



White Rose Consortium E-Prints Repository

<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>

Improve access to your research

Eprints are electronic copies of academic papers. The White Rose ePrints Repository holds copies of peer-reviewed papers produced by White Rose researchers. The eprints are held in an online database and are freely available, over the internet, to all.

The repository aims to:

- **reduce access barriers** to research output. Material on open access can reach a wide audience – including those who might not otherwise have ready access to the work.
- **improve research impact.** There is increasing evidence that open access research articles are cited more frequently than those only available through subscription.
- **bring together material** currently dispersed across institutional networks.
- provide an Open Archives Initiative compliant service. This means records are **readily searchable** and retrievable.
- provide a **multi-disciplinary** open access platform, including academic disciplines not currently served by subject-based repositories.

Reach a global audience

During 2005, papers in the repository were downloaded more than 50,000 times by end users in over 100 countries.

What about copyright?

Many publishers allow authors to place a copy of their work into an institutional repository – or will grant permission, if asked. The RoMEO database lists publishers' copyright policies.

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php>

RoMEO is a useful starting point if you want to check whether your publisher usually allows papers to be put into a repository. Not all publishers are covered in the RoMEO database, but most of the major academic publishers are.

Your rights over your own work

The repository complements traditional forms of scholarly publishing; it is not an alternative publishing model. The process of journal submission and peer-review is not altered in any way by the repository; rather, the repository offers an opportunity for authors to disseminate their research more widely by making the most of the rights they hold over their own work.

When publishing work, it is useful to clarify what rights you retain. Read any publisher agreements carefully before signing. Some publishers allow you to put the publisher produced PDF into the

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repository; others specify that the final peer reviewed draft of the work should be used.

Whilst it is desirable to retain copyright over your own work, it is worth being aware that, even where copyright has been signed over to your publisher, it may well be possible to post a copy of your work into the repository.

If you are interested in adding your published papers to the repository but are unsure of their copyright position, please contact the Institutional Repository Officer.

Adding your papers

The repository holds:

- peer reviewed papers that have been published or accepted for publication
- in any discipline
- full text - in PDF format (or HTML or ASCII)

Register on the repository and upload material yourself or take advantage of the **mediated upload service** offered by the Institutional Repository Officer.

Support for Open Access

Scientific Publications: Free for All?, a 2004 report from the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee provided enthusiastic support for a national network of institutional repositories as a means of providing better access to publicly funded scientific research.

Statements supporting open access have been issued by the Russell Group of Universities and by Universities UK.

Many UK Universities have created institutional repositories, including 17 of the 19 Russell group institutions.

Research funders

A number of research funders support open access to research outputs - for example, the **Wellcome Trust. Research Councils UK** supports open access <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/access/>

Each research council has its own policy; some councils have made open access deposit a mandatory grant condition. For a summary of funder policies see JULIET: <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/>

What is SHERPA?

The White Rose ePrints Repository was originally created as part of the national SHERPA project. SHERPA - Securing a Hybrid Environment for Research Preservation and Access - was funded by JISC and CURL. The original project concluded in Jan 06. The JISC funded SHERPA-PLUS programme will facilitate the roll out of institutional repositories across the HE sector.

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/>

If you have any questions or would like to upload material to the repository, please contact the White Rose Institutional Repository Officer.

White Rose E-Prints Repository
<http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/>

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