

Setting up an institutional repository: Cranfield QUEprints – a case study

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Presentation outline

- Why an institutional repository?
- How was the software selected?
- Advocacy
- What's in the IR and how did it get there?
- How is Cranfield QUEprints managed
- Staff – who's involved?
- Usage
- Other policies/issues
- Survey
- Summary

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What is an institutional repository?

- "A set of services that a university offers to the members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members"

– Clifford Lynch (Institutional repositories: essential infrastructure for scholarship in the digital age, 2003)

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What is an institutional repository?

- An **Institutional Repository** is an online locus for collecting and preserving -- in **digital** form -- the **intellectual** output of an **institution**, particularly a research institution.
- For a **university**, this would include materials such as research journal articles (before (**preprints**) and after (**postprints**) undergoing **peer review**, and digital versions of **theses** and **dissertations**...
...but it might also include other **digital assets** generated by normal academic life, such as administrative documents, course notes, or learning objects.

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Why an IR? – QUEprints vision statement

- To create and establish an electronic system that captures, preserves and communicates the intellectual output of Cranfield's faculty and researchers. Cranfield QUEprints will facilitate the distribution of Cranfield's digital works over the web through a search and retrieval system and it will preserve these digital works over the long term.
- It will provide access to the digital work of the whole institution through one interface
- The aim is to increase visibility and impact of the Universities' research output, in relation specifically to e-prints, e-theses, technical reports and working papers.
- The E-prints will be stored in a central archive with properly managed backups, and persistent URLs. Potential users everywhere will be able to search and retrieve this research output far more effectively than at present.

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Immediate aims

- 'Unplanned' IR development
- E-theses – where to put them?
- How (not) to select software
 - VTech
 - GNU e-prints
 - DSpace
- Why 'QUEprints'?

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Initial content

- Theses
- CVs
- Working papers
- Technical reports
- Not learning objects (photos, graphs, models etc)
- Not administrative information
- Acquiring research output

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Archiving/self-archiving

- 'Those institutions that are involved appear to be having difficulty in getting academics to contribute, perhaps because they are putting insufficient effort into the process, but also, perhaps, because the whole idea of self-archiving in institutional archives is based upon false assumptions about the behaviour of academic authors'

Prof T.D. Wilson, CLIP Update, April 2006

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Advocacy

- Getting 'stuff'
 - ArXiv
 - Academic workflow
 - Institutional v disciplinary

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Pre/post prints

- Not self-archiving, but rather 'managed archiving'
- Elsevier – RoMEO green
 - Request articles
- Blackwell
 - Request articles
- Targeted 'important' authors
- Developed relationships with our Schools to send material
- SCOPUS alerts

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Advocacy (2)

- Cranfield advocacy
 - Internally published articles
 - Perspectives
 - FYI
 - Presentations
 - Faculty Boards
 - Research Committees
 - Meetings with senior staff
- Advocacy for Library staff – internal training (OA context)

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The presentation slide is titled "What are the benefits of the creation and maintenance of an e-print repository?". It lists several benefits:

- Create a new & controlled environment for storing, disseminating & preserving the research outputs of Cranfield's research & teaching staff
- Provide a central point for the storage & dissemination of research outputs
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Support of Senior Management and Heads of Schools

The University Executive has given whole-hearted support to the RCUK position statement on Institutional Repositories and Open Access.

The Innovation Unit officers of the British Council have also given their support to the project. We are pleased to announce the principal that publicly funded research should be made publicly available.

What are the benefits of an e-print repository to Society in general?

- Open access to research
- Accelerating research dissemination
- Enabling more effective searching and retrieval

How to deposit your research

The Library and Information Service is currently providing the services to undertake material deposit of research. This means that if you would like to add your research output to our online archive and make it available to the world, you should contact the Library staff who will undertake the deposit for you.

In the future there will be the facility to self-deposit material.

For more information about depositing research, please contact:

Cranfield's EPrint Team
 email: elms@cranfield.ac.uk
 Librarian: Susan Brander
 e-elms@cranfield.ac.uk
 Librarian: Chris Hopper
 email: chopper@cranfield.ac.uk

Raising your research profile

Cranfield University
QUEprints
 The Home of research excellence
<http://www.library.cranfield.ac.uk>

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Raising the Profile of Cranfield University Research

What are the benefits of an e-print repository to Cranfield?

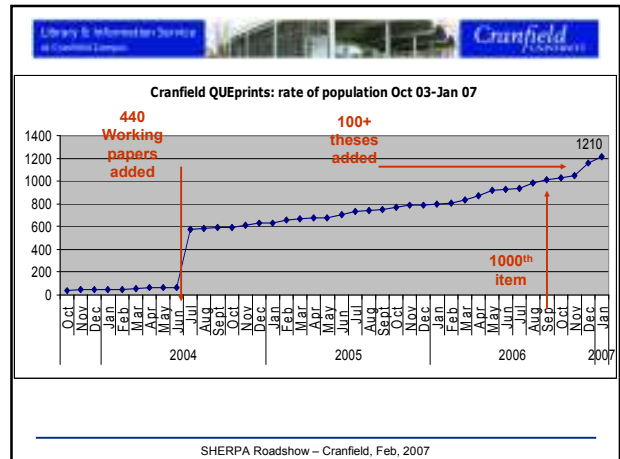
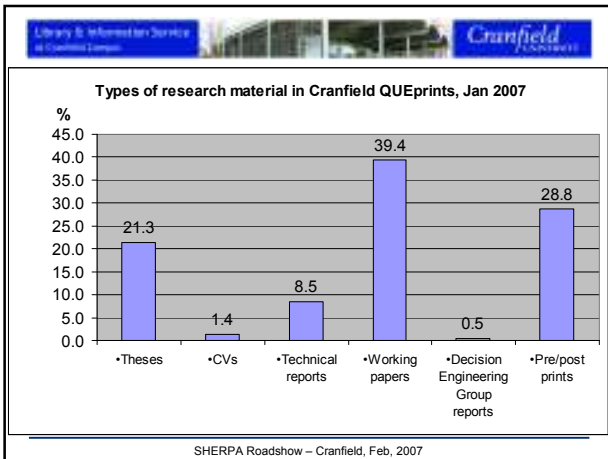
Traditional repositories, such as arXiv, provide a centralised location for research outputs. Some specialist institutions, such as arXiv, provide a centralised location for research outputs. Some specialist institutions, such as arXiv, provide a centralised location for research outputs.

QUEprints
 The Home of research excellence

What are the benefits of an e-print repository to you as a researcher?

- Visibility: Your work will reach a wider audience at Cranfield and is not so easily available on the web via Google, Google Scholar and others.
- Impact: Your work will be cited in other research, leading to increased research funding and increased research impact.
- Open access: Your research outputs are available to all, leading to increased research impact.

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Management of Repository

- Driven by Library
- Strategy group
- Now Reports to e-policy committee

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How is QUEprints staffed?

- No extra staff
- Re-positioning of current staff
 - Inter-library loans
 - Serials checkin
- Technical staff
 - Expertise developed on previous projects
- Strategy group
 - Members of management team, Systems Librarian, operational staff

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Other policies

- Community/collection arrangement
- Subject indexing
- Deleting/withdrawing
- Licensing
- Preservation
- Quality

Survey

- Watson, Sarah. An investigation into the publishing behaviours, attitudes and motivations of academic authors at Cranfield University. (Masters dissertation) London: City University, 2006

Survey - Hierarchy organisation

- Over 50% said Research Group
- Over 40% said Subject and Author
- 'Groups tend to change their name'
- 'I wouldn't want it organised in such a way that they need to know our internal organisation to find information'
- 'through the same structure as the organisation'
- 'The media might do a search on School, but other academics would search by subject or author'

Survey – self-archiving

- 'there's quite a lot of hassle involved in sending stuff to QUEprints'
- 'I'd quite like the fairies to come along and do it all for me'
- 'time is the biggest concern'
- 'I think the current system certainly works well...I'd be a bit reluctant to do it myself'
- 'I'd prefer the library staff to do it'
- 'That sounds like a lot of work to me. That sounds like more work than I want to get involved with'
- 'Anyone other than me... given the choice, library staff'

Self-archiving

- Flexible deposit methods
- Interest from academic staff
- New workflows in preparation

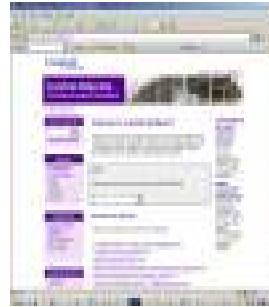




Summary

- Started off as pilot service – soon became production
- Policies on the hoof
- IR within current structure
- IR within current budget
- Inexpensive
- Primary aim – to make research available
- 1247 items & growing
- Next stages
 - more 'stuff'
 - More integration with University services
 - Looking at other repository solutions

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• Thanks for listening!

• Questions?

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