Introduction

The University’s repository, ACQUIRE (www.acquire.cqu.edu.au) was established in 2006 as a joint venture between the Division of Library Services and the Office of Research to capture and store the University’s research output. Since then it has been used to capture and report the University’s annual HERDC research outputs.

In 2007 the ACQUIRE team received a Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in recognition of services to the University community.

We are now tackling the challenges of ERA.

Institutional Overview

CQUniversity Australia is a small regional university based in Rockhampton, Queensland with campuses in Mackay, Emerald, Gladstone and Bundaberg and Brisbane, Gold Coast Sydney and Melbourne. We also have a large cohort of students studying via distance education.

Details regarding the campuses and courses on offer are available at our website - http://www.cqu.edu.au/

The repository is managed by the Division of Library Services in collaboration with the University’s Office of Research and Information Technology Division. ACQUIRE is a digital repository designed to enhance Central Queensland University’s research output by:

- Providing free web access to publications by CQU staff and students, where copyright permits
- Increasing visibility of CQUniversity’s research publications through open access compliant records that can be harvested by major search engines, including Google
- Increasing impact and citation rates of CQUniversity’s research publications
- Facilitating collaboration between researchers by enabling them to easily share data and publications
- Preserving CQUniversity’s research output for the future

The repository was originally branded aCQUIRe - a Central Queensland University Institutional Repository - and it has been formally registered as a University trademark. It was a good idea at the time but the lower case at the start and end of the acronym caused havoc with spell-checkers etc. whenever staff were referring to it in correspondence or other documents. Consequently, earlier this year, we changed the acronym to all caps – ACQUIRE to alleviate this problem.
As part of the establishment process for the repository an Institutional Repository Policy (http://policy.cqu.edu.au/Policy/policy_file.do?policyid=679) was endorsed by the University’s Academic Board.

**HERDC Model**

Submission to the repository for HERDC publications was mandated shortly after the repository’s creation and replaced the print-based submission forms previously used by the Office of Research.

At this stage print copies of publications can still be forwarded to the Office for verification but we are planning to mandate the submission of electronic version in the near future.

There are 3 review stages within the submission process where various staff in the Library and Office of Research check, amend and add information as required before the researcher(s) submission is added to the repository. These stages are as follows:

- **ACQUIRE Eligibility Review** where Liaison Librarians are allocated their discipline-specific submissions to validate that the research publication submitted is
  - eligible according to the policy and
  - check the auto-created citation
- **Office of Research Review** where the HERDC eligibility of the publication is assessed and verified by staff in this area.
- **Copyright Review** where, as its name suggests, the publication’s copyright status in regards to whether it can be publicly displayed is assessed using OAKList; sherpa, publisher web sites etc. and requests are made of publishers as required.

**Outreach, Marketing and Faculty Engagement**

We have just adopted the ‘NISO-RP-8-2008 - Journal Article Versions (JAV): Recommendations of the NISO/ALPSP JAV Technical Working Group, April 2008’ as a way of reducing the confusion surrounding the terminology of pre-prints and post-prints. The recommended terminology of Author’s Original (or AO) = preprint; Accepted Manuscript (or AM) = postprint and Version of Record (or VoR) = publisher's pdf or publisher's HTML or publisher's XML, should go a little way towards making submitting into the repository less complex for researchers and librarians alike.

In conjunction with the Office of Research, our Research Liaison Librarians regularly conduct HERDC information and drop-in sessions for academic staff to help them with their submissions. At this stage we are still waiting for statistics to be fully and reliably enabled so that researchers can start seeing the fuller benefit of having their research output in ACQUIRE.

Liaison Librarians also promotes the repository to new and current academic staff during their Faculty / School visits and at relevant meetings and forums.

The repository has also been actively promoted by several University hosted conferences and authors advised that their papers will be submitted to the repository as a condition of acceptance.

We are also marketing ACQUIRE with branded USB sticks and stress balls.
Relationships with Research Management Systems and other systems

Since 2006 the reporting functionality of the Library’s Information Management System (LIMS) has been utilized to form the basis of the University’s HERDC submission to DEST / DIISR.

The University has recently purchased ResearchMaster and the Office of Research is progressively implementing the various modules.

It is on our agenda to develop other interfaces to the repository such as output to personal web pages, CV creation, bibliographies and social networking tools, but the impact of ERA has meant that these are on the backburner for the time being.

Research Assessment and Reporting

As mentioned above the repository data has formed the foundation of the University’s HERDC report since 2006.

As mentioned before the lack or accurate statistics is a barrier to progressing with research assessment and reporting on a wider scale.

Technical Environment and Information Technology strategies - Platforms/Architectures

- We are using VTLS’ Vital (repository) and Vital (online submission) software solutions and were a member of the ARROW consortia.
- We are using the expertise of existing cataloguing staff and the cataloguing module of the Library’s Information Management System (LIMS) for metadata cleansing, author authority control and the addition of at least one LCSH heading.
- Once submitted, the MARCXML datastream created in the repository is extracted, converted to MARC and imported to the Library’s cataloguing module for the abovementioned functions.
- Once completed, the MARC record is saved to the catalogue so the information for all the University’s research publications is available when staff and students search for resources. The catalogue records have a hyperlink to the repository where access is then available to the full text (copyright permitting). Our link resolver provides access options for journal articles nor publicly available.
- A copy of the final marc record is then also extracted, converted to MARCXML, loaded back in to the repository and the Dublin Core regenerated to reflect the changes made to the data in the catalogue.
- ACQUIRE is being harvested by the ARROW Discovery Service (http://search.arrow.edu.au/).

Sustainability

At this stage we are still in project mode with the majority of staff funded from the University’s ASHER grant. This year we are concentrating on ensuring that all the necessary research publications are in the repository to support the University’s ERA 2009 trial and 2010 submissions.
The project implementation of the repository and associated government initiatives (RQF and now ERA) are managed through an ACQUIRE Working Party which encompasses representatives from the Library, Office of Research and Information Technology Division.

With our strategy to use the catalogue for the storage and maintenance of our data, we would rate the quality of our metadata as excellent. Our main issue at the moment, is keeping the data between the catalogue and the repository synchronised.

The ratio of Open Access full text versus hidden repository content is about 50/50 and this basically revolves around copyright and the fact that researchers, at this stage, very rarely keep their manuscript versions once published.

Lessons learned and Future Plans

What is next?

- 1-2 years
  - Capturing and describing creative works for ERA.
  - Data synchronization
  - Researcher engagement and acceptance through accurate statistics, author pages etc.
  - Links to/with ResearchMaster.
  - Revisiting our software solution - in-house solution versus hosted solution

- Long-term
  - Increased depositing of research outputs as a result of government research grant mandates.
  - Increased acceptance by academics and recognition of open access benefits
  - Increased full-text availability of author(s) manuscript versions.

What has been easy to solve?

- As the whole process has been, and continues to be, such a steep learning curve for everyone involved I’m not sure we can say anything has been easy to solve. We have done the best we can at the time and are therefore continually revisiting decisions made as our knowledge increases and the developments surrounding repositories continue to evolve.

What has been difficult to solve?

- Academic engagement and recognition of repository and open access benefits
- Non-availability of author manuscripts.

- What advice would you give others?
  - Make sure you have a strong relationship with your Research Office
  - Ensure you have good IT support.
  - Identify and utilise key research champions to populate and promote the repository.
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8th April, 2009