OPEN ACCESS INIATIATIVES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, By Roseman Otando

Open Access (OA)

Making resources freely available to researchers globally for development

"Denotes free access to scholarly literature/knowledge

"No charge to the user



http://www.google.co.ke/imgres?q=open+access+pictures



Benefits of Open Access?



Equity of Access to Knowledge

Increased Readership Expanded opportunities for teaching and learning

Increased Citation

Maximum Visibility Better Return on Research Funding

moting Open Access at the University of National Initiatives

Green Road – Spearheaded by the University of Nairobi Library

- * Development of Digital Repository to capture local content including College of Agriculture & Veterinary sciences (CAVs) content that includes agricultural theses & dissertations, conference proceedings etc http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/
- * Development of Open Access Policy and Implementation of the policy

Gold Road -

- Journals and conference proceedings Open Access e.g IBIMA publishing, School of Business
- * Development of Open Journal System (OJS) – CBPS
- Publishing in Open Access
 Journals e.g DOAJ,



Premoting Open Access Initiatives at UoN: Activities

local content that is form-outsourcing

- Works with scholars to avail their research papers to be uploaded on UoN IR
- * Sensitize stakeholders to increase adoption rate
- * Initiate & educate researchers on OA publishing platforms & options e.g. OJS
- Participating in OA week & exhibitions
- * Enhancing IL program to incorporate OA courses
- * Budget allocation for OA Initiatives

- Library working with UoNACT to develop infrastructure and staff skills
- Entrenching OA in UON and Library strategic plan
- * University and Library annual performance contract incorporates OA initiatives
- * Increased collaboration globally to enhance sharing information
- * Identify staff & students to form an effective frontline outreach team for OA
- * Use of social media YouTube
- * Promote OA on UoN Website, Library home page & promotional materials, publications & newsletters

Handling OA INITIATIVES IN UON

Workflow

Green Road

- Identifying Institutional
 Content,
 gathering/collecting,
 scanning, indexing and
 uploading to the
 University Institutional
 Digital Repository for
 preservation for posterity
- * Gold Road
 - Publishing in OA journals

Policy Issues

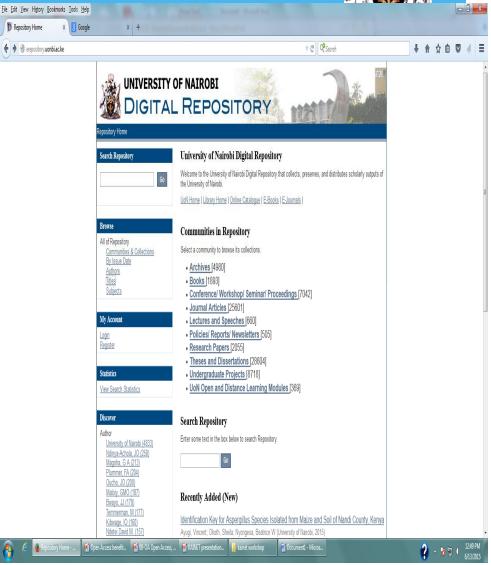
- Vice Chancellor in 2012 mandatory for UoN
 stakeholders to deposit their
 research in UoN repository
- * UoN Plagiarism Policy approved in 2013
- Implementation of the policies are on course

Current Updates for UoN IR

D Repository Home

Over 80,000 docs covering;

- Archives [4935]
- **Books** [1892]
- **Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/** Proceedings [7042]
- Journal Articles [25592]
- **Lectures and Speeches** [659]
- **Policies/ Reports/ Newsletters** 504
- Research Papers [2055]
- **Theses and Dissertations** [28604]
- **Undergraduate Projects** [8718]
- **UoN Open and Distance Learning** Modules 36
- Increase of hits/searches on IR -2,784,595 hence enhancing UoN visibility





Challenges



- Infrastructure and facilities in place
- Lack of awareness and understanding of the concept – OA Sensitization
- * Acquiring content can be difficult
- * Fear of exposure of the intellectual work rated globally may affect support from researchers and supervisors
- * Involving top level management Lack of high level management support though UoN management has fully supported OA initiatives
- * Finance/funding and sustainability of the project can be demanding budget allocation for OA initiatives

Challenges





- Bureaucracy in Procurement of ICT/IR equipment slows adoption of the concept
- * Plagiarism challenges and cost of detection software
- Populating IR & publishing in OA journals Researchers resistant to OA concept
- Possessiveness of institutions to their output

- * Low ICT skills and other staffing issues
- Copyright and intellectual property rights issues
- * OA policies established but there are challenges in implementation of the policy
- Lack of prioritizing IR in library activities – now incorporated in strategic plan and PC

Suggestions/Recommendations



- * Library to take up and spearhead the OA initiatives
- Support from top management required
- * Institute required infrastructure book scanners, indexing software, upgrading IR system etc, to enhance full text
- * Due to more audience there is need to enhance training and sensitization of the OA concept
- * Participate in OA global and regional activities

Conclusion



- * Success of OA Initiatives depends on commitment by all parties in institutions administrators, researchers, librarians, users, ICT support, publishers
- Sensitization/advocacy required
- Capacity building/training
- Instituting required infrastructure
- * Share Information key to achieving goals and improving outcomes and development

OPEN ACCESS WEEK 19TH – 25TH OCTOBER 2015 THEME: OPEN FOR COLLABORATION www.openaccessweek.org