

University of Wollongong

## Research Online

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2012

### "out of the shadows" ..... Strategic development of an institutional repository

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## **"out of the shadows" ..... Strategic development of an institutional repository**

### **Abstract**

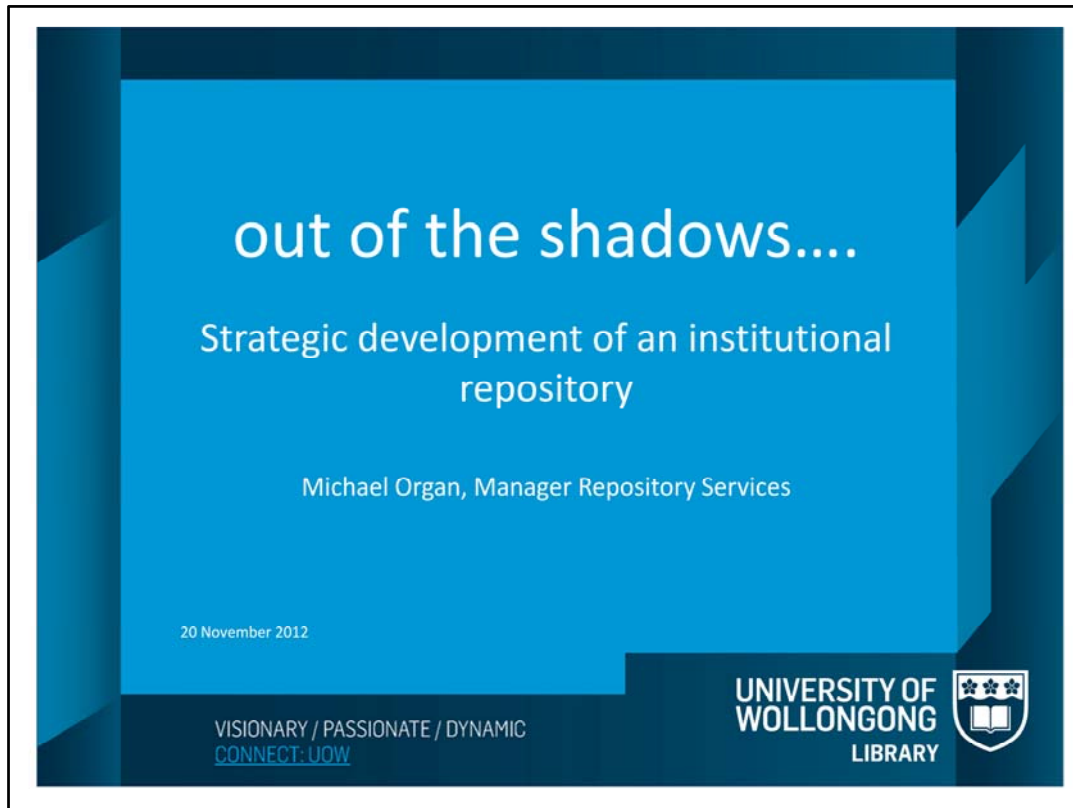
This presentation outlines strategic developments at the University of Wollongong during 2012 which impacted upon the profile and functionality of the open access institutional repository Research Online.

### **Disciplines**

Arts and Humanities | Social and Behavioral Sciences

### **Publication Details**

Michael Organ, "Out of the shadows" .... Strategic development of an institutional repository, Presentation to the CAIRSS Community Days conference, Griffith University, Brisbane, 20 November 2012. [Conference presentation].



Many of us here in this room are aware that **sustainability** of IRs is dependent on a number of factors, including:

- on-campus visibility and support
- system capability and performance, and
- adaptability – of both the IR and those who manage and work with it

Since 2005 our sector has been in a constant state of flux, and during the past 12 months at UOW we have made **significant strategic changes** to the way we manage the open access repository and research publications in general.

We are attempting nothing less than **cultural change**.

A brief summary of our experiences may be useful, for the IR has indeed “come out of the shadows” and further enhanced the Library’s reputation as an integral part of the research management infrastructure @ UOW .

These changes were given a real kick start by the installation of a new VC at the beginning of 2012.

Prof Wellings was onside in regards to the important role played by open access repositories in raising research profiles. He had made significant changes to the IR at the University of Lancaster, UK. His vision for UOW -

**vision**

“Currently UOW is placed in the top 2% of universities world-wide and I want to see us move into the top 1%”

Prof. Paul Wellings, VC, January 2012



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.... Nothing less than moving us into the top 1% of universities world-wide.

A stretch target, but a good one for a medium-sized institution such as the University of Wollongong, with approximately 22,000 students and 2000 staff.

Research was identified as the key to an improved ranking, with the 2013 Strategic Plan identifying: “A research led culture .... Improved research productivity linked to higher citation rates...”


The role of the IR was highlighted as integral to this strategy.


Its utilisation would enhance the visibility and impact of our research publications and helps in achieving an improved ranking.

**direction**

“....by the end of 2012, 60% of UOW research outputs should be available in the institutional repository”

Judy Raper, DVC(Research), February 2012





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DVCR quote.

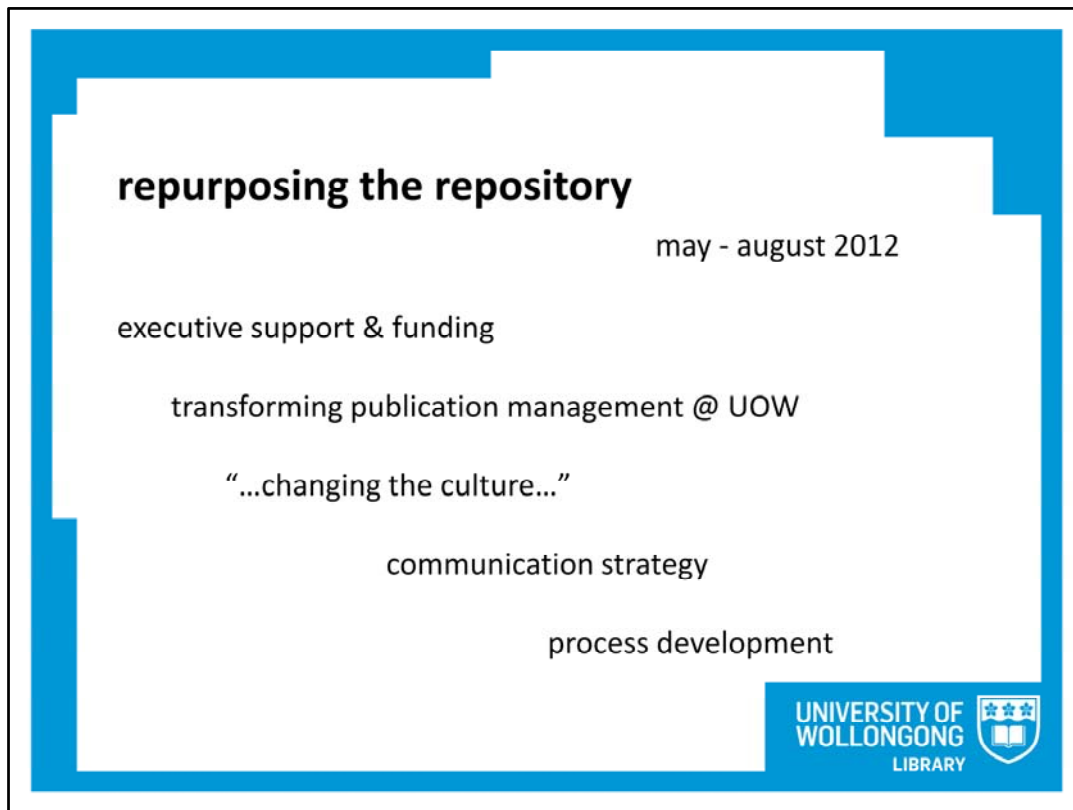
Whilst the repository has been in place since 2006, we only ever had coverage of 10-15% of UOW research outputs.

ERA had focused the Research Office and management on quality, however it was interesting that our new VC was aware research reputation and the role of the repository was not just about quality - **it was also about content.**

With high level support, the Library was able to move forward, and relatively quickly, in repurposing the repository and redesigning publication management across campus.

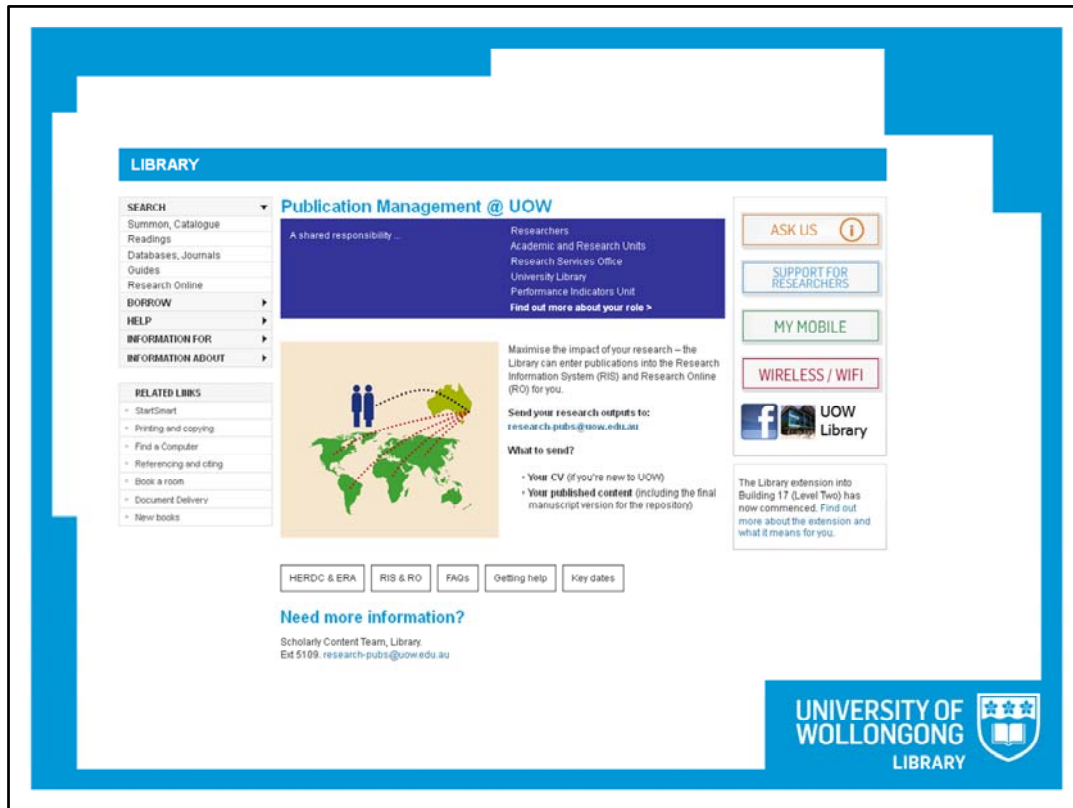
A **Publications Management Working Group** was formed during the latter half of 2011 to liaise with faculty over the management of publications in general viz. HERDC, ERA, RIS and RO. A **Repurposing the Repository** project group was also formed. Together they were able to prepare a basic framework for change.

This was supported in May 2012 by a successful submission to the VC re staffing and adoption of a new campus-wide publication management regime.



By the middle of 2012 we were able to implement significant change because:

- We had executive **support** and **funding** – VC and Deans - for change to publication management @UOW
- We had clear direction for **cultural change** – removing the administrative burden from academics and increasing their exposure to open access
- We had a **communication** strategy – email, Outreach librarians, Library staff, Research Office, face to face, meetings
- We were developing **processes** and procedures



We also had:

- both RIS and the IR upgraded and updated;
- a new **Scholarly Content Team** put in place within the Library;
- a **Publication Management portal** was made available via the Library home page;

## implementation

- **Library ownership** of, and responsibility for, publication management
- Increase in **staff** dedicated to publication management
- Improved **interoperability** between research management system and IR
- Integrated **workloads** within Scholarly Content Team
- UOW publications post 2005 on IR, with associated DOIs and RODA where available
- Faculty collaboration in **sourcing** open access manuscripts
- Implementation of NHMRC / ARC **grant “mandates”**

Significant strategic changes included:

- Library ownership of publication management – to capture more outputs more efficiently
- More staff for this initiative, within the new Scholarly Content Team
- Improved system interoperability
- Enhanced role of the IR on campus
- Proactive stance re post prints
- Preparations for research grant mandates
- Capturing more publications for ERA and HERDC

## Summary

- Lots of talk with faculty, high level support and an implied mandate for implementation of an integrated system



## environmental opportunities

- “I don’t want my conference papers on RO”
- “Why is this paper on RO when I have just paid \$3000 to have it put on open access?”
- “I am giving the journal to Sage”
- “We put an automatic embargo on all our theses”
- “Can you combine all my names please?”



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These changes were also in response to environmental “opportunities” - both internal and external.

For example:

- Effects of ERA and journal rankings
- Pad ‘Gold’ open access programs – confusing our message, creating financial issues
- Publisher push against open access
- Academic copyright issues
- Identity management – ORCID -

**CLOSE**

OVERALL GENERAL POSITIVE REACTION ON CAMPUS TO THE NEW PUBLICATIONS MANAGEMENT REGIME AND USE OF THE REPOSITORY IN IMPROVING OUR RESEARCH PROFILE



Questions?

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