A Case of Kanazawa University Repository for Academic Resources (KURA)

According to the charter of KU, which is “a research university dedicated to education”, KURA is expected to collect research and educational materials produced by the intellectual activities in the campus to disseminate KU’s scholarly outputs on the Internet.

**Top Management**

KURA was set up by the top decision of the vice president. KURA is not the library’s database, but is the University’s database.

KU introduced KURA at June in 2006. Managed by Information Planning Section daily. The System is DSpace 1.4.2

**Open Access**

Peer-reviewed articles are the first target of our advocacy activities in increasing digital contents.

KURA must be an e-prints archive in order to contribute to Open Access!

**Describing KURA by 4 keywords**

It will enable end-users to search various scholarly information in the campus at one time.

**One Stop Service**

We take 3 strategies to promote KURA. Especially, the collaboration system of IR and Achievement Database(ADB) is the most characteristic feature of KURA and the one of the most important function to sustain IR in Japan.

KURA must be more user friendly. A harvester for multiple institutional repositories in the university will be set up at the end of next March.

**Self Archive through ADB**

About Kanazawa University

Located in Hokuriku region on the west coast of Japan’s mainland facing Japan Sea.

One of the top 20 research universities in Japan.

**3 Strategies to promote KURA**

We take following 3 strategies to increase the useful contents and to transform the concept of IR into Japanese way. 1) Don’t underestimate Kiyo (紀要), 2)Put collaboration of IR and ADB into practical use, 3)Recruit new contents steady. Under these strategies we are promoting OA in Japanese way in our campus.

**Purposes of the Poster**

1. Describing KURA by 4 keywords which characterize KURA.
2. Open Access——The Policy
3. Self Archive through ADB—The Strategies
4. Added Value——One Stop Service

In the same way, KURA stores the achievements of the researchers of Kanazawa University.
Strategy 1: Don't underestimate Kiyo (紀要)

- What is Kiyo, Japanese University Bulletin?
  - One of the most popular publication styles in Japanese academic communities
  - Articles in Kiyo are mainly not peer-reviewed, so the quality is varied.
  - But, especially in the areas of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS), Kiyo is important as before. It is a kind of the preprint for their compiled books.
  - The copyrights of Kiyo are mainly held by the authors. So the permissions are gained from the authors more easily than journal articles.
  
  → Initial contents in Japanese IRs.

- Positive Function of Kiyo
  - Free and exchanged between universities. It seems to be almost open access, but published in print media.
  - By making them online, we can start open access journals in each university.
  
  → Kiyo has some potentiality!

The Details of Deposited Contents in KURA

Most of the contents from HSS faculties are bulletin papers, while there are many peer-reviewed articles from STM faculties. This trend reflects the feature of Japanese scholarly communication of each field.

The Collaboration of IR and ADB is Needed in Japan

ADB has already been introduced in KU and the faculties have registered the bibliographical data of their achievements, including journal articles (But it is not mandate). In a sense...

IR is an additional function of ADB in Japan.

So the faculty says "KURA? Another DB! It's a bother, too". This situation may be common in the most Japanese Universities. In order to gain the understanding IR from the faculty and their self-archiving, IR need to work together with ADB.

The Merit of our Collaboration System

The merit of our system is to be easy to introduce. It takes mainly 2 steps:
1) Little alteration of program in your ADB: It's not so crucial but costs some.
2) The installation of collaboration program into your DSpace: It's easy.

This program is open source and you can download it and brief manuals (in Japanese) at the following site: http://www.lib.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/kura/achievement/.

This system is not perfect. But you can get start easily. We think we can contribute to the promotion of IR in Japanese Universities. To boost open access movements in Japan, It is more important to do in all universities than in only one IR.

Strategy 2: Put Collaboration of IR and ADB into Practical Use

System collaboration of KURA with the University’s ADB

- Deposit of the articles and meta-data by researchers.
- Both the content and meta-data are transmitted to KURA at one time.

Library staffs ingest the items after checking the contents.

The Result of Alert from Scopus for archiving KURA

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Our Goal is to realize Self Archiving and OA in Japanese Way.

We go forward step by step.

Strategy 3: Recruit New Contents Steadily

But this collaboration system has just started and the registration to ADB isn’t mandate, now.
So we recruit new contents every week as follows:
1) Collect the bibliographic data of the newly added articles into Elsevier’s Scopus written by the researchers of KU, using its alert function.
2) Library staffs check if the articles are permitted to archive. If OK, we send e-mail to the authors to get the contents, mailly the author final version files.

The Results: About 66% of the search results are allowed to archive into IR. And about 30% of the authors send back the contents. The number is about 240 per year. We don’t know it is small or not. “Size isn’t everything.” (Leslie Car and Tim Brody, D-Lib magazine 13(7/8), 2007)

We go forward step by step.

Total: 6,651 items (as of Jan. 28, 2008)

Daily deposits in last year: 67 days of 1-9, 73 days of 10-99, 9 days of 100+

Our Goal is to realize Self Archiving and OA in Japanese Way.