Comparing and Contrasting Medical Institutional Repositories with Other Academic IRs: Results of Two Research Studies

Lisa A. Palmer, MLS, AHIP 1; Daniel G. Kipnis, MSI 2; Judy Luther 3

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INTRODUCTION

This poster presents findings from two 2017-2018 research studies about institutional repositories (IRs): one surveying members of the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL), and the other published by CHOICE, an open survey with primary responses from academic libraries.

The poster compares and contrasts several findings, including:

- Are academic medical institutional repositories utilizing different software platforms than other academic IRs?

RESULTS

Software platforms

Platform migration plans

SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS

Software platforms

- Digital Commons (bepress) and DSpace are the two most prominent software platforms in use for both medical (14/35 and 16/35, respectively) and non-medical IRs (80/139 and 36/139)
- CONTENTdm is a popular platform for non-medical IRs (37/139)
- Other platforms are far behind in terms of market share

Platform migration plans

METHODOLOGY

AAHSL Survey

- 21-question online survey sent to AAHSL libraries for library administrators of 153 member institutions (academic medical libraries)
- Conducted December 2017-January 2018
- 63 responses (41.2% response rate)
- 50 responses usable for analysis
- 35 of these respondents had IRs

CHOICE Survey

YOUR TURN!

We would like to hear from you:
1. Which institutional repository platform(s) are currently used at your institution?
2. Do you have plans to migrate?

Take our Survey!!

Acknowledgments

The authors acknowledge the contributions of the following:
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The poster compares and contrasts several findings, including:

- Are academic medical institutional repositories utilizing different software platforms than other academic IRs?
- In this complex scholarly communication environment, are IR managers considering plans to migrate to new platforms?
- Are academic medical IRs staffed differently than other academic IRs?

This exploration of findings from the two surveys captures a current snapshot of the repository landscape.
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CHOICE Survey

- 15-question online open survey posted to several listservs including Scholcomm and Liblicense
- Conducted December 2017
- 151 responses usable for analysis
- 123 responses (81%) are academic institutions in North America

The Comparison

- Eliminated responses from 5 medical schools from the CHOICE survey
- 146 non-medical CHOICE respondents vs. 35 medical AAHSL respondents

Read the CHOICE survey white paper!

(https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1071&context=scholcom)
RESULTS

Software platforms

Platform migration plans
Repository staffing
IR Full-time Staffing Comparison

Number of Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Full-time Employees</th>
<th>AAHSL Respondents (total respondents: 35)</th>
<th>CHOICE Respondents (total respondents: 130)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Platform migration plans

- 28.6% (10/35) of medical IRs reported plans to migrate to a new platform in the next 1-5 years, compared to 23.9% (27/113) of non-medical IRs
- Many institutions are closely monitoring developments in this area and are exploring their options

Repository staffing

- The majority of IRs are managed by 1 or fewer full-time employees (44.6%, 58/130 for non-medical and 60%, 21/35 for medical IRs)
- Very few institutions have a staff of 4 or more full-time employees managing the IR (3.1%, 4/130 for non-medical and 14%, 5/35 for medical IRs)
- The second most popular staffing model is 1.5 - 2 full-time employees managing an IR (32.3%, 42/130 for non-medical and 14%, 5/35 for medical IRs)

Conclusions

- Bepress, CONTENTdm and DSpace are the 3 most popular software platforms for academic IRs
- About a quarter of institutions with IRs plan to migrate to a different IR platform within 5 years
- The majority of IRs are managed by 1/2 - 1 employee
- The academic medical IR has much in common with that of non-medical academic IRs
- Large academic institutions often have more than one IR
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2. Do you have plans to migrate?

Take our Survey!! ([https://goo.gl/forms/gsy2nrDXokMQ5Dcy2](https://goo.gl/forms/gsy2nrDXokMQ5Dcy2))

Acknowledgments

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DISCLOSURES

No disclosures.
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ABSTRACT

This poster presents findings from two research studies about institutional repositories (IRs): one survey to members of the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries, and the other an open survey with primary responses from academic libraries in North America. The poster compares and contrasts several findings, including: Are academic medical institutional repositories utilizing different software platforms than other academic IRs? Are academic medical IRs staffed differently than other academic IRs? In this complex scholarly communication environment, are IR managers considering plans to migrate to new platforms? This poster explores findings from the two surveys to help capture a current snapshot of the repository landscape. This will be a “poster conversation” where we will engage attendees about the repositories at their own institutions and give them an opportunity for meaningful discussion.
REFERENCES

- A manuscript reporting the findings from the survey of AAHSL institutions has been submitted for publication and is currently under revision.