

U.S. Repository Network:

Acting on a Community Vision for U.S. Repositories

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SPARC*



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Agenda

- Context
- Developing the Strategic Vision
- Current Governance
- Action Plan Update

Context

A partnership

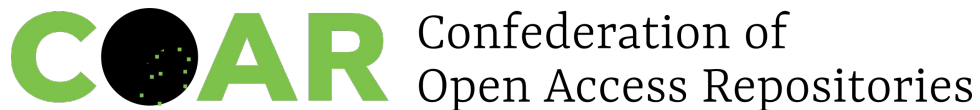
Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition

SPARC membership includes more than 200 libraries and academic organizations across North America. SPARC is a non-profit advocacy organization that supports systems for research and education that are open by default and equitable by design.



Confederation of Open Access Repositories

COAR is an international association with 155 members and partners representing libraries, universities, research institutions, government funders, and others. COAR brings together individual repositories and repository networks in order to build capacity, align policies and practices, and act as a global voice for the repository community.





COAR launches strategy to modernize the global repository network

The trend towards open science / open scholarship is strengthening and expanding. The COVID-19 pandemic has made open scholarship a top priority for governments and the research community around the world and there is a growing recognition about the ...

Modernizing Survey

What are the major challenges in the U.S. for catalyzing the repository network?

1. **Institutional silos (no coordination across country) [7 of 8]**
2. Lack of visibility/recognition of repositories with other stakeholders [4 of 8]
3. Underfunding for repository operations [3 of 8]
4. Running old version of software platforms [2 of 8]

Modernizing Survey

What types of activities would be most helpful for the U.S. to address these challenges?

- **Advocacy on the role and importance of repositories [4 of 8]**
- **Increased staffing to support better service provision [4 of 8]**
- **Investigating feasibility of shared infrastructure [4 of 8]**
- **National (or regional) coordination of repositories [4 of 8]**
- Training and capacity building for repository managers [3 of 8]
- Collaborative approach to updating platform/software versions [2 of 8]
- “Radical collaboration to improve repository services - especially metadata quality” [1 of 8]

Clear Priority for the U.S.

Breaking down institutional silos and developing a more cohesive approach and greater collaboration around repositories

Why the U.S. Repository Network?

Increase collaboration & coherence

Strengthen the voice of repositories



The U.S. Repository Network is an inclusive network.

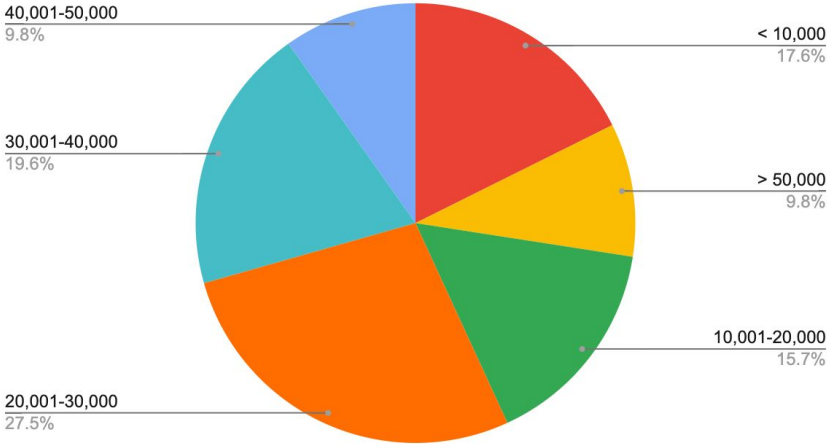
Developing the Strategic Vision

Developing a Vision

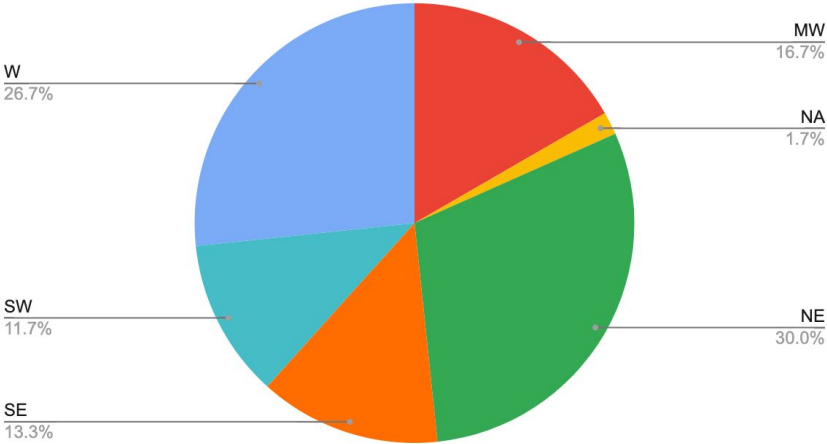
- 63 member Expert Group
 - U.S. COAR members
 - SPARC Steering Committee members
 - Library leaders
 - Repository managers
 - Consortium leaders
- Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions (COAPI)
- OpenCon Librarians
- Public comment via survey and live sessions

Expert Group Institutional Demographics

Enrollment at Participating Institutions



Regional Distribution of Participating Institutions



The Strategic Vision for U.S. Repositories

An interoperable network of repositories is an essential component of our national research infrastructure, offering rapid and open access to research, and plays a crucial role in collective efforts to transform global research communications, leading to a more open, inclusive, and equitable system.

Foundational Characteristics

Accountability

Community

**Equity and
Inclusivity**

**Local and
Global**

Sustainability

Collaboration

Discoverability

Interoperability

Preservation

User-centered

Current Governance

Steering Group

Vicki Coleman, North Carolina A&T State University (co-chair)

Dan Coughlin, Penn State University

Greg Eow, Center for Research Libraries

Harriett Green, Washington University in St. Louis

Kristi Holmes, Northwestern University

Cynthia Hudson Vitale, Association of Research Libraries

Amanda Hurford, Private Academic Library Network of Indiana

Heather Joseph, SPARC (ex-officio)

David Minor, University of California San Diego

Kristi Park, Texas Digital Library

Anali Maughan Perry, Arizona State University

Torsten Reimer, University of Chicago

Kathleen Shearer, COAR (ex-officio)

Sarah Shreeves, University of Arizona

John Unsworth, University of Virginia

Meg Wacha, City University of New York

Martha Whitehead, Harvard University (co-chair)

<https://thenounproject.com/icon/steering-1819686/>

Steering Group Co-Chairs



Vicki Coleman
Dean of Library Services, North Carolina
A&T State University



Martha Whitehead
Vice President for the Harvard Library

Action Plan Update

Action Plan: Areas of Action

- Engage with OSTP and federal funding agencies on implementation of public access guidance
- Develop network governance model
- Build community and external relationships

Action Plan 2022-2023: Areas of Action

Engage with OSTP and federal funding agencies on implementation of public access guidance

Action Plan: Engage Actions

1. Send a letter to OSTP on behalf of the U.S. Repository Network [Co-Chairs]
2. **Draft desirable characteristics and best practices to support OSTP requirements for repositories providing public access to federally funded research [Program Officer & Working Group]**
3. Share USRN's desirable characteristics of publication repositories with OSTP, the NSTC Subcommittee on Open Science, and federal funding agencies [Co-Chairs & Support Team]
4. Advocate for adoption of the desirable characteristics and the inclusion of the distributed repository network in the implementation of public access guidance [ALL]

Desirable Characteristics: Working Group

Jason Bengston, Washington University in St. Louis

Hannah Hadley, Princeton University

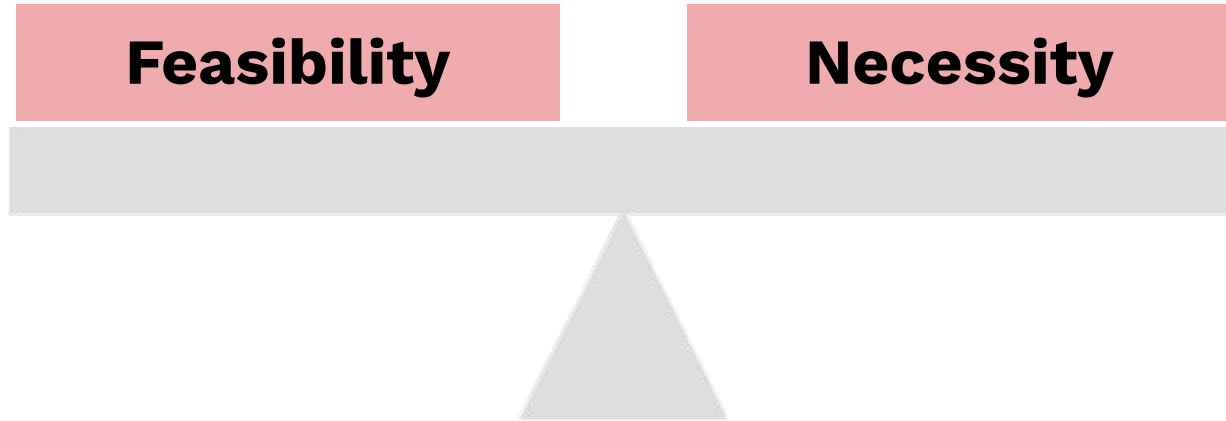
Amanda Hurford, PALNI

Sherry Lake, University of Virginia

Desirable Characteristics: Building Blocks

- [NSTC Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research](#)
- [COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories, Version 2](#), Essential Characteristics
- [Plan S Requirements for Open Access Repositories](#), Mandatory Criteria

Desirable Characteristics: Context



Desirable Characteristics: Subsets

Free and Easy Discoverability & Access	Broad and Measured Use
Clear Use Guidance	Common Format
Preservation	Provenance
Long-term Organizational Sustainability	Authentication
Unique Persistent Identifiers	Long-term Technical Sustainability
Metadata	Security and Integrity
Curation and Quality Assurance	

Free & Easy Discoverability & Access

The repository provides broad, equitable, and maximally open access to resources and their metadata in both machine- and human-readable formats at no cost to users. This should be done in a timely manner after submission and with limited unscheduled downtime, consistent with legal and policy requirements.

The repository's content should be discoverable both within the repository (i.e., via a search interface) and externally (i.e., via discovery services and aggregators).

The repository supports access to its content for persons with disabilities and adheres to current web accessibility standards. Provide an accessibility statement describing efforts to increase accessibility of the platform/content and how to seek help if an accessible version of a digital publication is not available.

Unique Persistent Identifiers

The repository assigns each resource a unique persistent identifier (PID), such as a digital object identifier (DOI), to support discovery, citation, reporting (e.g., of research progress), and research assessment (e.g., identifying the outputs of Federally funded research). The unique PID points to a persistent location that remains accessible even if the content is de-accessioned or no longer available.

The repository supports PIDs for entities related to the resources, such as authors (e.g., ORCID), funders (e.g., Funder Registry), and organizations (e.g., ROR).

Metadata

The repository ensures publications are accompanied by metadata to enable discovery, reuse, and citation, using schema that are appropriate to, and ideally widely used across, the communities that the repository serves.

Metadata for the resource is recorded in a standard, interoperable, non-proprietary format.

The repository assigns a CC0 public domain license to all metadata for resources in the repository.

Desirable Characteristics: Next Steps

2. Draft desirable characteristics and **best practices** to support OSTP requirements for repositories providing public access to federally funded research [Program Officer & Working Group]
3. Share USRN's desirable characteristics of publication repositories with OSTP, the NSTC Subcommittee on Open Science, and federal funding agencies [Co-Chairs & Support Team]
4. Advocate for adoption of the desirable characteristics and the inclusion of the distributed repository network in the implementation of public access guidance [ALL]

**Give us your
feedback!**

[https://forms.gle/N6SufQjN
xYw23v7a6](https://forms.gle/N6SufQjNxYw23v7a6)



Action Plan 2022-2023: Areas of Action

Develop network governance model

Action Plan 2022-2023: Areas of Action

Build community & external relationships

Want to get involved?

- Subject matter experts
- Guidance and best practices
- Landscape scan
- Community of practice
- *and more!*

Get updates
Get involved

<https://sparcopen.org/our-work/us-repository-network/>

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