

Dear reader,

In May the COAR Annual Meeting took place in conjunction with the OpenAIRE-COAR conference “Open Access: Movement to Reality – Putting the Pieces together”. This news digest will give a summarized report of “Breakfast Club Meetings” in Athens, in which COAR Working and Interest Groups presented their work. Please find here a [detailed report on the conference](#).

WG1: Repository Content

Interest Group Repository Impact and Visibility

Silvia Nakano (MinCyT, Argentina) and Wouter Schallier (ECLAC), chairs of the Interest Group (IG), moderated the discussion. Several institutes have been investing a lot in increasing the impact and visibility of their repositories. Strategies include: increasing the amount of full text, adopting internet friendly metadata standards, enriching metadata schemes (ORCID standard for authors, unique identifiers for funders/institutions, implementing DOI for citation etc.), linking repository content with data repositories (allowing citation both ways), marketing of repository content through social media and other communication channels.



Photo 1: Discussion during the workshop

Participants emphasized the value for repository managers in learning new techniques to increase the visibility of content and authors; and how to make the repository more attractive for researchers,

adding value and benefits to the collections. Concerns about the evaluation and measurement of use and impact of the repositories were discussed. Statistics’ modules, the rapid identification of open access materials, the standards for homogeneously identification of authors, institutions, projects and funders are all factors that will help with demonstrating the impact and value of repositories.

Read the full report [here](#).

WG2: Repository Interoperability

Interest Group Usage Data and Beyond

Daniel Beucke (UGOE, Germany) presented the results and the further work of the Interest Group “Usage Data and Beyond”. The participants had a wide-ranging discussion about standardised usage data for repositories and noted that there was a huge demand for international solutions.

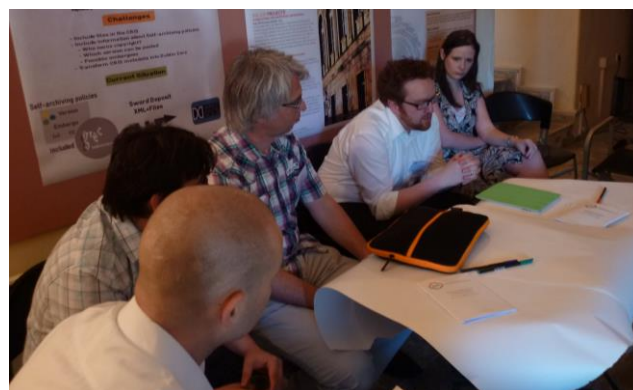


Photo 2: Daniel with the participants of his breakout group

Daniel reported on the IRUS-UK project, which now includes more than 60 repositories, and the first steps of OA-Statistics to build an infrastructure for Germany. The idea of a COAR webinar was positively received and the first webinar will be planned for autumn.

Interest Group Controlled Vocabularies for Research Output

The main focus of the group is the maintenance and evolution of the “info:eu-repo” encodings and terms for improved bibliographic metadata interoperability (e.g. for publication type, version type, classification schemes, date, access level, project funder and grant

information). The brainstorming of participants led to some answers to questions like what kind of vocabularies can be shared among literature & data repositories and CRIS systems and what tools are available to create and validate controlled vocabularies. A brief summary of the findings will be presented at the IG website.



Photo 3: IG "Controlled Vocabularies"

COAR Interoperability Roadmap

Friedrich Summann, who is leading the project, began with a presentation of the current status of the COAR Interoperability Roadmap. The introduction explained the process whereby a group of experts were consulted in order to identify priorities for interoperability. After a short introduction, participants had an intense discussion about the list of interoperability issues and the key fields of activity and the expected results. Participants underscored the importance of connecting repositories with each other to ensure they are not silos. Another major point was the essential role of general identifiers for authors, institutions and funding organizations as well as vocabularies and taxonomies in achieving interoperability. It was emphasized that repositories must make an effort to be interoperable with other academic institutional systems such as CRIS's and virtual research environments (VRE). Concrete experiences were shared amongst participants, and current deficits and chances of improvement for better cooperation of these systems.

WG3: Repository and Repository Network Support and Training



Photo 4: Iryna Kuchma reports about the Task Force "Librarian Competencies"

Iryna Kuchma, chair of the joint Task Force on librarians' competencies, shared with participants the objectives and outputs of the Task Force (TF) to date. Participants agreed that new services, such as research data and repository management require new skills from librarians. It was discussed that these service areas often require include competencies in software development, marketing, copyright and metadata. These skills do not often come in a single employee and therefore many new services for libraries must take a team approach.

For further information, please visit

<http://www.coar-repositories.org>

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