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2009

One million downloads for UOW's Research Online

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One million downloads for UOW's Research Online

Abstract

UOW's open access research repository, Research Online, has reached one million full text article downloads since the site went live in 2006. Research Online allows anyone to download papers and articles by UOW academics, including student theses and research papers from a wide range of areas. Manager of Repository Services, Michael Organ said the millionth download is quite a landmark for the university. "One million downloads is a lot of people accessing our papers," he said. The millionth paper to be accessed was a 2006 conference paper by Faculty of Informatics academics Katina Michael, A. McNamee and MG Michael entitled 'The Emerging Ethics of Humancentric GPS Tracking and Monitoring.'

Disciplines

Arts and Humanities | Social and Behavioral Sciences

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Mr Organ said the Michaels are some of the strongest supporters of Research Online, with more than 160 items on the site.

"I am absolutely delighted," Katina Michael said. "Research Online has been instrumental in getting our research out to the wider community - fellow academics, industry, government and citizens. It is such a powerful tool."

"An academic has the ability to control the release of their papers at any point throughout the publication process... but I think the real contribution of Research Online has been in forming cross-institutional and transnational networks."

Research Online also gives academics the ability to see which of their papers are the most popular, and Katina Michael says this has been useful for her research.

"My fellow collaborators and I have been able to gauge which papers are being downloaded most and when. We can then make some basic assumptions about the significance of various research endeavours and direct our efforts accordingly."

"Research Online has proven a real success in promoting the University and in facilitating scholarly communication," University Librarian Felicity McGregor said.

"We look forward to its ongoing use as an archive of research outputs and expansion into areas such as journal publication, conference hosting and multimedia and image presentation."

For further information contact Michael Organ, Manager Repository Services, University Library on 4221 3108. <http://ro.uow.edu.au>

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