

# Open Access

*A case study in ICT4D*

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*April 2009*



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# Open Access?



# Research Discovery 1/3



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# Research Discovery 2/3

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## Digital Libraries

Fox, Edward A., Hussein Suleman, Devika Madalli and Lillian Cassel (2003) *Digital Libraries*, in *Practical Handbook of Internet Computing*. CRC Press.

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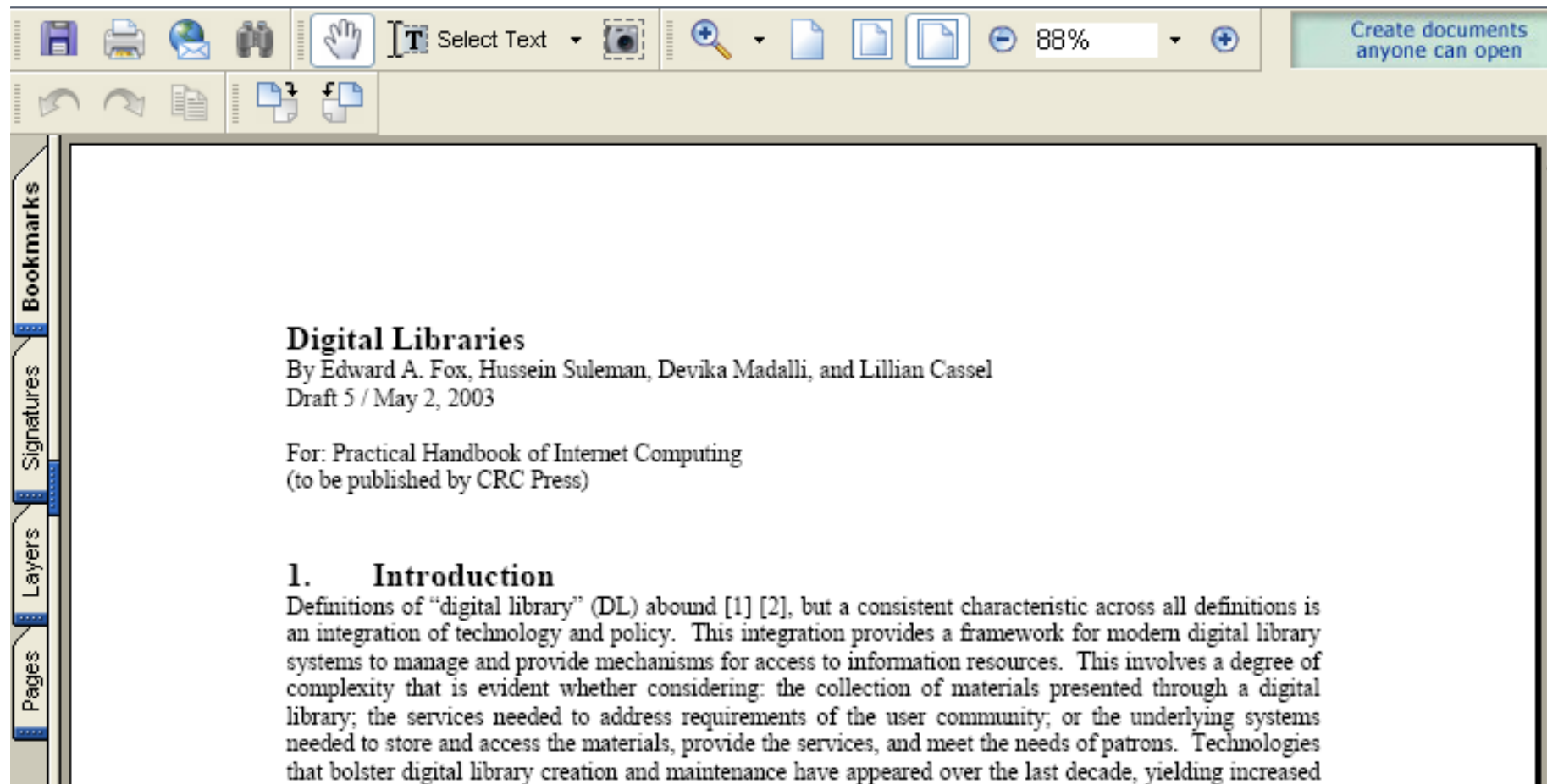
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# Research Discovery 3/3



The screenshot shows a PDF viewer interface. The top toolbar includes icons for save, print, email, zoom, and navigation. The document content is as follows:

**Digital Libraries**  
By Edward A. Fox, Hussein Suleman, Devika Madalli, and Lillian Cassel  
Draft 5 / May 2, 2003

For: Practical Handbook of Internet Computing  
(to be published by CRC Press)

**1. Introduction**  
Definitions of “digital library” (DL) abound [1] [2], but a consistent characteristic across all definitions is an integration of technology and policy. This integration provides a framework for modern digital library systems to manage and provide mechanisms for access to information resources. This involves a degree of complexity that is evident whether considering: the collection of materials presented through a digital library; the services needed to address requirements of the user community; or the underlying systems needed to store and access the materials, provide the services, and meet the needs of patrons. Technologies that bolster digital library creation and maintenance have appeared over the last decade, yielding increased



# Open Access?

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  - Kritzinger, Pieter, Marshini Chetty, Jesse Landman, Michael Marconi and Oksana Ryndina (2003) ChattaBox: A Case Study in Using UML and SDL for Engineering Concurrent Communicating Software Systems. In Proceedings Southern African Telecommunications Networks and Applications Conference, George, South Africa.



# Open Access

- Principle of unrestricted access to information.



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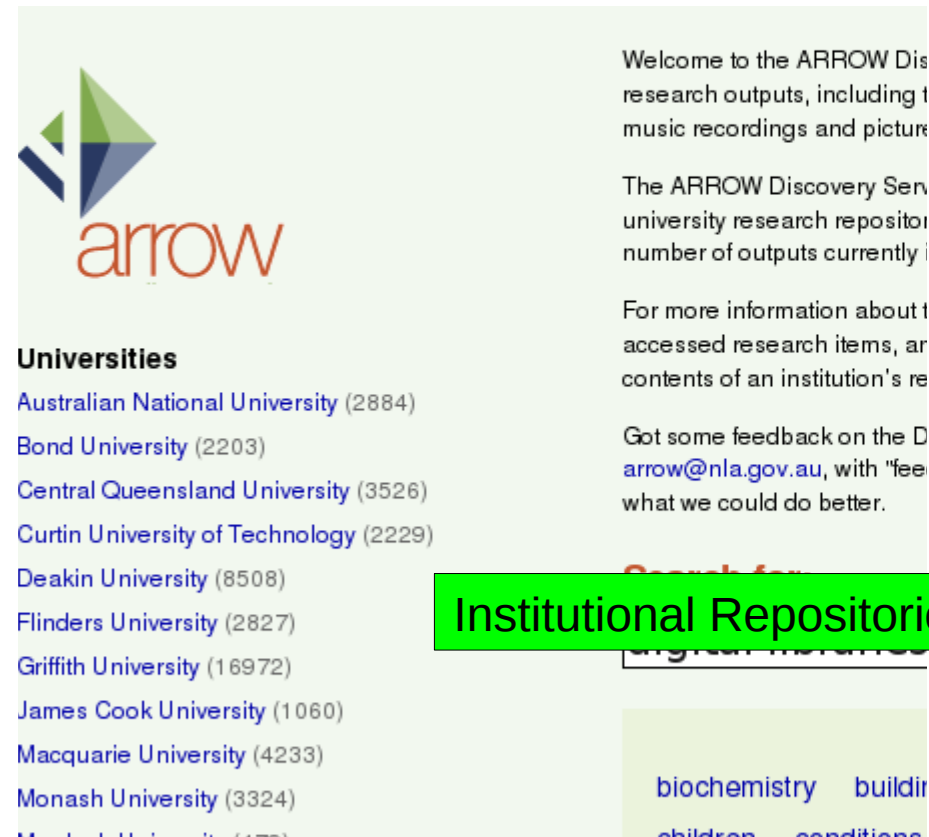
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Institutional Repositories



# Movements?

Worldwide and SA





# Budapest Open Access Initiative

## Budapest Open Access Initiative

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### Budapest Open Access Initiative

An old tradition and a new technology have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good. The old tradition is the willingness of scientists and scholars to publish the fruits of their research in scholarly journals without payment, for the sake of inquiry and knowledge. The new technology is the internet. The public good they make possible is the world-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal literature and completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds. Removing access barriers to this literature will accelerate research, enrich education, share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich, make this literature as useful as it can be, and lay the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation and quest for knowledge.

For various reasons, this kind of free and unrestricted online availability, which we will call **open access**, has so far been limited to small portions of the journal literature. But even in these limited collections, many different initiatives have shown that open access is economically feasible, that it gives readers extraordinary power to find and make use of relevant literature, and that it gives authors and their works **vast and measurable** new **visibility, readership, and impact**. To secure these benefits for all, we call on all interested institutions and individuals to help open up access to the rest of this literature and remove the barriers, especially the price barriers, that stand in the way. The more who join the effort to advance this cause, the sooner we will all enjoy the benefits of open access.

The literature that should be freely accessible online is that which scholars give to the world without expectation of payment. Primarily, this category encompasses their peer-reviewed journal articles, but it also includes any unreviewed preprints that they might wish to put online for comment or to alert colleagues to important research findings. There are many degrees and



# Cape Town Open Education Declaration

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### Read the Declaration

#### Cape Town Open Education Declaration: Unlocking the promise of open educational resources

We are on the cusp of a global revolution in teaching and learning. Educators worldwide are developing a vast pool of educational resources on the Internet, open and free for all to use. These educators are creating a world where each and every person on earth can access and contribute to the sum of all human knowledge. They are also planting the seeds of a new pedagogy where educators and learners create, shape and evolve knowledge together, deepening their skills and understanding as they go.

This emerging open education movement combines the established tradition of sharing good ideas with fellow educators and the collaborative, interactive culture of the Internet. It is built on the belief that everyone should have the freedom to use, customize, improve and redistribute educational resources without constraint. Educators, learners and others who share this belief are gathering together as part of a worldwide effort to make education both more accessible and more effective.

The expanding global collection of open educational resources has created fertile ground for this effort. These resources include openly licensed course materials, lesson plans, textbooks, games, software and other materials that support teaching and learning. They contribute to making education more accessible, especially where money for learning materials is scarce. They also nourish the kind of participatory



# International ETD Movement (700k+)

OCLC ONLINE COMPUTER LIBRARY CENTER

A Project of OCLC Research

XTCat NDLTD  
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```
responseDate 2007-11-04T13:20:01Z
request http://alcme.oclc.org/ndltd/servlet/OAIHandler?verb=ListSets
```

## ListSets

setSpec	setName	DC record count
<a href="#">ADTP</a>	Australasian Digital Theses Program	30853
<a href="#">AUCKLAND</a>	University of Auckland	375
<a href="#">BGMJU</a>	Brigham Young University Theses	910
<a href="#">BICBF</a>	Bibliothèque interuniversitaire de la Communauté française de Belgique	880
<a href="#">CALTECH</a>	California Institute of Technology	3776
<a href="#">CCSD</a>	CCSD theses-EN-ligne, France	7936
<a href="#">CRANFIELD</a>	Cranfield University	109



# MIT – 20 March 2009

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## MIT faculty open access to their scholarly articles

March 20, 2009



CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 20 - In a move aimed at broadening access to MIT's research and scholarship, faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have voted to make their scholarly articles available to the public for free and open access on the Web.

The new policy, which was approved unanimously at an MIT faculty meeting on Wednesday, March 18 and took immediate effect, emphasizes MIT's commitment to disseminating the fruits of its research and scholarship as widely as possible.

"The vote is a signal to the world that we speak in a unified voice; that what we value is the free flow of ideas," said Bish Sanyal, chair of the MIT Faculty and the Ford International Professor of Urban Development and Planning.

Under the new policy, faculty authors give MIT nonexclusive permission to disseminate their journal articles for open access through DSpace, an open-source software platform developed by the MIT Libraries and Hewlett Packard and launched in 2002. The policy gives MIT and its faculty the right to use and share the articles for any purpose other than to

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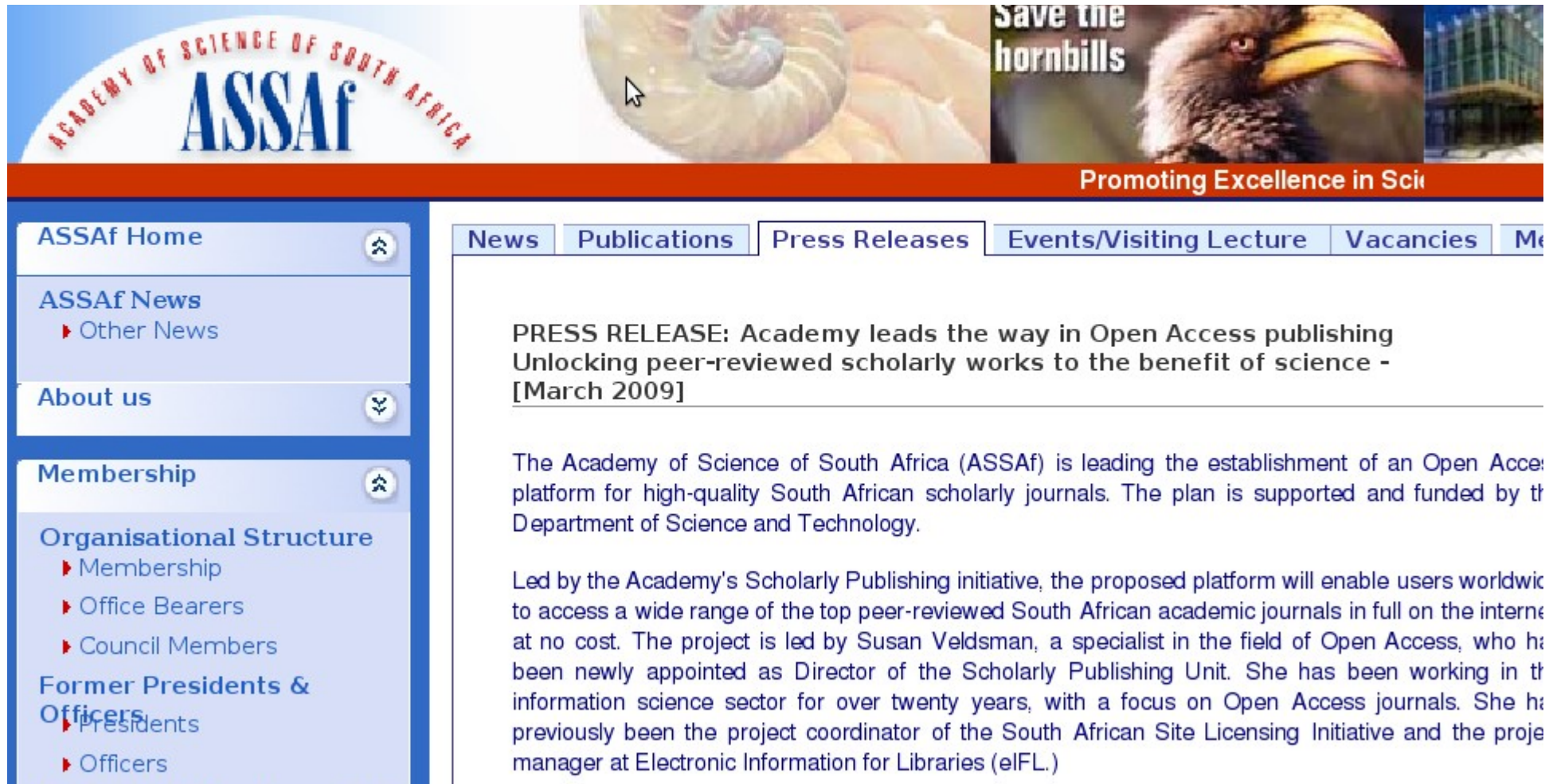
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**PRESS RELEASE: Academy leads the way in Open Access publishing**  
Unlocking peer-reviewed scholarly works to the benefit of science -  
[March 2009]

The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) is leading the establishment of an Open Access platform for high-quality South African scholarly journals. The plan is supported and funded by the Department of Science and Technology.

Led by the Academy's Scholarly Publishing initiative, the proposed platform will enable users worldwide to access a wide range of the top peer-reviewed South African academic journals in full on the internet at no cost. The project is led by Susan Veldsman, a specialist in the field of Open Access, who has been newly appointed as Director of the Scholarly Publishing Unit. She has been working in the information science sector for over twenty years, with a focus on Open Access journals. She has previously been the project coordinator of the South African Site Licensing Initiative and the project manager at Electronic Information for Libraries (eIFL.)

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# South African National ETD Project

- Collaboration between CHELSA and NRF
- Aims to get every tertiary institution to archive theses in near future.
- National portal for discovery of ETDs.
- Many institutions already have repositories:
  - Rhodes, Wits, Pretoria, SUN, UWC, DUT, Free State, UJ, UNISA, UNW
- NRF is supporting some institutions without capacity in the short term.
  - Fort Hare, Venda, MEDUNSA



# South African Repositories

Repository name	Country	Num. Recs.	Pubs	Confs	Theses	Unpub	Other	Base URL	Software
<a href="#">African Higher Education Research Online</a>	South Africa	165	+	+	+	+	+	<a href="#">OAI</a>	[Unknown]
<a href="#">Boloka: Research Repository North-West University</a>	South Africa	1391			+			<a href="#">OAI</a>	DSpace
<a href="#">CSIR Research Space</a>	South Africa	821		+				<a href="#">OAI</a>	DSpace
<a href="#">DUT IR</a>	South Africa	248			+				DSpace
<a href="#">Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Database</a>	South Africa	846			+				ETD-db
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## University of Cape Town Lawspace

Welcome to UCT Lawspace - A Digital Repository of research done in the Law Faculty at the University of Cape Town! For questions regarding the Constitutional Assembly Database, please contact the Constitutional Court Library (Simphiwe Yako).

This Repository is managed by Tobias Schonwetter (PhD candidate, Department of Commercial Law) and administered by Sue Wright.

The individual authors hold the copyright in the works on the Repository. In the interests of education and research the managers of the Repository support a broad and user-orientated interpretation of the South African fair dealing provisions. The managers encourage authors and copyright-holders to submit work to the Repository under the [Creative Commons South Africa License](#).

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- ☑ Author self-submission
- ☑ Checking of submissions
- ☑ Archive-everything!
- ☑ UCT-CS-specific metadata and classification systems
- ☑ Hierarchical browsing
- ☑ Simple and fielded searching
- ☑ OAI-PMH compliance



# Why we have a repository

- ❑ It was faster than simply waiting for UCT!
- ❑ CS departments internationally archive technical reports (NCSTRL).
- ❑ Research websites don't last long (enough).
- ❑ UCT doesn't have an electronic thesis project yet.
- ❑ We need to improve ACCESS to our work.
- ❑ We need to preserve our research output.
- ❑ Bureaucracy (UCT, NRF, DoE, etc.) requires tracking publications.
- ❑ We (think we) know what we are doing.



# What we archive

- ❑ Books and Book Chapters
- ❑ Conference Paper and Posters
- ❑ Journals (online and paginated)
- ❑ Newspaper and Magazine Articles
- ❑ Preprints
- ❑ Presentation Slides
- ❑ Conference Proceedings
- ❑ Departmental Technical Reports
- ❑ Electronic Theses and Dissertations
- ❑ Other Stuff ...



# What did it take?

- ❑ Hardware: a server somewhere
- ❑ Software: Open Source tools
- ❑ Ongoing support: very little
- ❑ Filling the archive: some persuasion, some convincing, official status
- ❑ Copyright concerns: answering questions (RoMEO)



# Departmental Research Overview

2004

## Conference Paper

1. [Arnab, Alapan and Andrew CM Hutchison \(2004\) Digital Rights Management - An Overview of current challenges and solutions. In Venter, HS, JHP Eloff, L Labuschagne and MM Eloff, Eds. \*Proceedings Information Security South Africa \(ISSA\)\*, Gallagher Estate, Midrand, South Africa.](#)

## Conference Poster

1. [Landman, Jesse and Pieter Kritzinger \(2004\) DS-CDMA Fading Channels with Bursty IP Traffic Arrivals. In \*Proceedings WiOpt 2004\*, Cambridge, England.](#)

## Departmental Technical Report

1. [Arnab, Alapan and Andrew Hutchison \(2004\) Digital Rights Management - A current review. Technical Report CS04-04-00, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town.](#)
2. [de Wet, Nico Dirk and Pieter S. Kritzinger \(2004\) Model-Based EIS Performability Analysis. Technical Report CS04-01-00, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town.](#)
3. [Perumal, Sameshan and Pieter Kritzinger \(2004\) A Tutorial on RAID Storage Systems. Technical Report CS04-05-00, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town.](#)
4. [Ryndina, Oksana and Pieter Kritzinger \(2004\) Improving Requirements Specification: Verification of Use Case Models with Susan. Technical Report CS04-06-00, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town.](#)

## Electronic Thesis or Dissertation



# Subgroup Research Overview

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## Laboratory: Collaborative Visual Computing

2007

### Conference Paper

1. [Blake, Edwin, David Nunez and Bertus Labuschagne \(2007\) Longitudinal Effects on Presence Suspension of Disbelief or Distrust of Naive Belief\(2007\)](#). In Moreno, Laura, Eds. *Proceedings PRESENCE 2007 The 10th Annual International Workshop on Presence*, pages 291-295, Barcelona, Spain.
2. [Labuschagne, Bertus, David Nunez and Edwin Blake \(2007\) Presence predicts false memories of virtual environment content](#). In Moreno, Laura, Eds. *Proceedings PRESENCE 2007 The 10th Annual International Workshop on Presence*, pages 297-301, Barcelona, Spain.

### Journal (Paginated)

1. [Marais, Patrick and James Gain \(2007\) High fidelity compression of irregularly sampled height-fields](#). *South African Computer Journal* 38:40-50.
2. [Marais, Patrick, James Gain and Dave Shreiner \(2007\) Distance-Ranked Connectivity Compression of Triangle Meshes](#) Computer. *Computer Graphics Forum (earlyOnline)*.

### Other

1. [Maunder, Andrew, Gary Marsden and Richard Harper \(2007\) Shoot and Carry](#).





# Summary of Statistics

- ❑ The archive is regularly and aggressively indexed by search services.
- ❑ The vast majority of access to resources comes from outside UCT.
- ❑ Most users find their way to resources through Google and other search engines.
- ❑ Most resources are used in most months – by both crawlers/harvesters and end users.
- ❑ Access appears to be dictated by content, and not age of resources.
- ❑ While many downloads are successful immediately, larger files result in more partial downloads.



OA4D?



# Open Access in Africa

## ▣ Archives in:

- Sudan
- Egypt
- Algeria
- Nigeria
- Namibia
- Botswana
- Uganda
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Zimbabwe
- ...



# Why OA in Africa?

- Why African archives?
  - Why do Africans get more excited about OA?
  
- Is this not giving away the Intellectual Property of the continent for free?
  
- What percentage of IP comes in vs. goes out?
  
- How important is reputation?



# Arguments against OA4D?



# Arguments against OA4D

- ❑ Expose our poor quality research/teaching
- ❑ More work, and fewer resources anyway
- ❑ Open Access is not proven beyond a doubt to be better
- ❑ Paper will last longer!
- ❑ Not everyone is doing it



# Arguments for OA4D?



# Arguments for OA4D

- Increase visibility of research/teaching
- Establish and Maintain reputation
- Link into national / international networks
- Create stronger culture of publication
- Maintain access to published works
- Preserve research/teaching material
- Training resource for new students/educators
- Share with local/global community





# OA Strategies

- Research Office = driver for research archives
- Library+ICTS = service provider
- Academics+students = customer/audience
  
- Every project needs a **champion**.
  
- Guides to successful ETD and OA projects are freely available online.
  - Avoid the empty archive phenomenon.



# Other Forms of Open Access?



# Discussion...



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