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## **Contribution of the digital repository DRUGG to higher information literacy in the field of civil engineering in Slovenia**

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### **Abstract**

An important stakeholder of information literacy is accessibility of information. In the Internet era users prefer to use information which is characterized by open and freely accessible online approach. Institutional repositories (IR) as electronic archives have been established as a good practice for quite some time. The European Commission (EC) has required the archiving research articles in IRs in order to grant international project funding since August 2008. Therefore, the interest in IRs is increasing in Slovenia as well. In 2011, the IR named DRUGG was built at the Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering (UL FGG) of the University of Ljubljana (UL). In the DRUGG repository, mainly theses (B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. theses) are archived which are usually not published elsewhere. By the end of 2013 more than 1.800 theses and nearly 200 research articles were archived in it. They are very interesting for students as a study source and for professional engineers working in practice. The main role of IR is to archive the e-publications. Its contribution to higher quality of publications, which is also provided through interoperability to the tools for checking of plagiarism, could be even more important. The IR also provides open access to publications and increases the visibility of the Faculty's publications, which may lead to higher citation. By using the internationally established system ePrints the interoperability of many systems is provided. The repository DRUGG is registered in the register ROAR and is a part of EU's infrastructure OpenAIRE. The DRUGG became a part of the Slovenian pilot national infrastructure for open access to theses and scientific publications which has been launched at the end of 2013. The publications, archived in the IR DRUGG are also connected to the national cataloging system COBISS.SI and to its subsystem SICRIS, Slovenian Current Research Information System.

Building an IR is a complex project in which the whole institution has to be involved. The paper describes the steps taken in implementing the IR considering the technological infrastructure, human resources and collaboration of the library staff with other professional and administrative faculty units. The library offers all technical support to the authors by archiving publications in the IR. Thus, the importance and the reputation of the library have increased, since it brings a significant added value to the quality of all activities at the faculty. The statistics of visits and downloads after two years of operations confirms its importance in Slovenia and abroad.

It has become a globally recognized fact that everyone profits from repositories. Authors acquire better visibility of their works, the possibility of higher citation rate, the possibility for their increased scientific impact and the possibility for the protection of copyright on ideas. The users acquire the possibility of immediate access to the results of scientific work on the global level. As IT experts and capable experts of communication the librarians from faculty libraries become an important stakeholder in quality education process and in scientific work. In that manner, libraries perform their mission as an important part of the system for information literacy.

**Keywords:** information literacy, digital institutional repository, faculty library, Slovenia.