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<th>Hita–Hita: grass roots open access advocacy and institutional repositories in Japan</th>
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Osaka University Knowledge Archive: OUKA
http://ir.library.osaka-u.ac.jp/dspace/

Osaka University
Hello, I am TSUCHIDE Ikuko from Digital Repository Federation and from Osaka University Library. First of all, I would like to express thanks to all the people who supported me and gave me this wonderful opportunity to be here.

Today, I would like to introduce the situation of Open Access Repositories in Japan and some activities what repository managers do in their university.

This presentation won’t figure the whole landscape of Japanese eInfrastructure, digital libraries or eResources. Instead, I would like to talk about that what they do and how the community works.

The word from title, “hita-hita” signifies something that penetrates gently and smoothly. The word is also employed to work step by step without giving up. Open Access is not politically forced at state level nor institutional level in Japan, instead, we repository managers has made effort to share experience and exchange various ideas, thereby highly developing respective repositories.
I would like to explain the background of the growth of repositories. The first institutional repository in Japan was built in 2004, by Chiba University. In the next year, the National Institute of Informatics (NII) started the several program called “Cyber Science Infrastructure”. The Institutional Repositories Program (IRP) was one of them. It funded universities and research institutions who wanted to build institutional repositories and to increase their contents. It funded also the repository-related projects, for example, a project to develop new systems related repositories and to create community for repository managers.
Since the funding project had started, the number of institutional repositories and their contents has increased. As of July 2012, the number of institutional repositories is over 200 in which includes the shared repositories. We had a milestone date on the first of June; the number of full text items on institutional repositories in Japan exceeded one million.

It is sure that the NII-funding program has helped repositories to grow in Japan. But more important factor is existence of repository managers’ communities.
Digital Repository Federation (DRF) is the biggest community for repository managers. It was established by only 3 universities in 2006 as one of the CSI-funded project, and now, 144 universities and research institutions are joining. Its main contributors are librarians and information specialists mainly serving as repository managers.

DRF has the Executive Board, Planning and Coordinating working group and other 4 working groups: Events and Training, International Relations, Technical Support, Public Relations, and with the help of 15 advisers.
They are DRF’s main activities. DRF has various tool, system and occasion to share the experience and knowledge, which each working group member is contributing:

DRF-wiki is a platform of DRF.

Open mailing list: posted mails are archived and open to public.

Monthly newsletter: “DRF-monthly”. It is published on the 1st of each month. Editorial board is Public Relations WG.

Workshops and Training events: DRF has hosted many national/regional/subjective workshops since 2006. In 2011, training events for both beginners and seniors have been started. training events are mainly managed by Events and Training WG. Almost all materials of past events are archived and open on DRF-wiki.

Additionally, DRF hosted the international conferences in 2008 and 2009. In 2008, Dr. Subbiah Arunachalam of MS Swaminathan Research Foundation joined us and gave a presentation.

Next, I would like to introduce some activities that each repository managers do for populating institutional repositories.
There are many universities where regularly (in most case, once a week) librarians use academic literature databases such as Web of Science or others to extract the papers presented by affiliate teachers, and send e-mails to invite the authors to release the papers through repositories if they are in green journals.
Interviews are good opportunities to talk with researchers. Otaru University of Commerce, Seigakuin University, Tokyo Dental College and other universities have interviews several times. Interviews are carried out, for example, every time when each 100 contents are registered [in such way: “Congratulations! Your article is the 1,000th one which is deposited to our institutional repository. So, we are happy to have interview with you about your article and research theme.”] and on institutional repositories’ birthday.

Kumamoto University had interviews with 7 researchers on every day during Open Access Week last year.

In Hiroshima University repository, notable and recommended documents are introduced with their authors’ interview.
Furthermore, in some university, library staffs visit research laboratories regularly to talk with researchers and teachers directly about the benefits of Open Access and other topics related their research/education and library.

In Hokkaido University, when repository staff members have visited respective research laboratories and offices, they get referrals to new researchers from who they have just visited, broadening their network of contacts.

In the Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, repository managers visited all the research laboratories and offices in 2006. Otaru University of Commerce established a repository liaison system in 2007.

Researchers are willing to talk about their own research, so we can listen to.
Some universities provide a service in which the numbers of accesses to each article for a month is counted monthly and the results are then sent to the author by e-mail.
This is a comment from an author.
Many universities make their own IR-brand goods for promotion, including advertising stands in school cafeterias, pencils, notepads, and bags/umbrellas provided at libraries on rainy days. (HUSCAPバッグとOUKA,OLIVEクリアファイルを紹介)
When Japanese researchers received the Nobel Prize, the Universities immediately opened up access to the prize-winning papers through repositories, highlighting the good news. Traffic surged for the papers.
They are leaflets made by Hiroshima University. The two different leaflets are designed to appeal to researchers in the science course and humanities course, respectively, and are entitled Open Access [for sciences course] and Passing Down of Scholarly Achievements to Future Generations [for humanities course]. To promote Open Access, Hokkaido University distributes leaflets that says “Like you, some people can’t read your paper even if they want to,” to people who have ordered literature using the interlibrary loan.
During Open Access Week 2011, many universities were dyed Orange, by advertising stands, panels, posters, book covers, post cards, and name cards.
There are some useful examples. The most important thing is, however, each repository manager knows that he or she is NEVER alone in the new system or new work, and that he or she IS the person who can tell benefit and meaning of Open Access toward researchers. For the purpose, we share the experiences, expertise, knowledge and ideas in the community.

Thank you for your attention.