



LIGUE DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES EUROPÉENNES DE RECHERCHE
ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

University and Research Libraries in Europe – Working towards Open Access

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1. Economics of Open Access
2. DART-Europe for delivering E-Theses
3. Europeana Libraries
4. LERU – League of European Research Universities
5. Conclusions



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Economics

- ❑ In June 2009, a study was completed by Professor John Houghton for the Knowledge Exchange, which compared the benefits of Open Access in the UK, the Netherlands and Denmark
 - ❑ See <http://www.knowledge-exchange.info/Default.aspx?ID=316>.
- ❑ In the three national studies, the costs and benefits of scholarly communication were compared, each based on three different publication models
- ❑ Modelling revealed that the greatest advantage would be offered by the Open Access model



Economics

- ❑ Adopting this model, according to Houghton, could lead to annual savings of around
 - ❑ €70 million in Denmark
 - ❑ €133 million in The Netherlands
 - ❑ €480 million in the UK
- ❑ Houghton also concludes that, even if the cost saving for Open Access was zero, increased returns on Research and Development alone would justify a move to Open Access
 - ❑ Houghton suggests this is worth £172 million increased annual returns on public (Government and academic) research in the UK



Economics

- ❑ Houghton findings and methodology have been fiercely criticised by publishers, particularly in the UK
 - ❑ Houghton report, publisher reaction and JISC response, all available here:
<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/reports/2009/economicpublishingmodelsfinalreport.aspx>
 - ❑ Steven Hall's critique at the Berlin7 conference (Paris), commissioned by STM: <http://www.berlin7.org/spip.php?article57>
 - ❑ to which Houghton/Oppenheim replied: <http://www.cfses.com/EI-ASPM/Comments-on-Hall%28Houghton&Oppenheim%29.pdf>



Economics

- ❑ Then there was the Prometheus exchange, not just Hall and Houghton, but Martin Hall's paper too is well worth reading:
<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/section?content=a920245249&fulltext=713240928>
- ❑ Houghton and Oppenheim then replied to the Prometheus papers in a more recent issue:
<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a925180131~frm=titlelink>
- ❑ Houghton maintains a website for the report and reaction:
<http://www.cfses.com/EI-ASPM/>
 - ❑ I am very grateful to Dr Neil Jacobs of the JISC for providing this reading list of materials



Economics

- ❑ The discussion is complex, with many individual points debated
- ❑ Way forward proposed here is to examine three exemplar points and then to suggest a way forward to develop the debate
- ❑ 3 points to be examined here are:
 - ❑ Houghton's and Oppenheim's methodology
 - ❑ Savings in, and impacts on, the Library budget
 - ❑ Access to research literature
- ❑ Next steps in developing the Scholarly Communications debate



Economics

- ❑ Houghton has used faulty methodology to arrive at calculations for savings?
- ❑ Professor Danny Quah, Head of Economics at the London School of Economics, who sat on the study steering group, noted:
- ❑ ***“The report addresses an important and difficult problem, and is clearly the result of a lot of very careful thinking about the issues. The methodology is sound and the analysis is extremely detailed and transparent. The multi-stage model of production that is used is complex, and does require calibration according to a large number of parameters, many of which are necessarily estimates, where possible taken from published sources or the wider literature. If demonstrably better estimates become available then these could improve that calibration still further. The report represents the best evidence so far on the questions it addresses.”***
- ❑ <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/media/documents/publications/responseoneiaspmreport.pdf>



Economics

2. **Where are savings to come from? They will be made from current library expenditure (2007), resulting in some cases in greater savings than the amounts currently being spent**
 - ❑ Hall, S. (2009) *Widening access to research information: collaborative efforts towards transitions in scholarly communications*, Paper presented at the Berlin 7 Open Access Conference, Paris, 2 December 2009. Available at <http://www.berlin7.org/spip.php?article57>
 - ❑ The primary question addressed in the Houghton/Oppenheim report is the cost-effectiveness of the alternative models at the overall system level, loosely, at the level of the UK economy
 - ❑ Once answered by the report, many stakeholder groups understandably want to ask a secondary question, which is about the cost implications for them
 - ❑ These are two quite different questions



Economics

- ❑ Hall's statement “*They must be set against UK university library spending in 2007*” is quite simply wrong
- ❑ To do so addresses a quite different question, namely the question ‘what is in it for me?’, in this case for research libraries and research institutions
 - ❑ John Houghton and Charles Oppenheim, *Widening access to research information: A response*. Available at <http://www.cfses.com/Elc-ASPM/Cocccmments-on-Hall%28Houghton&Oppenheim%29.pdf>



Economics

3. Access to research literature

- ❑ “The fact is, the report’s authors have failed to show that there is any real gap between the access that researchers have today to the scientific literature that they need and that which they might have under an open access model.” (Hall 2009, p. 18).
- ❑ Hall, S. (2009) *Widening access to research information: collaborative efforts towards transitions in scholarly communications*, Paper presented at the Berlin 7 Open Access Conference, Paris, 2 December 2009. Available at <http://www.berlin7.org/spip.php?article57>



Economics

- ❑ “...access to research information content issues must be addressed if the UK research community is to operate effectively, producing high-quality research that has a wider social and economic impact.”
- ❑ “The report’s key finding is that access is still a major concern for researchers. Although researchers report having no problems finding content in this age of electronic information, gaining access is another matter due to the complexity of licensing arrangements, restrictions placed on researchers accessing content outside of their own institution and the laws protecting public and private sector information.
 - ❑ *Overcoming barriers: access to research information content*, Research Information Network, London, 2009. Available at http://www.rin.ac.uk/system/files/attachments/Sarah/Overcoming-barriers-report-Dec09_0.pdf.
 - ❑ Friend, F.J. (2007) *UK Access to UK Research*, in *Serials*, vol. 20 (3), pp. 231-34. Available at <http://eprints.ucl.ac.uk/4842/>



Economics: Next Steps

- ❑ Professor Quah noted that some of the figures used in the Houghton model are necessarily estimates. Should better figures based on solid evidence become available, these should be used
- ❑ Publishers have figures, which they do not yet seem willing to share
 - ❑ Understandably, perhaps, these figures are commercial in confidence
- ❑ Professor Houghton has developed a dynamic model of his Scholarly Communications workflow, which is available for use
 - ❑ at <http://www.cfses.com/EI-ASPM/SCLCM-V7/>



Economics: Next Steps

- ❑ Most challenges to the Houghton report are against the inputs rather than against the models themselves, which Houghton-Oppenheim developed
 - ❑ Business Processes/Lifecycle by Bo-Christer Björk
 - ❑ The Solow-Swan growth model for economic growth
- ❑ However, issue is not that Open Access is cheaper than the subscription model
- ❑ Should we not look at the potential of a new scholarly communications system, based on the use of public funds, to transform itself into a completely new system?
- ❑ Houghton report is not the last word, but the start of an invigorating debate



Economics: Next Steps

- ❑ In an Open Access world, it may not be (as Stephen Hall supposes) that current market forces will continue as now
- ❑ Open Access could allow the return to an older idea, that of the Invisible College
 - ❑ New technology has expanded the potential of this approach
- ❑ Such potential would allow for significant expansion of the Björk Scholarly Communication lifecycle model, as developed by Houghton and Oppenheim
 - ❑ Hall, M. (2010) Minerva's owl. A response to John Houghton and Charles Oppenheim's 'The economic implications of alternative publishing models', *Prometheus*, 28: 1, 61-71. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08109021003676375>
- ❑ The best outcome of the current debate would be to move beyond arguments about the veracity of data used in the cost–benefit analysis, to consideration of new and differently-located forms of public investment in the development of new knowledge systems



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European Research Theses



DART-Europe

At <http://www.dart-europe.eu>

The principal gateway and discovery for the retrieval of Open Access research theses in Europe

As of 30 November 2010

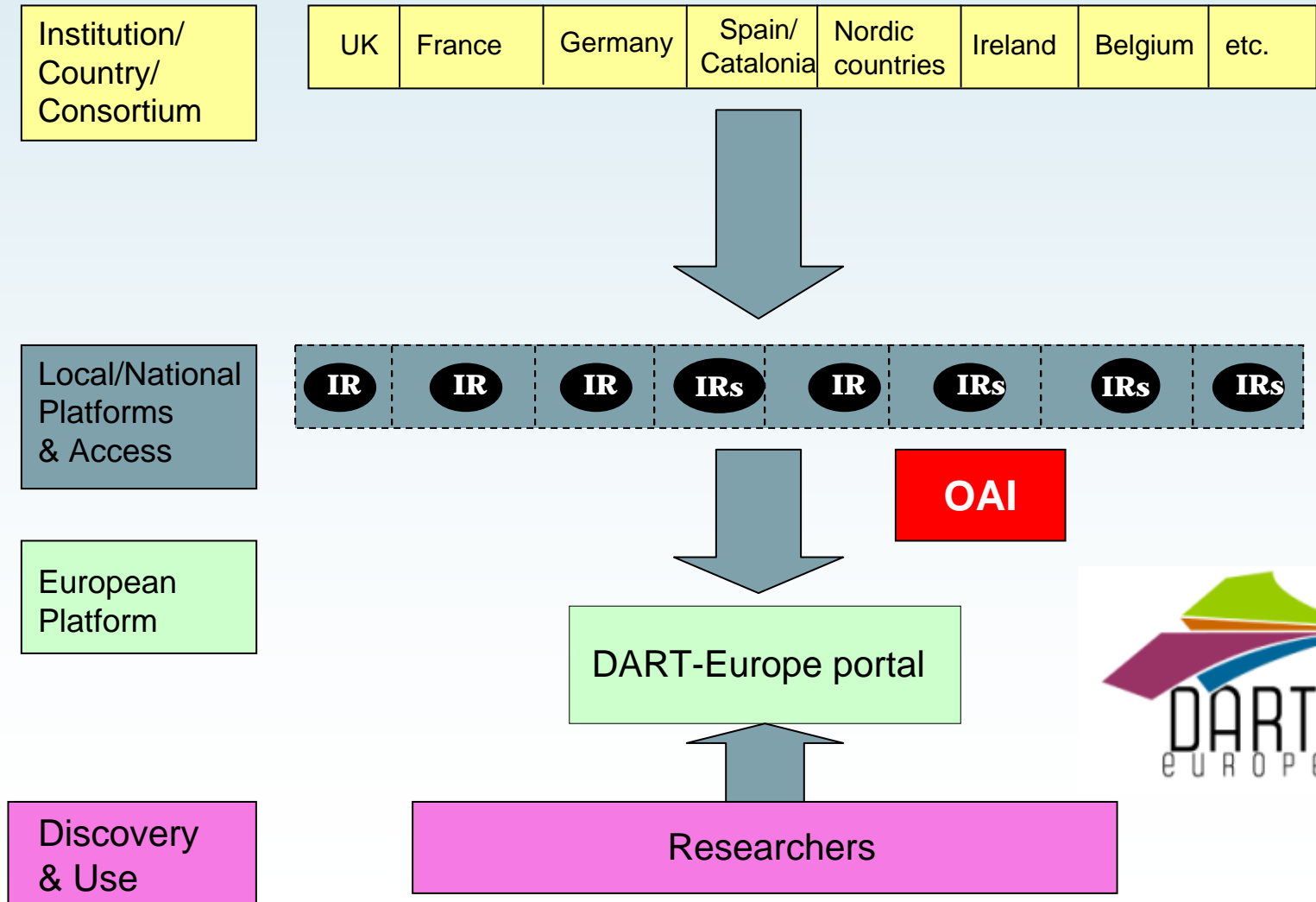
186,204 Open Access research theses indexed

From 300 Universities in 19 European countries

University of Bologna is #300



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DART-Europe E-theses Portal



ABOUT DART-EUROPE

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DISSEMINATION

PROGRAMME DOCUMENTS

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The DART-Europe E-theses Portal provides access to **96303** records from **11** European countries.

Welcome to the DART-Europe E-theses Portal.

The Portal allows you to browse and search across the 96303 open access research theses which are made available by the DART-Europe partners.

PLEASE NOTE: the DART-Europe E-theses Portal is a pilot service. Some features, particularly search/browse by institution and by language, are still under development: the reliability of these features and the availability of the Portal generally cannot be guaranteed. [Feedback](#) on this demonstrator Portal is welcome.



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Title	Author	Year	Institution	Data Source
Ab initio calculation of intermolecular potentials, prediction of second virial coefficients for dimers H₂-H₂, H₂-O₂, F₂-F₂ and H₂-F₂, and Monte Carlo simulations of the vapor-liquid equilibria for hydrogen and fluorine [Elektronische Ressource] / vorgelegt von Tat Pham Van	Pham Van, Tat	2006	Universität zu Köln	DissOnline

Click on
hypertext link

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Autor : Pham Van, Tat

Titel : Ab initio calculation of intermolecular potentials, prediction of second virial coefficients for dimers H₂-H₂, H₂-O₂, F₂-F₂ and H₂-F₂, and Monte Carlo simulations of the vapor-liquid equilibria for hydrogen and fluorine

Dissertation : Universität zu Köln, Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Fakultät, 2006

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 Informationen zum MD5-Fingerprint

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Ab initio calculation of intermolecular potentials, prediction of second virial coefficients for dimers H₂-H₂, H₂-O₂, F₂-F₂ and H₂-F₂, and Monte Carlo simulations of the vapor-liquid equilibria for hydrogen and fluorine

Full text



European Research Theses



- Research theses gain more visibility when available in electronic format, preferably Open Access
 - Good for research and good for the researcher
 - DART-Europe now a target for SFX link resolver
- Preferred mode of working is for DART-Europe to work with national aggregators
 - Important that UK research from EThOS can be seen alongside other European research
- DART-Europe working with Europeana to model DART-Europe providing the European view on E-Theses
 - Part of the Europeana Libraries project



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Europeana Libraries

- This bid was submitted to the **ICT PSP fourth call for proposals 2010** for a **Best Practice Network**.
 - The **ICT PSP Objective identifier is 2.2**
Enhancing/aggregating content for Europeana
- Aims of the project are:
 - To bring together, as a pilot, research library content from 11 countries in Europe
 - Via the Europeana portal
 - <http://www.europeana.eu/portal/index.html>



Europeana Libraries

- Be the first project to offer digital collections where the text will be fully searchable in Europeana, making it possible to search inside books and other materials
- Establish systems and processes capable of ingesting and indexing significant quantities of digitised material, including text, images, moving images and sound clips
- Service will be fully capable of extension to other libraries across Europe, including the rest of LIBER and CERL membership - over 400 libraries in over 40 countries across Europe



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Europeana Libraries

Pages	Images	Books/Theses
3,319,045	848,078	598,130

Film/Video clips	Mixed content	Articles
1,200	34,000	368,000

Total content to be Ingested
5,168,453 units of material (pages/ images/ books+theses/ AV clips/ articles)



Europeana Libraries

- Open Access content well represented
 - All Open Access research theses in DART-Europe
 - All articles indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals
- Benefits
 - Researchers, teachers and learners have to look in just one place
 - Full-text will be indexed in Europeana
 - Scalable solution which can be available to ALL European research libraries



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LERU

- ❑ A consortium of 22 research-intensive universities in Europe
 - ❑ See <http://www.leru.org/index.php/public/home/>.
- ❑ LERU is committed to
 - ❑ Education through an awareness of the frontiers of human understanding
 - ❑ Creation of new knowledge through basic research, which is the ultimate source of innovation in society
 - ❑ Promotion of research across a broad front, which creates a unique capacity to re-configure activities in response to new opportunities and problems
- ❑ The purpose of the League is to advocate these values, to influence policy in Europe and to develop best practice through mutual exchange of experience



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LERU

- ❑ LERU wants to know what position, if any, it should take on the Open Access debate
- ❑ General meeting of LERU Chief Information Officers/University Librarians in December 2009
 - ❑ Appointed a Working Group to draw up a **LERU Roadmap towards Open Access**
 - ❑ Road Map is now with LERU Vice-Chancellors for consideration. Outcome should be known by the end of 2010



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LERU

- ❑ Purpose of the Roadmap is to offer guidance on how to position your University in the European Open Access landscape
- ❑ Builds on the Open Access Statement of the European Universities Association
 - ❑ See <http://www.eua.be/eua-work-and-policy-area/research-and-innovation/Open-Access.aspx>
- ❑ A Roadmap for *all* European Universities, not just LERU members



LERU Roadmap addresses ...

- Open Access in a wider context: Open Scholarship and Open Knowledge
- Advocacy Statement on behalf of LERU Universities
- The LERU Roadmap – an Exposition
- The Green route for Open Access – Steps to Take
- LERU and the Gold route for Open Access
- Models of Best Practice to support the Roadmap
- Benefits for researchers, Universities and Society
- LERU is considering funding for a pan-European implementation of the Roadmap



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Conclusions

- ❑ European Universities are
 - ❑ Engaged in global debate about the economics of Open Access
 - ❑ Developing sustainable services, using Open Access protocols, which bring greater visibility to European research
 - ❑ Creating pan-European partnerships, with innovative project funding, to develop cutting-edge projects to support the European user
 - ❑ Developing tools for all European Universities to tackle the Open Access agenda



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If you have been...

- Thanks for listening
- Happy to answer Questions