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Digital Repositories Offer Many Practical Benefits

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More exposure

Repositories make your work available to everyone who may be interested. A growing body of evidence shows that, as a result of being openly accessible, publications are cited more frequently.(1)

Universal access

While an article published in a journal may be available to only a few hundred subscribers, the same article when also posted in a repository is available to all, greatly enhancing the public value of research.

Easier information discovery

By opening their content to service providers such as Google, Google Scholar, and OCLC, repositories allow Web users to search every item they hold.

New computational research techniques

Digital repositories open the door to new computational research techniques and pathways, such as text mining, creation of text-data linkages, and identifying and visualizing relationships that are not otherwise observed.

Persistent access

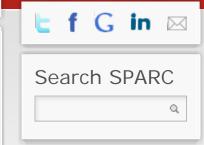
By depositing your works in a repository, they will have persistent URLs (a reference URL) that will never change — no more dead links. Unlike items on ever-changing personal Web sites, works in repositories are available to whoever needs them, whenever needed.

Long-term preservation

Digital repositories are managed by your library, which is committed to long-term access to and preservation of the collection. The library will ensure ongoing maintenance and back-ups.

Wide range of content

Digital repositories collect more than just journal publications; they also collect other types of materials, such as conference proceedings, images, and sometimes research data — enabling you to integrate and provide



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access to a wide range of materials.

Students benefit, too

Since no library can afford to subscribe to all the resources students need, putting your works in a digital repository ensures students everywhere can read and learn from them, creating an important new layer of information that is readily accessible.

Students, who are early adopters of open approaches, are also benefiting from digital repositories by depositing their theses and dissertations — broadening the reach of these important works.

A New Information Landscape

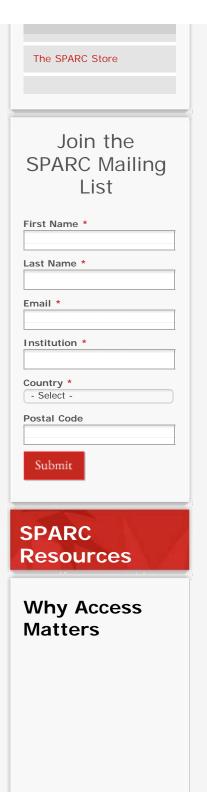
Institution-based repositories complement other types of repositories, such as the U.S. National Institutes of Health's PubMed Central, Theses Canada, and data repositories. In the future, the contents of these repositories will be linked and interoperable — enabling unprecedented usability and analysis. content that is openly accessible offers tremendous opportunities for advanced searching and new discoveries.

Open access...

...Is the principle that research should be accessible online, for free, immediately after publication. Digital repositories deliver Open Access to the materials they contain. A growing number of research funders are requiring that funded research be made openly available. (See Research Funders Require Public Access).

(1) See "The effect of open access and downloads ('hits') on citation impact: a bibliography of studies," for a list of studies.

Read more...



T - 202.296.2296F - 202.872.0884

Washington, DC 20036

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