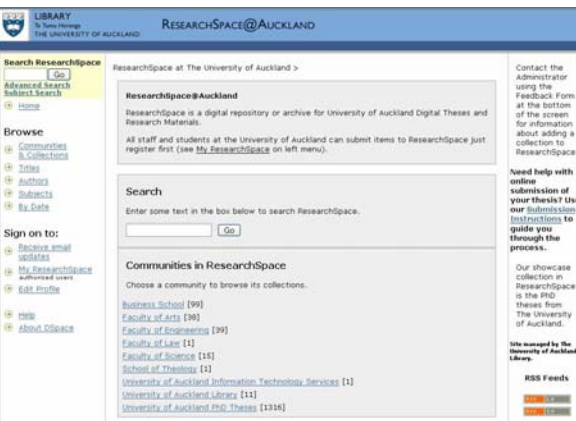


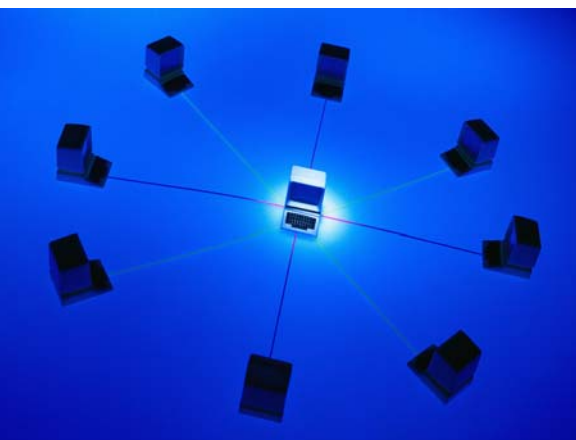


Getting Research 'Out There': ResearchSpace@Auckland

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ResearchSpace@Auckland homepage



<http://researchspace.auckland.ac.nz/>

It's just a website, right?

ResearchSpace@Auckland is an institutional repository set up to store research outputs of the University of Auckland. The defining feature of an institutional repository is sustainability. Many authors publish work on departmental or personal websites, but the upkeep of these websites is often not consistent: work can be lost.

Key features of an Institutional Repository:

- Authors submit their own content initially, administrators check content and publish it online
- Most content is freely available to any user – use is not restricted to members of the institution or subscribers
- Durable & Permanent URLs: we use 'Handles' – they will not change, even if the website is moved in the future.
- A handle does not have the institution's domain name, e.g. <http://hdl.handle.net/2292/1430>
- If the website is changed or moved, the URL will still go to the correct location.
- Preservation: creating digital files allows creation of a new print copy if necessary. These files are in Portable Document Format (PDF), and the library has undertaken to keep the formats up to date, as technology may change in the future.
- An associated institution: ResearchSpace@Auckland has been set up to preserve research outputs of the University of Auckland.

Where does the content come from?

The University of Auckland has mandated compulsory submission of a digital copy for all enrolling PhD students from 2007. PhD students submit one print and one digital copy of their thesis. Submission to ResearchSpace has been voluntary since 2006, and we have recently undertaken a project to retrospectively digitize PhD theses in print format held by the Library. The PhD thesis collection is the showcase of the repository, although we hope to start promoting ResearchSpace as a repository for published and unpublished papers as well.

New Zealand and Pacific material

We have a focus on unique New Zealand and Pacific material, with a diverse range of subjects covered by the PhD theses. These include representations of Maori women in Maori theatre, identity journeys of NZ-born Samoans, Tongan lexicography, and invasion of New Zealand islands by Norway rats.

What are the barriers to creating an institutional repository?

- The infrastructure required to set up a repository is significant. Server and storage hardware are required, and programming expertise may be needed, depending on the software used.
- Authors may be uncertain about copyright situation, especially 3rd party copyright
- Perception that putting work online increases plagiarism
- Faculty may be reluctant to participate

What are the advantages to authors?

- Their profile is lifted internationally, as ResearchSpace is harvested by Google, Google Scholar and other major search engines. Research posted in ResearchSpace can be found on Google within a couple of days.
- The thesis has a permanent URL; you can direct requests to this URL.
- Copyright is retained by the author.
- Their work will be cited and used more often. Material only in printed form has less exposure than an online thesis.
- Capturing a thesis in digital format facilitates preservation – print copies may eventually deteriorate beyond repair.
- Making a work such as a thesis freely available online can serve in some measure to guard against plagiarism.

What are the advantages to libraries?

- profile of the library is lifted via international harvesting of content
- a significant saving of shelf space
- increases usage of collection
- improved service delivery to users – 'anytime, anywhere' service