Institutional Repositories

Challenges, Choices, Changes

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What is an Institutional Repository?

- Set of services
- Management & dissemination of research material
- Organizational commitment
- Stewardship
- Long-term preservation
- Organization, (open) access, distribution

(Lynch 2003)
Challenge #1:

Increase/improve research profile of individual researchers & institution
Research on IR

Increased visibility, usage, impact

Increase in citation rate

Impact on NRF Rating, H-index etc.

Shanghai University List
Challenge #2:

More IR’s in Africa and South Africa
Challenge #3:

Share & help other institutions (leapfrogging)
Challenge #4:

Sell the idea to members of own institution
Challenge #5:

Populate your IR
Challenge #6:

Develop skills – IT, Library staff
Challenge #7:

Get publishers to formulate policies on self-archiving
Challenge #8: Change mindsets towards open source
Challenge #9:

OAI-PMH Compliancy
Challenge #10:

Preservation/ curation

Will your work withstand the test of times to come?
Other common challenges ...

- Adoption rate by academics
- Providing for sustainability
- Developing policies
- Managing intellectual property rights
- Cost management
- Curation of data sets
“Challenges are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.”

Joshua J. Marine

“People are like rubber bands. They are most valuable when they are stretched, not when they are at rest.”

John C. Maxwell
Questions?

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