The author’s workflow and the role of Open Access
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Summary

- OA: what’s going on
- OA challenges
- Author’s perspective
- Tools and services to support author’s deposit, evaluation/assessment activities
- Some examples
- Conclusions
OA: what’s going on

- Mandatory policy: constant growth of institutions and funding agencies implementing it

- EC bodies taking stand on OA issues
  - ERC - European Research Council statement (2006);

- Professional and institutional associations are taking action
  - EUA- European University Association Council – Recommendations on Open Access (January 2008)
    - Call for requirement to deposit in institutional archives
    - Call for exploring how university resources can be found for author fees if “author pays model” of OA publishing prevails in the future in some scientific fields
OA: what’s going on (2)

- Eu Rectors Initiatives to support OA Scholarship (EurOpenScholarship)

- Infrastructure and services at national and crossnational level
  - JISC Initiatives, SURF/Darenet, DFG, Nordic Countries,
  - DriverI, DriverII
  - OApen Initiative (Oa publishing in Humanities and Social Sciences)

- Copyright: license to publish (SURF/JISC), Author’s Addenda, SPARC and DOAJ licence standard; FAS – Harvad Action

- Increase of support material and tools: guides, tutorials, wiki, websites, blogs, fora

- Increasing number of institutional repositorie and OA journals and of hybrid journals
OA: critical issues – Institutional repositories

- Content recruitment
- Authors awareness and support
- Quality control (vetting activities, metadata, etc)
- Copyright issue (adoption of author addendum, license to publish, etc)
- Long term preservation
OA: critical issues – OA journals

- Move from Toll Access to OA journals
- Economic sustainability of OA publishing
- Different business models
- Role of libraries in supporting OA publishing
Studies and surveys on OA: what is missing

- Several articles and surveys report authors’ perceptions, attitudes to self-archiving, OA, etc.
- Surveys conducted on institutional repositories implementations, testing, planning.
- Studies/surveys on librarians perceptions, on publishers, professional society attitude on OA.
- Fewer studies on what users really need, want in the OA context.
- Even less research has been carried out on authors’ needs on tools, services, add-on to help researchers in their work.
Author’s general attitudes on institutional repositories

- Depositing is cumbersome (submission workflow)
- Resistance to change work habits
- Fear of duplicating work
- Lack of time
- Can someone else do it for me?
- What other benefits can I get beside wider and faster dissemination, increased visibility, more research impact?
Basic requests from authors

- Make deposit mechanism easier, as automatic as possible
  - Batch ingestion of metadata from personal web pages, academic portals, from personal bibliographic databases
  - Easy desk-top application to deposit
  - Integration with National Authority lists
  - Integration with publishers’ copyright policy

- Integrating IR with local or national Research Information System

- IR as an updated bibliography, a documents server, a publishing tool
Basic requests from authors (2)

- Export functionalities: bibliographies or other output for research or administrative purposes
- Notification services (e-mail alerts, RSS etc) and Web 2.0 functionalities
- Usage statistics, citations analysis
- More interoperability
- Better discovery and searching tools (semantic web, text mining, data mining)
Making deposit easier and more efficient: a lightweight protocol

- SWORD: Simple Web-services Offering Repository Deposit project funded by JISC Repositories and Preservation Programme (2007)

- Goal: to develop and test a standard mechanism for depositing into repositories and other systems

- Project carried out by Repositories Research Team a collaboration between UKOLN and CETIS

- SWORD has been implemented with Arxiv, with ICE (Integrated Content Environment), ROAD (Robot Generated Open Access Data)

- Interoperable with main IR softwares

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SWORD: what it does

It supports workflows for deposit in different ways which can be user triggered or machine triggered:

- A. Author to multiple repositories via intermediate client
- B. Author to 1 or more repositories,
- C. Deposit of experimental data output from lab machine is started as save as function
- D. Repository to additional repositories

- A. Author/user deposits via an easy-deposit desktop application into the institutional repository’s mediated deposit queue
- Librarian completes the deposit through repositories
- Librarian invokes deposit of a surrogate into a discipline based archive researchers in their communication workflow

NTU –IR Metadata Importing tool

- Nanyang Technological University Institutional Repository – Metadata Import Tool
- Extraction metadata and digital resources from academic information portals
- Ingestion into IR
- Semi-automatic ingestion
- Batch ingestion into IR
Extract metadata from staff webpage

The URL object establish a connection to the staff webpage

Specify sections to extract

Extract metadata (author, date of publication, Title of publication, url of digital resource) to an excel file using Java
NTU -IR Metadata Importing tool (3)

- Extraction from excel to DSpace Archive format
  - Main archive folder name is specified at run time
  - A connection is made to the Metadata Excel Sheet
  - Archive folders and files are automatically generated from the Excel Sheet for each publication
  - Dublin core file
  - Content file
  - Actual item retrieved from a web page

- NTU -IR Import tool generates Archive Folders and files

- Importing metadata and Content in NTU -IR

- Future developments: extraction from generalized citation styles, move to a full automated extraction method
SURplus: integrated system for evaluation

1. Sur+ is an integrated system for research management that aims to control processes and data related to research activities and their outputs in the academic environment developed by CILEA, Italy.

2. Sur+ enhances the internal and external visibility of research activities and provides real-time monitoring and reporting tools.

3. Sur+ is formed from several interoperable application modules that can be adopted separately.

The Open Archive module is a repository (DSpace) that collects, describes and indexes, and distributes the intellectual output of all institutional research activities.

Data are imported from bibliographic sources (e.g. WOS, PubMed, ... for initial metadata population).

Data are exported via OAI-PMH and web services to the web and to other external targets such as any CRIS (current Information Systems).

Data are transferred to or used by other Sur+ modules for further elaboration.
SURplus OA: workflow (1)

- Authors connect through SUR+ authentication system
- Authors’ data (names, affiliations, IDs) are automatically extracted from SUR+staff entities modules
- Customized workflow to organize submission and review according to the university departments
- Only institutional authors appear in the browse list (authority file), all authors are searchable in the word indexes
SURplus OA: workflow (2)

- Submission according to material type (customised templates follow metadata requirements for the Italian RAE)
- Controlled list of journals ISSNs (for each exact matching with yearly IF to be used in other modules)
- Automatic building of citations from metadata
Conclusions

- More holistic view is required
  - (IR cannot be separated from authors researching/communicating/publishing habits, from authors and institutions web publishing, from institutional assessment and evaluation activities, etc)

- Authors/Researchers needs should be better addressed, enhanced web services and authoring tools should be implemented

- More integration and interoperability
  - Aggregation of different type digital content with datasets, reference codes of objects, experimental sources
Conclusions

- More progress is required in document format, authors are still working with traditional formats (Word, TeX, html, PDF)

- Newer document formats adoption (Microsoft’s Open Office XML or the OASIS OpenDocument) is needed
  - to extract semantic information, to enable semantic analysis to allow automated interlinking to external sources, machine to machine linking of items, at sub-item level
Thank you
Open Access and digital repositories

o Promotion and Advocacy
  o Training courses
  o SCOAP – Working Group
  o SPARC
  o Participation in conferences in Italy and abroad
  o Hosting conference in Italy

o Digital Repositories – Institutional Archives
  o Consultancy on technological issues
  o Hosting and maintenance of DSpace and E-prints instances in some consortial universities
  o Personalization and customization of these instances

o PLEIADI – Portal for the Italian Scientific Electronic Literature
  o Digital platform to access OA content deposited in Italian institutional and disciplinary archives in collaboration with CILEA