration & Management*, Volume 22, No. 3
Thank you!

Questions?

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