

Second workshop on the Open Archives Initiative:

Gaining Independence with online research repositories

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Mise en service d'une archive numérique Launching an archive

Breakout sessions (Friday, 18 October 2002)

Panel 3

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Discussion Guidelines :

La mise en place d'une archive OAI ne pose pas de gros problèmes techniques et financiers. Pourtant le développement de ces archives dans nos universités dans nos laboratoires et dans nos instituts de recherche n'est pas très rapide.

Quels sont les freins?

Quels sont les appuis nécessaires pour installer une archive dans une université et dans un laboratoire?

Quelle stratégie proposer pour remplir rapidement une archive?

Quelle stratégie pour inciter les autres universités et les autres laboratoires à implanter à leur tour un serveur d'e-prints?

Launching an archive

The launching of an open archive has to face many obstacles among which technological and financial issues are not the most serious. The group shared experiences and analysed the main obstacles and made some proposals.

What are the main obstacles to the development of OAI archives ?

1. Most scholars are not aware of the scholarly communication crisis. As they need to publish in prestigious reviews to gain academic rewards they overlook the fact that self archiving gives their papers a much larger exposure and that OAI is an answer to the serial pricing crisis.
2. In many disciplines, the term “pre-print“ is synonymous with “poor quality paper“ or “dangerous“ for its lack of control. As most archives provide a large amount of pre-prints they are disregarded. The term “e-prints” that includes both pre-prints and post-prints ought to be used.
3. No institutional support.

How to start ?

Librarians with the help of computer scientists can develop an experimental project of an archive and submit this project to the approval of the scientific council of their laboratory or university, afterwards.

How to support these archives ?

Institutional support from universities, libraries associations, laboratories
Financial support (grants, budget?)

How to fill the archives ?

- By showing scholars and the head of institutions the benefits: increased visibility for publications and consequently gain in reputation for the institution, rapid dissemination of the work.
- The measure of the impact of a publication could be achieved by introducing OAI system tools that count the number of downloads and number of times the article is cited. In some disciplines a validation status could be implemented (showing the number of steps of the institutional validation process for each paper).
- By making scholars aware of their rights to keep their copyright and to negotiate the right to self archive and making them aware of the possibility to publish in new free access periodicals that leave all rights to researchers.
- By adopting a specific strategy according to the nature of the document from the easiest to the hardest :
 - Uploading existing documents posted on institutional website.
 - - Posting dissertations and working papers.
 - - Self archiving pre prints and post prints published either with OAI-friendly editors or with OAI-unfriendly editors but this would require negotiation.
 - - Archiving published documents after having checked copyright status or after negotiating a right to self archive with the editor.

How to develop OAI in French-speaking countries?

- Translating and distributing all noteworthy documents such as FAQs, SPARC's papers.
- Launching a list and a newsletter and creating a French-speaking website dedicated to OAI progress and new initiatives.

- Creating in as many universities as possible a web page dedicated to explaining OAI, with a link to the main francophone website.
- Using the internal bulletins, discussions and conferences to inform staff, scholars and students.