Institutional Repositories on IU campuses

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Institutional repositories at Indiana University take several names, forms, and purposes. We thought it might be a good idea to look at the different institutional repositories available on the IU campuses currently, and to hear from the people who work behind the scenes to ensure that IU research is documented, preserved and made available to the world.

Opus: Research & Creativity at IPFW
http://opus.ipfw.edu

IPFW's institutional repository, Opus: Research & Creativity at IPFW, was launched in 2010. As a collaborative effort between the Office of Academic Affairs, Office of Research and External Support, and the Helmke Library, Opus is aimed at raising IPFW's national profile through open access to the academic and creative accomplishments of IPFW faculty and students. It also provides a centralized system for the IPFW community to manage and preserve digital scholarship in its many formats.

Opus is hosted on Bepress' Digital Commons platform and contains more than 3,700 items at present. Faculty members have the option of also creating a profile on Bepress' SelectedWorks to highlight their accomplishments. Opus is unique from other institutional repositories in that it is both a repository and a service to collect, organize, store, and share the scholarly and creative output of IPFW. While faculty and staff are required to submit bibliographic information on their accomplishments, they do not have to upload the full text. Currently, Opus contains scholarly and creative work published, presented, performed, or displayed by IPFW faculty and staff, as well as online journals produced at IPFW, selected student projects, master's theses, and major reports from university administration.

IUScholarWorks
http://scholarworks.iu.edu/

Year Started: 2006
Number of contributions: over 9,000 to date
Software used: DSpace (repository and data curation); OJS (journals)

IUScholarWorks is a suite of services that allows for the dissemination and preservation of research at Indiana University. It serves the traditional function of an institutional repository, in which articles, working papers, data, and multimedia created by faculty members are preserved, as well as furnishing an online infrastructure where faculty members can publish scholarly journals or house older journals that have ceased publishing. Members of the IUScholarWorks team work closely with members of similar projects at IU, including the Digital Library Program (DLP) and the Archives of Institutional Memory (AIM) to coordinate the missions and policies of the different repository sites.

Contribution to IUScholarWorks on the Bloomington campus is voluntary, and initiated by faculty members; faculty who are interested in contributing typically contact members of the IUScholarWorks team directly or work through the Libraries' subject area collection manager. A relatively new initiative to promote depositing in IUScholarWorks is inclusion in the Faculty Annual Review (FAR) of a checkbox indicating interest from faculty in putting their research in the repository.

According to Jen Laherty and Sherri Michaels, members of the IUScholarWorks team, the institutional repository has grown in fits and starts, with the majority of submissions coming from particular projects, which can include a wide range of materials, including syllabi, ceased journal runs, annual reports, working papers, and streaming video. A smaller portion of the repository includes PhD dissertations and faculty articles. This represents an evolutionary change of focus from the original intent of the institutional repository—to make the published scholarly output of the university's faculty members openly available—but the mission of IUScholarWorks has adapted and changed to become a central location for all faculty research, ensuring long term preservation of research in a variety of formats and types. When asked what age group she would put IUScholarWorks in, Sherri Michaels, Intellectual Property Librarian, answered "Teenager," explaining that, "We're still figuring out what it can do, but we definitely know what it's not." A prime example of what IUScholarWorks can do is available at: https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/7911 (a site dedicated to preserving the research by the Ketterson-Nolan research group of the North American songbird, the dark-eyed junco).

IUScholarWorks is available to all IU campuses who are interested in preserving their communities' research in a central location. If you or your campus is interested in speaking with someone about depositing materials in IUScholarWorks, you can contact the team at iusw@indiana.edu.

IUScholarWorks Kokomo
https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/handle/2022/3787

IU Kokomo began using IUScholarWorks in 2009 in order to preserve and promote research done on the IU Kokomo campus. IUScholarWorks Kokomo was created by the Office of Institutional Research; the library's role in its implementation and promotion stemmed from the fact that the Assistant Director of Institutional Research was a member of the library faculty. Assistance in the implementation of IUScholarWorks Kokomo came from Kokomo's Center for Research and Creative Activity as well as from the IUScholarWorks team members on the Bloomington campus. Currently submissions to IUScholarWorks Kokomo are on hold as transitions on the campus have created vacancies in the Office of Institutional Research.

IUPUIScholarWorks
https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/

IUPUIScholarWorks was started in 2001 in order to preserve and provide access to all scholarly research created on the IUPUI campus. Originally called IDeA: IUPUI's Digital Archive, the name was altered to better align with the institutional repository for all of IU, IUScholarWorks.

IUPUIScholarWorks, like other ScholarWorks on IU campuses, is composed of "communities" or scholarly groupings of specific disciplines or formats (e.g. theses and dissertations). Community members determine both who may contribute to and have access to their collections, as well as how resources in the community are described, indexed, and cataloged. Twenty-one communities have been created in IUPUIScholarWorks thus far. Several of these communities are administered by different libraries on campus, including the Bioethics Digital Library and the Herron School of Art communities. A community for English at IUPUC was also set up by IUPUIScholarWorks, and is now administered on the Columbus campus.

Kimberly Thompson, Visiting Assistant Digital Scholarship Librarian, notes that the largest community thus far in IUPUIScholarWorks is Electronic Theses and Dissertations. This community includes the theses and dissertations from Indiana University programs on the IUPUI campus, which are required by the Graduate Office to be submitted to IUPUIScholarWorks, as well as some theses and dissertations in Purdue programs, which have recently started submitting to IUPUIScholarWorks. Other student works are being added as faculty members create communities in order to house research done by students in their classes.

Another quickly growing community is the IUPUI Community of Faculty Scholarship, which includes research and creative works by faculty members on the IUPUI campus. Although contribution by faculty members to IUPUIScholarWorks is voluntary, librarians at IUPUI are actively pursuing the input of faculty's scholarly research in IUPUIScholarWorks. The IUPUIScholarWorks team seeks out faculty members' publication citations from their curriculum vitae, requests permission from both the faculty member and publisher for publication in IUPUIScholarWorks, and uses the metadata pulled from the curriculum vitae in order to populate IUPUIScholarWorks. This process is partially automated by OASIS: Open Access to Scholarly Writings, which was created on the IUPUI campus. Developed using the open source content management system, Drupal, OASIS acts as a clearinghouse for citations gathered from faculty curriculum vitae and a tracking system for copyright permissions. General reaction from faculty members to the implementation of OASIS has been positive, and faculty deposits have increased by 300% since its inception in August 2010. Kimberly Thompson notes that generally, faculty were interested in having their works in IUPUIScholarWorks, but one of the largest impediments before the implementation of OASIS was determining copyright status, which is now done by the library during the OASIS workflow.

When asked what the future holds for IUPUIScholarWorks, Kimberly Thompson stated that they are looking to, "become more embedded in the research life cycle," through the inclusion of materials like datasets, and would like to "branch out" to include more formats and types of research, including multimedia.