What is Open Access & is this an opportunity for cataloguers?

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Research in Africa

Africa
• Least able to pay for access to information
• Generates only 0.4% of global content

2 Important issues
• Africa needs access to international research
• Contribute local content which is locked away

Open Access will benefit the content
Worldmap according to Science research

http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=205
Internet has changed our lives...

- Internet has brought about phenomenal changes
  - It has changed the way we communicate
  - Management of tasks such as reservation of flights, movies, banking
  - Information at your fingertips…or not?
Paying for online access...

E35/$49/R378

E13/$19/R149 - one day

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Subscription publishing/“Big deal”

- Big Deal is an online aggregation of journals that publishers offer as a one-price, one size fits all package (Frazier 2001)
- Libraries gain electronic access from large publishers in the form of bundled journals & licenses
- Problem?
  - Contracts are inflexible and vary
  - Libraries are struggling with price increases
  - Libraries are paying different prices for same subscriptions
  - We cannot afford access to the full range available
- Result: libraries are considering cancelling contracts
More and more resistance

Technische Universitat Munchen – Mathematics department has voted to cancel all Elsevier subscriptions
Researchers are taking a stand

http://thecostofknowledge.com/#list

Elsevier dropped their support for the Research Works Act!
Open Access is the right thing to do!

http://oaopenaccess.wordpress.com/
Commitment to Open Access

Our commitment to open up access to academic research will help strengthen this information revolution, and put more data and power in the hands of people. It’s proof that there are still dividing lines in British politics – and that we are firmly on the side of openness.

http://www.guardian.co.uk/
So, what is Open Access?

The opinion of an expert – Peter Suber:

- Immediate
- Unrestricted access
- Via the Internet
- Peer reviewed journal articles, research data, book chapters, theses and dissertations
What is the Open Access movement?

- The Open Access movement is
  - A global movement in academia
  - Dedicated to sharing information for the common good
  - Of importance to researchers, academics, librarians, funding agencies, government officials, publishers

- Open Access can be achieved by:
  - Open Access archives or repositories *(green route)*
  - Open Access journals *(gold route)*
Open Access repositories (green route)

- Archives/repositories
  - Belong to an institution (universities or disciplines e.g. Physics)
  - Authors publish in any journal, self-archive version of article in repository
  - Supplement publishing, it is not a substitution
  - Do not perform peer review
  - Researchers archive their research articles in an institutional repository and search engines can easily find it
  - Make scholarly content globally available

- A repository is a “critically important tool for managing a university’s image and impact on a global scale” (Swan 2011)
Open Access map: green route

http://www.openaccessmap.org/

2,177 globally
Content of Open Access repositories

- Journal articles
  - Preprints
  - Postprints
  - Final publisher’s version
- Scanned versions of formerly print only journals, such as HTS Teologiese Studies/Theological Studies
- Theses and dissertations
- Other material – grey material
- Datasets for the future
University of Pretoria and Open Access

- University of Pretoria embraced Open Access
  - it enhances the visibility and impact of an institution and its authors
  - supports Open Access to research for all researchers worldwide
  - takes responsibility for the dissemination of its research outputs
  - realizes the value of archiving the staff and students’ research outputs in a repository thereby enabling global usage

- UP Senate & Executive Office accepted a mandatory policy in 2009

- UP cataloguers have been involved, almost from the start
Collection of UP research articles – 7227 items

http://repository.up.ac.za/
Collection of UP etds - 7061 items. Mandatory policy since 2003. The most used repository in Africa!

http://upetd.up.ac.za/UPeTD.htm
Open Access Journals (gold route)

- Authors publish in an Open Access journal
  - Research articles are peer reviewed
  - Contents made freely available & authors retain copyright

- Business model
  - Some journals receive subsidy from university/society
  - Some require processing fees from authors

- Major Open Access publishers
  - BioMed Central [http://www.biomedcentral.com/](http://www.biomedcentral.com/)
  - AOSIS [http://openjournals.net/](http://openjournals.net/)
  - SUNJournals [http://www.journals.ac.za/](http://www.journals.ac.za/)
DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals

7555 journals – 44 from South Africa!

http://www.doaj.org/
Open Access map: gold route

http://www.openaccessmap.org/

7555 journals
Why should we support Open Access?

- Enhanced visibility & accessibility
- Easier information discovery - Google
- Hosting & showcasing the institution’s research
- Opportunity for use (locally & globally)
- Possibility of increased citations
- More exposure - cited more and earlier
- Research is more valuable when it is shared
## UP metadata-editors & UPSpace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clear copyright &amp; Prepare document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metadata editor - archiving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Available in UPSpace</td>
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Do you enjoy this part of your work?

 Responses:

- “One part of my job that is so fulfilling, is meta-data editing, it makes me feel like I am an active part of the research group, since I make the final product look perfect out there.” – Dimakatso Malungane

- “Yes – something different – adds variety to the routine work. It is also interesting to see what work and topics our researchers are involved in – this may contribute to our collection building decisions.” – Marguerite Nel

- “Editing the metadata on UPSpace gives me the opportunity to broaden my general knowledge, and it also gives me an idea of which subjects UP lecturers/researchers are focusing on at the moment. To edit the metadata it's necessary to read through the articles and I usually find it very interesting.” - Carin Bezuidenhout
Were you satisfied with the training?

- “Yes”
- “The detailed manual always comes in handy”
- “Reading, exploring is necessary”
- “Ek moes maar baie so algaande leer”
How long does it take to edit an article or etd?

- **Articles**
  - 10 – 20 minutes
  - “It may sometimes take longer to find the correct LCSH for more complicated subjects”
  - “Bit difficult to measure the time frame, sometimes it depends on the simplicity of the subject covered, and the network connectivity.”

- **Theses and dissertations**
  - 20 – 25 minutes
“Although editing on UPSpace entails LC subject headings and authority records as in cataloguing, it doesn't feel like cataloguing. And it's nice to use cataloguing principles for something different.” - Carin Bezuidenhout

“I would recommend that cataloguers be part of the whole process, guiding on the selection of subject headings” - Dimakatso Malungane

“Ek hou daarvan om die artikels te argiveer. Ek sal dit nie die hele dag aanmekaar kan doen nie, maar dis afwisseling tussen my ander take.” - Anna-Marie Young

“Ek hou daarvan, omdat dit ook soos katalogisering 'n presisie-werk is, en ek hou van goed wat "ewe eners" is! (bv. die oueurs en onderwerpe.) Dit kan egter sieldodend word om dit vir 'n paar uur aanmekaar te doen.” – Nina Fuls
Where does a cataloguer fit in?

“The skills, knowledge and understanding that cataloguers have make them a valuable resource, but they need to keep up with the changing environment. In times of economic downturn, when institutions are looking to reduce their costs, it pays to be flexible, and have a wide variety of skills to offer. With the continual development of IT, it is essential that cataloguers take an active role in this development and use their analytical talents to ensure that systems are led by need rather than by the force of IT capability alone.” (Dyer, 2010)
Cataloguers have unique attributes

- Unique qualities, knowledge & skills
- Cataloguers’ skills can be useful in OA environment
  - Experts in knowledge organisation
  - Take particular care with details
But cataloguer’s roles are changing (Dyer 2010)

- Changes in society
- Technological advances
- Changing user needs/wants
- Shift from print to electronic
- Availability of Open access & institutional repositories
What new skills can you learn?

- Lynne Dyer (Dyer 2010):
  - Subject knowledge through the use of LCSH
  - Spotting errors & correct these in catalogues/repositories
  - Become familiar with metadata schema, standards & usage
  - Be able to create metadata for digital repositories
  - Be involved in digitization projects
  - Embark on data quality enhancement projects

- Repository pilot scheme at De Montfort University was run by the cataloguing team

- Some academic libraries are involved in cataloguing Open Access journals (Wang 2007)
This is what a cataloguer looks like!

A cataloguer & repository coordinator!
Your skills are in demand in the digital age!

http://blogs.warwick.ac.uk/
Survival tips for a cataloguer in a changing world (Dyer 2010)

- See the bigger picture
- Attend new training opportunities
- Be flexible
- Actively seek new learning opportunities
- Keep an open mind
- Move with the changing times
- Be pro-active vs reactive
- Maintain awareness of current trends, like the Open Access movement
In conclusion

- Many are already involved in Open Access or repositories
- Your roles are becoming more interesting and challenging…” (Manuel & Oppenheim 2007)
- “[You] should be stretching your thinking to be ready for the inevitable opportunities that will arise and that would recognize and take advantage of your unique skills.” (Miller 2007)
References

References

Thank you!

Questions?

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