



BUILDING THE MEASURING STICK

A model for continuous review and improvement
of Institutional Repository policies

Institutional Repository at the University of Florida (IR@UF)

- Rolled out in 2006
- Policies set in 2006
- New IR Manager in 2013
 - *Time to review the policies*
- Uses SobekCM platform
- Contains >99,000 titles



IDENTIFYING WHAT
YOU DON'T KNOW



Looking for gaps

- Current practices and policies



- Questions from users
- Literature review to get ideas on key policy areas
- Upcoming projects and long-term goals

What are current best practices?

Evaluating the landscape of peer institutions

- Identify peer institutions

- *RCM peer list*
- *ARL list*

25
institutions

- Search websites for policy info

- Create questions where fewer than sites addressed a

8 questions
policy

- Ask peers questions via email

15 (of 25)
Replied

Qualtrics Survey Pilot - April 2016

- Used website review and email responses to create questions and standard answers
 - *basic demographics (4 questions)*
 - *administration of the IR (4 - 5 questions)*
 - *submission process and policies (7 questions)*
 - *IR collections (4 questions)*
 - *Other IR policies, including policies surrounding Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) (9 - 10 questions)*

16 (of 26) 61%
Replied



Institutional Repository Policy Survey

Qualtrics Survey – Revise & Reissue

- **May – Sept. 2016** – Update survey based on scholarly communications community feedback; added 3 questions to determine scope of IRs at participating institutions
- **Oct. 2016** – Send final survey out via 6 academic listservs

Total of 94 respondents:

- 67 US institutions
- 7 International institutions
- 20 Unspecified



Identifying Trends – Brief Overview

- Most common platforms were Digital Commons (47%); DSpace (34%)
- IR administered by library at all responding institutions;
 - *4% share administration with another department*
- Most allow submissions from Faculty Members (95%) and Graduate Students (92%)
 - *Others also allow submissions from: Staff; Undergrad students ; Emeritus Faculty ; Researchers affiliated with institution (65-89%)*
- IR Manager / Repository Curator is the gatekeeper for materials going into IR in most institutions (79%)
- Most include collections for Theses and Dissertations (87%) and Departmental based collections (82%)

RELEVANCE OF SURVEY RESULTS



Local Relevance

Based on the survey results, UF libraries are:

- Establishing a formal review process of Institutional Repository policies
- Restructuring the hierarchy of the IR collections
- Updating metadata options for our self-submittal tool
- Finishing comparison of our policies vs. best practices as identified by the survey



Relevance to the Field

- Community currently reevaluating of the purpose of Institutional Repositories
 - *Did they fail or are they just different from how they were first envisioned*
- Common standards and practices
- Building of community (IR Managers Forum)
- Newcomers to offering IR services

Relevance to the Field

- No real policy surveys of Institutional Repositories before
- Conversations around establishing IRs are dated
- New conversations center around the role of IRs - the growth experienced can be reflected in current policies
- Survey instrument enhanced by community support
- Template for other institutions undertaking similar policy review
- Springboard for future research into correlations between IR policies and platforms

Resources

- Institutional Repository Policy Survey <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00039807>
- There's a Policy for That? Results from an informal survey of Institutional Repository practices
<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00007436> (poster)
<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00007430> (presentation)
- Identifying Policy Trends <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00009690>
- Mapping the Landscape of ETDs in IRs: Results from the Institutional Repository Policy Survey
<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00010029>

Contact

@shoreychristy

(352) 273-2831

chrshor@uflib.ufl.edu

Christy Shorey

Institutional Repository
Manager

University of Florida

<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/ufir>

This presentation is online at:
<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00010628>