

Open Access: Embedding Repositories

Research Communications Strategy Project

Susan Ashworth
Library Assistant Director
University of Glasgow Library
susan.ashworh@glasgow.ac.uk

Introduction

We have aimed to implement an Open Access (OA) ethos and strategy at Glasgow, rather than simply set up a repository for the institution. Enlighten,¹ the University of Glasgow's institutional repository, is now an embedded repository, one which has OA at its heart but which has recognised that in order to be successful it needs to be part of the wider University research environment and systems. It has links to our Staff Identity Vault and Research System and with the re-use of publication data in staff web pages or for our MiniREF exercise, Enlighten delivers added institutional value. The success of the repository is a result of the support of senior managers in the University and collaboration between the Library, IT Services, Research and Enterprise and College Research Management offices.

Drivers

There are a number of key drivers which have been very important in taking forward the OA debate and the creation of our institutional repository.

Increasing impact for research made openly available

Studies have indicated that the more openly available publications are, the more likely they are to be cited.² Therefore putting publications in an institutional repository, where the data will be harvested by Google and others makes absolute institutional sense. Some Departments have managed their publications effectively locally, but publications deposited centrally in Enlighten get more hits and appear higher in Google searches than publications on static web pages. We now aim to give local College staff control over their own areas of Enlighten, preserving College autonomy but within the framework of an institutional service.

Publicly presenting the University's research profile

Enlighten is the platform for the University's publications database and it includes both metadata records and full text. The publications database is comprehensive from 2001 onwards so it is now possible for University senior managers to very easily view and analyse publication data across the whole University.

Complying with funding body policies on Open Access

Compliance with Research funder requirements on OA is very important to the University and we want to be able to openly demonstrate this compliance. Another major driver is the REF – we need to know what people are publishing and what their best publications are, and we also need to have that information readily available.

Publications Policy

The University of Glasgow Senate endorsed a publications policy³ in June 2008 which requires staff to deposit the metadata for all research outputs into Enlighten along with a full text version of the output, where publisher agreements permit. This mandate followed on from an earlier Senate statement in 2006 strongly encouraging staff to deposit into Enlighten. It was very clear after RAE 2008 that the University required a central publications database to support preparations for the REF.

There are a number of ways in which staff can deposit items into Enlighten: they can self-deposit, they can have their school/ college administrators deposit on their behalf, or they can send items to repository staff in the Library. Library staff members then check all copyright agreements on behalf of depositors.

Metrics

We use Google Analytics in Enlighten to provide download metrics. In 2009/10 we saw a 94% increase in visits to Enlighten; search engines, in particular Google, accounted for more than three quarters of the traffic to the site. We also use Google Analytics to generate Top 100 search terms to Enlighten; this is done for the year and on a month by month basis. We have also downloaded journal publication data from Enlighten and done a mapping exercise with the Australian ERA journal rankings list to see how our pattern of publication aligns with that list.

Developmental work

The University put in a successful bid to JISC for a one year project, Enrich,⁴ and then a short successor project Enquire.⁵ These projects aimed to develop and embed Enlighten as a central University system integrated with other University systems.

- The work that has been done includes introduction of the Glasgow Unique Identifier (GUID) for staff, which is used to disambiguate authors. It is now possible to look up a Glasgow author and see at a glance how many publications are associated with them.
- We have linked Enlighten with our University Research system so that we can add and link grant funding information with relevant outputs, thereby demonstrating to funders that we are complying with their OA mandates.
- We are launching a new rich record format early 2011 which includes links to projects as well as funders and has download statistics for each full text record. It may also include Thomson Reuters Researcher ID and citation information from Web of Science and Incites.
- The ultimate intention for the University is that staff should deposit publication data into Enlighten once, and that this data is then re-used. It is possible for us to dynamically pull publication data out of Enlighten and use it to populate the University's staff A-Z listing. Publication data is also being pulled from Enlighten to pre-populate forms, for example for performance management exercises.
- The Enquire project also investigated how we can record impact data against publications, particularly for REF and Research Council requirements.

Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014)

Library repository staff members have adapted the ePrints add-on software, developed by University of Southampton for RAE 2008,⁶ in order to support the administration of preparations for the REF. This software allows staff, via Enlighten, to record and grade their top four outputs and to supply information on impact and esteem measures. We are then able to provide printable reports in Word or Excel to College administrators.



JISC

The Research Communications Strategy project is carried out at the Centre for Research Communications, University of Nottingham. The work is funded by JISC to look into the strategic adoption of new forms of communicating research outputs.

Conclusion

The benefits of OA and institutional investment in OA systems are only fully realised when such systems are embedded in an integrated knowledge management environment. Glasgow offers a model whereby different university functions can be drawn together in a mutually enhancing set of academic services, with a structure that supports research dissemination, use, and reputation.

References

- ¹ Enlighten. <http://eprints.gla.ac.uk/>
- ² Wagner, B. (2010). *Open Access Citation Advantage: An Annotated Bibliography*. <http://www.istl.org/10-winter/article2.html>
- ³ University of Glasgow Publications Policy. <http://www.lib.gla.ac.uk/enlighten/publicationspolicy/index.html>
- ⁴ Enrich. <http://www.gla.ac.uk/enrich/>
- ⁵ McCutcheon, V. (2010). *Enquire Final Report*. JISC. <http://eprints.gla.ac.uk/47858/>
- ⁶ Institutional Repositories Research Assessment (IRRA) Project <http://irra.eprints.org/>