

DOMAIN: Institutional Repositories (IR)

ARTICLE: "Institutional Repository Deployment in the United States as of Early 2005" D-Lib Magazine September 2005, by Clifford Lynch & Joan Lippincott, Coalition for Networked Information (CNI): 10-pages

ABSTRACT:

The Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), a cooperative program of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and EDUCAUSE, surveyed its member institutions to systematically examine the current state of deployment of Institutional Repositories (IRs) in the United States in the spring of 2005. As evidenced by the survey findings of the level of actual deployment and planned adoption within the research university sector, Institutional Repositories are now recognized broadly as essential infrastructure for scholarship in the digital world. Considered categories included: extent of implementation, size, types of content, software platforms, governing policies and administrative responsibility, and faculty outreach issues.

Findings

- + The Carnegie classification lists 261 institutions as "doctoral research" universities: survey responses received from these institutions suggest that IRs are becoming well-established as campus infrastructure components: 40% of the respondents have operational IRs; and, 88% who do not, are currently in planning stages or discussing participation in a consortial repository system.
- + A significant number of institutions are committed to IRs that extends beyond simply e-prints that include: electronic theses and dissertations, digitized special collections materials, multimedia, course materials, and datasets.
- + In general, 80% of academic research libraries have the singular leadership role in formulating policy and operating IRs.
- + Open access remains on the policy agenda: requirements for open access to publications based on publicly-funded research or for open access to research results and data will influence *directly* the future development of IRs.
- + IRs are being positioned as integral infrastructure within the context of changing scholarly practice, e-research and cyberinfrastructure; they are not being deployed simply in response to concerns of the existing scholarly publishing system, i.e., the cost of journals.
- + IRs represent an important new policy and operational role for research libraries that renews their critical connection with the central academic processes of the university.