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Perceptions of Developing Trends in Repositories

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Survey Results for The SPARC Digital Repositories Meeting 2008
Baltimore, MD November 17th-18th, 2008
Brought to you by bepress/Digital Commons (http://www.bepress.com/ir/)

We asked SPARC attendees to respond to a dozen questions that explored IR trends through the lens of the SPARC conference themes: New Horizons, Campus Publishing, Developing Value-Added Services and Policy Environment. To provide context, we provided links to real life examples that best represented each trend.

We are delighted to report that over 110 SPARC meeting attendees responded to this survey. Thanks to all who responded! The wealth of thoughtful feedback is a testament to the wonderful group of people that SPARC has brought together and the forward thinking nature of this meeting. It is clearly an exciting time in IR development. We invite you to consider the attached results and also to share your thoughts with us. Here are three results that we found worthy of note:

- In general, respondents on all platforms are thinking very creatively about the role of an IR. Responses indicate that student research, campus business, and research from outside the institution all have a home in the IR.

- Respondents saw electronic theses & dissertations and conferences, symposia and colloquia as the most likely kinds of material to be top trends in 2009.

- Most respondents would consider their IR to be a solid success. Over 58% rated their IR as a 6 or higher on a 1-10 scale of success.

The results are divided into two sections. Pages 2-5 provide a summary of our survey data and page 6 provides the links to the sites that we used as examples. Please send any questions or feedback to: Kathleen Cowan - 510-665-1200 x118 - kcowan@bepress.com.

Section 1: New Horizons: Integrating new types of material into the IR

Question #1: Do you believe that showcasing student research in the IR will become a growing trend in 2009?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Very likely	26.1%
Likely	**57.7%**
Unlikely	9.9%
Not at all	0.9%
Not sure	5.4%

n=111

Question #2: Here are some specific ways student research is being showcased in an IR. Please indicate how likely you think it is for each of these novel approaches to develop into a significant trend. (10 being most likely)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average
Electronic theses and dissertations (Example from Utah State University)	0	0	1	0	5	1	5	11	14	64	9.1
Honors theses/projects by department (Example from Macalester College)	0	1	5	1	4	6	20	18	12	38	8.0
Undergraduate faculty-reviewed journal (Example from The University of Pennsylvania)	2	4	6	8	14	15	18	15	13	11	6.6
Undergraduate peer-reviewed journals (Example from Illinois Wesleyan University)	5	8	6	11	10	14	14	14	12	12	6.2

Question #3: Do you believe that using the IR to archive and disseminate non-academic content will become a growing trend in 2009?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Very likely	16.4%
Likely	**48.2%**
Unlikely	15.5%
Not at all	4.5%
Not sure	15.5%

n=110

Question #4: Some institutions house non-academic content in the IR. Please indicate how likely you think it is for each of the following approaches to become a trend. (10 being most likely)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average
Alumni newsletters and magazines (Example from Illinois Wesleyan University)	6	6	8	3	10	11	21	16	7	18	6.5
Planning and development documents (Example from California Polytechnic State University)	2	7	10	13	8	16	17	13	6	16	6.2
Enrollment data, projections and reports (Example from The University of California)	4	8	12	15	13	10	13	15	6	9	5.7

Section 2: Campus Publishing: Tying the IR into a wider publishing strategy

Question #5: Do you believe that publishing original faculty works in the IR will become a top trend in 2009?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Very likely	15.1%
Likely	**46.2%**
Unlikely	24.5%
Not at all	1.9%
Not sure	12.3%

n=106

Question #6: The IR has been used to electronically publish original academic content that frequently lacks a home elsewhere. Please indicate how likely you think it is that each of the following publishing approaches will become a significant trend in 2009. (10 being most likely)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average
Conferences, symposia and colloquia (Example from California Polytechnic State University)	0	0	1	2	7	5	11	23	26	28	8.2
eJournals (born-digital) (Example from California Polytechnic State University)	0	1	3	2	5	13	11	20	16	34	8.0
Print journals transitioning to digital publication (Example from McMaster University)	0	2	3	4	8	15	15	25	12	20	7.4
Books and University Press publications (Example from The University of Massachusetts Amherst)	1	3	5	9	13	14	14	19	15	9	6.7

Section 3: Developing Value-Added Services: Using the IR to serve faculty's needs

Question #7: Do you believe that offering value-added services to faculty and administrators will become a necessity for IR success?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Very likely	**57.9%**
Likely	36.4%
Unlikely	0.9%
Not at all	0.0%
Not sure	4.7%

n=107

Question #8: Libraries are engaging stakeholders with the IR by providing a variety of value-added services. Please indicate how likely you think it is that each of the following approaches will become a significant trend in value-added services. (10 being most likely)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average
Mediated deposits (to IR and/or to PubMed Central)	0	1	4	2	4	4	11	18	20	38	8.38
Copyright checking and negotiating agreements	0	1	2	4	4	6	12	20	23	30	8.18
ePortfolios/personal publication pages (Example from Macalester College)	0	0	2	5	9	8	15	22	21	21	7.8
Reporting tools for faculty and administrators	1	1	3	6	8	5	16	21	19	25	7.7
Publishing services (marketing support, obtaining ISSN, etc.)	1	1	3	8	12	15	14	18	17	16	7.17
Peer review software	1	2	7	7	11	13	17	14	13	17	7.0

Section 4: Policy Environment: Determining what types of content can go into the IR

Question #9: Do you believe that the mission of the IR will be extended to include capturing community-based content created by both institutionally-affiliated and –unaffiliated scholars?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Very likely	7.8%
Likely	**48.0%**
Unlikely	27.5%
Not at all	2.0%
Not sure	14.7%

n=102

Question #10: Some IRs are beginning to capture community-based content, often created by faculty off-campus, or by unaffiliated scholars who belong to the larger research community. Please indicate how likely you think it is that IRs will begin to capture the following types of content. (10 being most likely)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Rating Average
Commencement addresses, lectures and papers by non-affiliated scholars made on campus (Example from The University of Georgia School of Law)	3	1	3	8	10	13	13	12	19	19	7.1
A collection of research created by institutionally-affiliated and -unaffiliated scholars (i.e. subject archive) (Example from Cornell University ILR School)	1	2	4	9	11	15	14	17	14	13	6.9
Collaborating with regional agencies/not-for-profits to create content (Example from The University of Nebraska - Lincoln)	0	1	7	6	14	10	24	17	10	10	6.8
Non-academic faculty output created off-campus (Example from UMaryland Law)	4	4	7	14	15	11	14	17	6	5	5.9

Question #10: What platform do you use?

Answer Options	Response Percent
DSpace	**50.6%**
Digital Commons	27.1%
Fedora	15.3%
EPrints	7.1%

n=85

Question #11: How long has your IR been adding content?

Answer Options	Response Percent
Less than 6 months	22.6%
6-18 months	22.6%
18 months-3 years	**28.0%**
More than 3 years	26.9%

n=93

Question #12: Please indicate the degree to which you would rate your IR a success.

Answer Options	Response Percent
1 (Not a success)	3.4%
2	2.2%
3	10.1%
4	9.0%
5	16.9%
6	15.7%
7	**21.3%**
8	13.5%
9	2.2%
10 (Unquestionable success)	5.6%

n=89

Links Featured in This Survey

Section 1: New Horizons: Integrating new types of material into the IR

Question #2: Student research

- Undergraduate peer-reviewed journals (Example from Illinois Wesleyan University) - http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/respublica/
- Undergraduate faculty-reviewed journal (Example from The University of Pennsylvania) - http://repository.upenn.edu/curej/
- Honors theses/projects by department (Example from Macalester College) - http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/economics_honors_projects/
- Electronic theses and dissertations (Example from Utah State University) - http://digitalcommons.usu.edu/etd/120/

Question #4: Non-academic content

- Alumni newsletters and magazines (Example from Illinois Wesleyan University) - http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/iwumag/
- Planning and development documents (Example from California Polytechnic State University) - http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/fpcp/
- Enrollment data, projections and reports (Example from The University of California) - http://repository.ucop.edu/enrllmt_projections_reports/

Section 2: Campus Publishing: Tying the IR into a wider publishing strategy

Question #6: Original academic content

- Print journals transitioning to digital publication (Example from McMaster University) - http://digitalcommons.mcmaster.ca/russelljournal/
- eJournals (born-digital) (Example from California Polytechnic State University) - http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/moebius/
- Conferences, symposia and colloquia (Example from California Polytechnic State University) - http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/icpc/
- Books and University Press publications (Example from The University of Massachusetts Amherst) - http://scholarworks.umass.edu/umpress_cotmd/

Section 3: Developing Value-Added Services: Using the IR to serve faculty's needs

Question #8: Value-added services

- ePortfolios/personal publication pages (Example from Macalester College) - http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/sw_gallery.html

Section 4: Policy Environment: Determining what types of content can go into the IR

Question #10: Community-based content

- Collaborating with regional agencies/not-for-profits to create content (Example from The University of Nebraska - Lincoln) – http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/usgs/
- A collection of research created by institutionally-affiliated and -unaffiliated scholars (i.e. subject archive) (Example from Cornell University ILR School) - http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/
- Non-academic faculty output created off-campus (Example from UMaryland Law) - http://digitalcommons.law.umaryland.edu/congtest/
- Commencement addresses, lectures and papers by non-affiliated scholars made on campus (Example from The University of Georgia School of Law) - http://digitalcommons.law.uga.edu/lectures_pre_arch_lec/