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### Institutional repositories: The HECA experience

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# INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

## The HECA Experience

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# OPEN ACCESS MOVEMENT AND IRs



The Open Access movement began in the 90's as a result of the development of the World Wide Web. The movement aims to make academic publications immediately available free of charge and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.

The movement really took off in the early 2000s, led by some key events:

2002

The Budapest Open Access Initiative

2003

The Bethesda Statement

2003

The Berlin Declaration

**Today, the Open Access Movement is a global phenomenon**



The need for Open Access and Institutional repositories is recognised by some key national and international bodies:

**UNESCO** strongly supports unrestricted Open Access (UNESCO, 2022)

**SPARC Europe** promotes the use of IRs at third level and mandates researchers to deposit.

### **EU Commission**

Recommendation 2018/790

The Commission encourages Member States to set and implement clear national policies for the dissemination of and open access to scientific publications and the management of research data, resulting from publicly funded research.

### **National Framework on the Transition to an Open Research Environment 2019 (Ireland)**

“The importance of open archives and repositories for hosting research outputs is acknowledged due to their sustained role in enabling open access over many years, their archiving and long-term preservation function, and their potential for editorial innovation” (pg. 7)

# WHAT IS AN INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY?

An **Institutional Repository** is an online locus for collecting, preserving, and disseminating, in digital form, the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution.

Some key objectives of an institutional repository are:

- To share an institution's scholarly research globally.
- To provide open access to institutional research.
- To create a single location for content storage.
- To store and preserve other institutional digital assets, including unpublished literature.



# MATERIALS THAT CAN BE HOSTED ON A REPOSITORY

## Academic materials

- Article preprints
- Peer-reviewed post-prints or published articles
- Book chapters
- Conference proceedings

## But also

- Theses and dissertations
- Academic posters
- Reports
- Video recordings of webinars, research presentations, and events
- Photographs
- Conference presentations

# HECA REPOSITORIES AT A GLANCE



Launched in 2010  
DSpace powered by Atmire



Launched in 2014  
Eprints



Launched in 2019  
Digital Commons powered by BePress



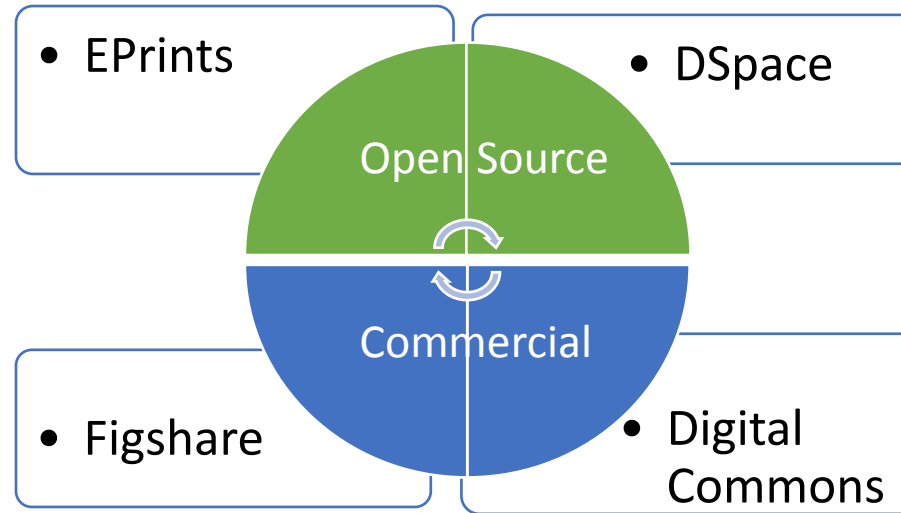
Launched in 2021  
DSpace powered by Atmire



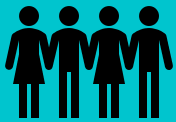
# IR's CREATION

## Considerations

### □ Open Access VS Commercial Software



### □ Build in-house VS SaaS e.g. Atmire and Dspace Direct (from DuraSpace)



Staffing



Time



IT Support



Testing



Promotion



Buy-in

# CHALLENGES

## Challenges that come from technical skills required of the repository managers

- Digital preservation
- Technical skills involved in the operation of databases
- Knowledge of standards for metadata

## Challenges that come from the perceptions and knowledge of users

- Awareness among staff/users of the institutional repository
- Understanding how research output is viewed by different stakeholders
- Uncertainty about author rights and publisher policies

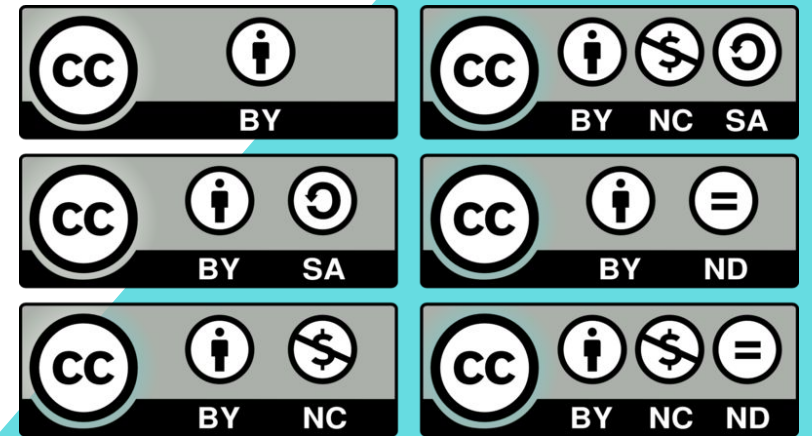
# COPYRIGHT AND CREATIVE COMMONS

Content hosted on a repository may be published under a Creative Commons license.

Creative Commons is an international non-profit organization that provides free licenses and tools that copyright owners can use to allow others to share, access and reuse their works.

Different types of Creative Commons licenses are available.

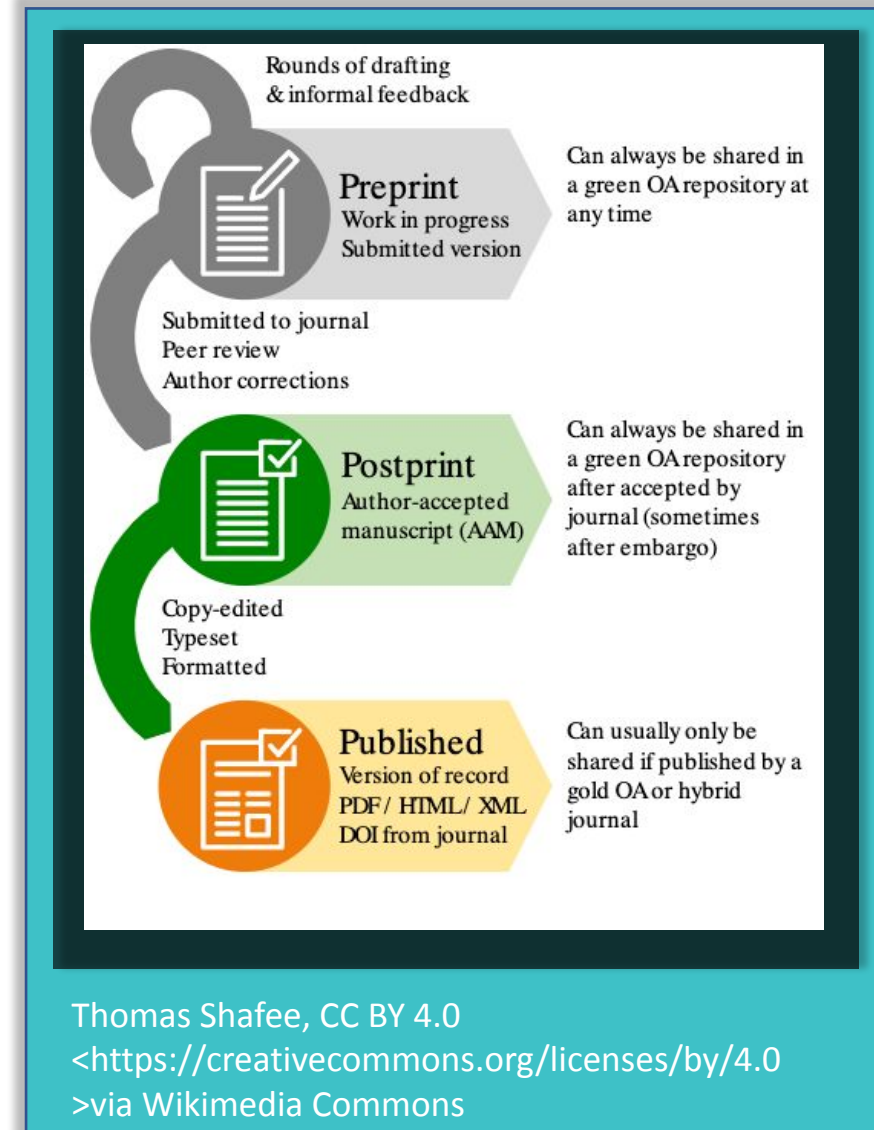
Institutional repositories may archive material such as dissertations and theses. These typically have not been published elsewhere and are archived on the repository under a Creative Commons license.



# AUTHOR'S RIGHTS AND INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

The growth of the open access movement and the rise in funder open access mandates have resulted in a growing number of publishers allowing authors some form of self-archiving of their publication.

Author rights - creators of research output often retain the author's rights to have a copy of their work archived in a repository.



# UNCERTAINTY ABOUT AUTHOR'S RIGHTS

Confusion about copyright is regularly cited as a reason why researchers do not initiate deposits in IRs (Kohn & Lange, 2018) .

## What can repository managers do?

- create targeted messaging
- link to other resources such as SHERPA/ROMEO
- make your own license agreement discoverable and develop a guide explaining what the agreement means in plain language.
- Frame the benefits of the service in a way that responds to researchers' priorities

# BENEFITS OF IRS



**Increase Access/Reach:** Openly accessible online – ease of access.

Wider dissemination of work / Making work freely available online reduces access barriers (i.e. not limited to journal subscribers)

**Increased Impact:** Increased potential for publications/research to be cited/ maximising its impact.

**Reliability:** IR's provide long-term storage and access to work for both staff and graduates, making it consistently accessible and discoverable.

## BENEFITS OF IRS ( CONTINUED)



**Discoverability:** Work becomes more accessible online and discoverable through search engines such as Google and Google Scholar.

Repositories enable metadata harvesting of their content - amplifying visibility and discoverability. (Indexed to Google Scholar. All IR are/will be indexed on [BASE](#), [OpenAIRE](#), and [CORE](#))

**Consistency:** All items are automatically assigned URLs. A permanent URL/doi makes referencing the online version of your paper more convenient and more robust.

**Preservation of material:** Permanent URL/doi that will not change

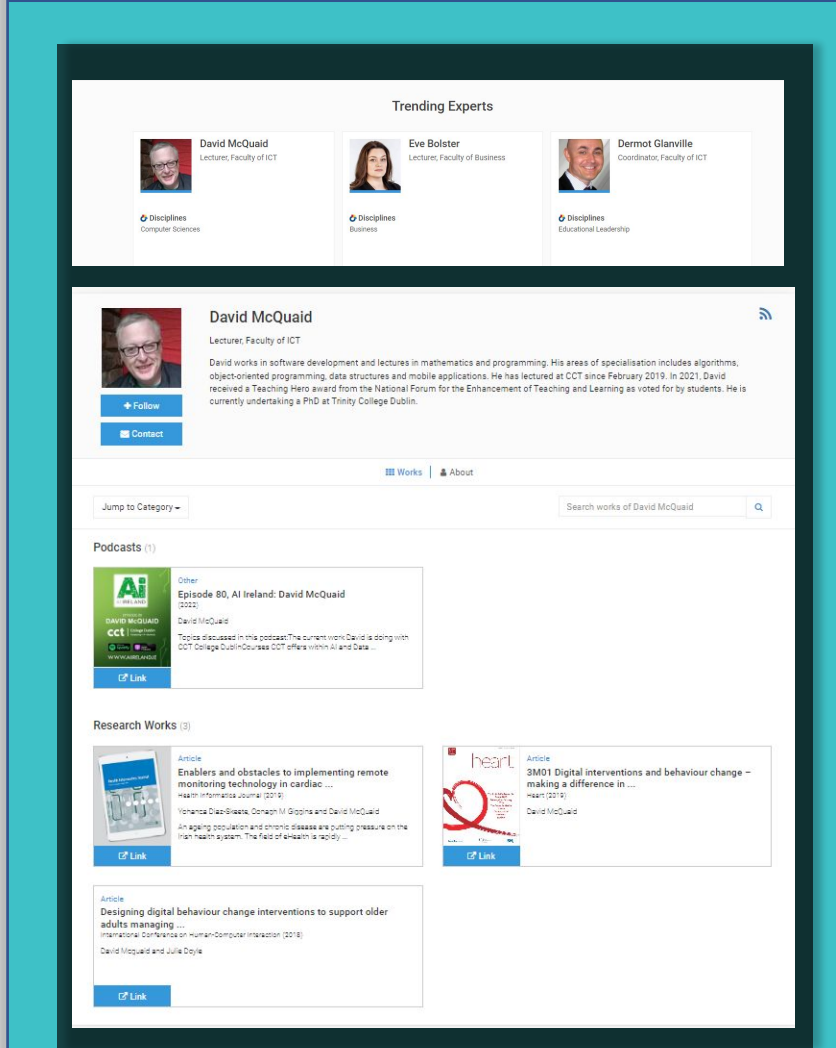
# ROLE OF INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONAL LANDSCAPE

## Increasing the visibility and prestige of an Institution

IRs increase the intellectual leadership and credibility of an institution by sharing its research output with members of the public, researchers, and prospective and current learners.

Platforms such as DSpace, Digital Commons (BePress) and Eprints offer tools specifically designed to showcase people's expertise and enhance the reputation of an institution as a whole.

Since the reputation of an institution has a direct impact on recruiting, IRs actively help an institution achieve its business goals.



The screenshot displays a user profile for David McQuaid, a Lecturer at the Faculty of ICT. The profile is part of an 'Expert Gallery Suite' by BePress. At the top, there is a 'Trending Experts' section featuring three other experts: David McQuaid (Lecturer, Faculty of ICT), Eve Bolster (Lecturer, Faculty of Business), and Dermot Glanville (Coordinator, Faculty of ICT). Below this is the main profile for David McQuaid, which includes a bio, a 'Follow' button, and a 'Contact' button. The bio states: 'David works in software development and lectures in mathematics and programming. His area of specialisation includes algorithms, object-oriented programming, data structures and mobile applications. He has lectured at CCT since February 2019. In 2021, David received a Teaching Hero award from the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning as voted for by students. He is currently undertaking a PhD at Trinity College Dublin.' The profile also features a 'Works' section with a search bar and a 'Jump to Category' dropdown. Under 'Podcasts (1)', there is a listing for 'Episode 80, AI Ireland: David McQuaid (2022)' with a 'Link' button. Under 'Research Works (3)', there are three articles listed, each with a 'Link' button: 'Enablers and obstacles to implementing remote monitoring technology in cardiac ...' (Health Informatics Journal, 2021), '3M01 Digital interventions and behaviour change - making a difference in ...' (Heart, 2019), and 'Designing digital behaviour change interventions to support older adults managing ...' (International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, 2018).

Example of Expert Gallery Suite by BePress



# ROLE OF INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONAL LANDSCAPE (Continued)

Providing a free cloud-hosted platform for journal publishing

The increasing costs of database subscriptions forced institutions to cancel some of their subscriptions.

- Open-access makes research accessible to the public.
- By publishing open-access journals, institutions can contribute to the free distribution of knowledge worldwide, while still maintaining the copyright and ownership of the research.

**EBSCO**

**Five Year Journal Price Increase History (2018 – 2022)**  
 This report shows price fluctuations over the last five years for typical library lists invoiced in U.S. dollars. Data for each library type is based on a merged list of titles ordered by representative libraries purchasing in U.S. dollars.

Library Type	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		% Increase 18-22
	Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	% Increase		
ARL	\$1,471.87	\$1,557.45	5.81%	\$1,636.24	5.06%	\$1,680.73	2.72%	\$1,737.19	3.36%	18.03%	
College & University	\$1,592.63	\$1,686.24	5.88%	\$1,770.06	4.97%	\$1,816.59	2.63%	\$1,879.78	3.48%	18.03%	
Academic Medical	\$1,672.54	\$1,774.87	6.12%	\$1,867.22	5.20%	\$1,920.49	2.85%	\$1,994.22	3.84%	19.23%	
Corporate	\$1,706.75	\$1,809.52	6.02%	\$1,899.05	4.95%	\$1,961.49	3.29%	\$2,046.13	4.32%	19.88%	
Public Library	\$90.08	\$93.95	4.30%	\$98.48	4.82%	\$99.88	1.42%	\$103.49	3.61%	14.89%	
Law School	\$1,717.16	\$1,821.29	6.06%	\$1,912.10	4.99%	\$1,960.85	2.55%	\$2,034.94	3.78%	18.51%	

EBSCO Five Year Journal Price Increase History (2018-2022) (no date) EBSCO Information Services, Inc. | [www.ebsco.com](http://www.ebsco.com). Available at: <https://www.ebsco.com/resources/ebsco-five-year-journal-price-increase-history-2018-2022> (Accessed: 14 October 2022).

## Subscription databases

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Costly subscription

Publisher retains copyright

Access to archived materials can be  
suspended

Lower citation count

Longer publishing process

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## Open access content

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Free and accessible to everybody

Author retains copyright

Materials remain available in  
perpetuity

Higher citation count

Immediate publishing

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# DEVELOPING INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES THAT SUPPORT TEACHING AND LEARNING

## Institutional repositories as a tool to remove barriers

### Commercial website

- Programme description and objectives
- Learning outcomes of the programme
- Basic information on assessment
- Entry requirements and registration info

### VLE

- Module descriptors
- Module learning outcomes
- Syllabuses
- Learning and teaching methods
- Detailed assessment information
- Learning materials such as class slides, videos, etc.

Repository

## THE BENEFITS



- Course information from different institutions can be analysed and used to improve programme design based on industry standards.
- The ability to compare modules across institutes can help institutions identify and fill gaps by designing new modules/programmes.
- Making programme and assessment information available to everyone would attract national and international students.
- The programme accreditation process would be made more efficient and transparent if accreditation bodies could rely on a single, accessible resource to get information on a programme.

# THE CHALLENGES

## Challenges for faculty

- There is no incentive for the lecturers in making teaching materials public.
- Time-consuming process. Faculty would have to upload and maintain their content.
- Materials may require frequent updates.
- Learning materials are already made accessible to students through a virtual learning environment.

## Challenges for librarians

- The metadata structure of the repository is not always suitable for purpose.
- Ownership of learning materials may be contentious.
- It is necessary to separate outdated materials from those currently in use.

## CONCLUSION

By collecting digital materials such as faculty research, student work, policies and documentation, and learning materials, institutional repositories have the potential of becoming the greatest intellectual capital of an institution.


However, repositories were designed with the perspective that a curator would be responsible for uploading the metadata which is not a sustainable model for institutions that wish to expand the scope and function of their repository.

For repositories to expand to their full potential, institutions and service providers must collaborate to develop a more user-centred design that will enable individual contributors to create and maintain records and facilitate the discovery and retrieval of materials by users.



THANK YOU

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