

Title: Reaping rich academic awards – augmentation of data within the *UQ eSpace*

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Topic/Stream: Augmented content and/or enabling content reuse

## Introduction

The **University of Queensland** (UQ) is a research-intensive university. It is one of the top universities in Australia and in the top 100 worldwide. University systems to record research activities underpin promoting, reporting and helping to measure research performance. In 2003 *UQ eSpace* began life as the UQ Library institutional repository, known as *ePrintsUQ*, using *eprints.org software*. To meet the evolving needs to manage a range of university research material and to increase its flexibility the *eprints.org* software was replaced with *Fedora* in 2007, along with a locally developed frontend interface called *Fez*. By 2011 *UQ eSpace* <http://espace.library.uq.edu.au/> has evolved into an internationally renowned repository system having reached number ten in the “Ranking of World repositories<sup>1</sup>.” It is helping to promote UQ research worldwide through the augmentation of eSpace with other UQ data management systems, which support critical research reporting requirements of Australian Universities by the Australian Government.

Ongoing development of the *Fez* software has enabled *UQ eSpace* to gradually extend its role in the management of official research publication outputs at The University of Queensland. In 2008, *UQ eSpace* staff worked with UQ’s Office of Research to develop workflows to support the input and management of records for the annual **Higher Education Research Data Collection** (HERDC) submission to the Australian Government and also worked with the UQ Graduate School to facilitate the electronic submission of research higher degree theses. Subsequently *UQ eSpace* took on a central role in the management of research publication outputs for a number of Australian Government initiatives such as the Research Quality Framework, the **Excellence in Research for Australia** (ERA) initiatives in 2010 and 2012.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://repositories.webometrics.info/toprep\\_inst.asp](http://repositories.webometrics.info/toprep_inst.asp)

## Methods

This paper will report generally on the processes to augment data from key systems with *UQ eSpace*. Details of the drivers and means to achieve academic compliance from every level of the University, based on engaging researchers and integrating with internal systems and external databases will be discussed. Descriptions will be provided on the types of data augmented, such as *Thomson Web of Science* citation counts and publication records, *ResearcherID*, *Scopus* citation counts, UQ staff data and other forms of staff data entry (Figure 1 Types of data). The effort required for achieving significant collaboration and cooperation to fuse together disparate systems will be detailed.

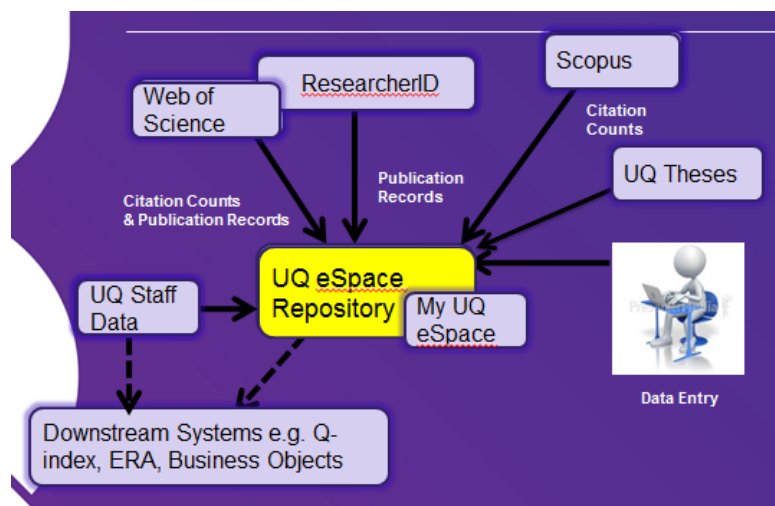


Figure 1 Types of data

## Outcomes

*UQ eSpace* is a corporate tool. In February 2012 it comprises 159,182 records, 29,551 with full text, 53,421 with DOIs, and 72,201 with Thomson citation count, 52,189 with a Scopus citation count. There are 1,000 unique visitors to the search results page a day and over 21,000 visits a month. *UQ eSpace* grew in stature when used to report on the University's research performance in 2010 and in 2012 for the ERA programs.

*UQ eSpace* is now the single authoritative source for the research outputs of UQ staff and students and holds the official copy of all Research Higher Degrees theses submitted since 2008. It provides the essential corporate data for reporting

requirements such as HERDC and ERA and for downstream UQ systems such as the Q-Index<sup>2</sup> and UQ reSEARCHers<sup>3</sup>.

While playing this important role, *UQ eSpace* continues to function as a traditional institutional repository and encourages the deposit of open access publications and other digitised materials created by University staff, raising the visibility and accessibility of these publications to the wider world. As a repository it offers a wide array of options for the user – they can generate statistics, reports on external usage, produce cloud tags and automatically populate a research profile web page.

## **Conclusion**

Future plans to expand the functionality of *eSpace* are ambitious; these include augmentation of citation data for benchmarking; bibliometric profiling of individual academics, research groups, schools and faculties; the creation of online academic portfolios; and the means to comply with Australian Government open access mandates.

There are insatiable requirements for clever and creative technology developers to come up with robust and accurate solutions for *UQ eSpace*. To help reap rich academic awards and recognition the UQ institutional repository depends upon ongoing collaboration, cooperation and communication throughout the University and with international open repositories partners.

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<sup>2</sup> Q-Index provides each UQ academic with an individual composite index of research performance over a rolling six-year period. The system allows each staff member to see details on how their individual rating has been calculated, as well as a comparison against an average of their peers.

<sup>3</sup> UQ reSEARCHers is a system that provides UQ academics with a web site of their research publications, along with citation metrics important for research grant, tenure and promotion applications.