



Institutional repositories and Open Access : the St Andrews Experience

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The St Andrews Experience: Summary

- Our current situation
- Experience to date and background to where we are now
- Our strategy and planning
- Development of the local St Andrews debate on Open Access
- Our most up to date development, the service which will link our Research Expertise Database with the St Andrews DRR
- The future?



The St Andrews Experience: Current situation

- We have the St Andrews Digital Research Repository (DRR)
- We started an electronic thesis deposit service in January 2007
- We are just about to embark on the deposit of Research publications



The St Andrews Experience: background

- Previous pilot project, HaIRST 2002-2005
- Commitment within LIS to continue this work.
- DRR Project started Summer 2005:
executive driven, early support from senior
University Management



The St Andrews Experience: strategy and planning

- Aware not resources to develop in house, wanted support for softer issues
- Selection of software: DSpace through Scottish Digital Library Consortium
- Potential use of the DRR in RAE process
- Electronic theses
- Awareness of research publications already visible on University web site



The St Andrews Experience: strategy and planning

- Concentration on supporting key strategic objectives of University and needs of academic staff
- Initial feedback suggested very mixed academic views on the need for an Institutional Repository and on Open access
- Concentration on e-theses first (Service from January 2007), first target: not much opposition to concept
- Research publications to follow: promote and publicize work of University
- Beyond this a broader content policy and innovative use of the DRR.



The St Andrews Experience: Open access debate

- LIS have initiated this debate
- Wide range of views from supportive to very hostile
- Looking to use external drivers
 - Funding council mandates
 - Wellcome Trust Funding
 - Impact factors of open access journals
 - FEC for publication fees
- Looking to use the hooks that matter to the Institution
 - Promotion of St Andrews research, a research intensive institution
 - Cost of journal subscriptions
- Looking to use the hooks that matter to the individual academic
 - Clear interest in easier and faster access to personal research: done currently via informal networks, email contact
 - Many existing personal websites with publications



The St Andrews Experience: Open access debate

- Promotion of debate through V-P for Research and Directors of Research
- Already started to raise awareness of issues around copyright and authors rights: eg SURF license
- This is the environment for the introduction of our new service linking the Research Expertise Database to the DRR.



The St Andrews Experience: the future

- Launch and promote the new service
- Streamline the one stop approach to deposit of research publications.
- New challenges for Repository staff.
- Key role for advocacy and support
- Refine our broader content policy and expand into the innovative use of the DRR we envisaged in our planning.



The St Andrews Experience: the future

- Use new technology to provide regular information on open access RSS, Blogs
- Review LIS staff responsibilities for Open Access promotion, and for advocacy
- Continue to seek endorsements and support for the DRR and RED from key players in the University
- Outcome for LIS staff and Library Service is a much better understanding of how research is carried out in the University and much more interactive involvement with the process