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<Lecture 8>COAR: Towards a global network of
open access repositories for research and
scholarship

Rodrigues, Eloy

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Towards a global network of open access repositories for research and scholarship

Eloy Rodrigues
October 2015
EUIJ Symposium, Kobe, Japab







The COAR vision



A sustainable, global knowledge commons based on a network of open access digital repositories



...but we must collaborate and harmonize standards and practices!

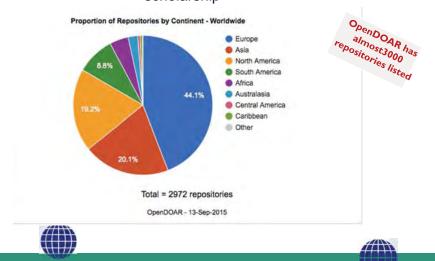




Lecture 8

Open access repositories are becoming key infrastructure components for research and scholarship











COAR aims to facilitate the vision by bringing together research repositories as part of a global infrastructure; to link across continents and around the world, enabling new forms of research and supporting new models of scholarly communication.



Factsheet

- COAR e.V., was founded in 2009 as an international association
- · Office is based in Göttingen, Germany
- Members & Partners: over 100 institutions from 35 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, Northern and South America
- Institutional membership fees: 500 Euros
- Members from Japan:
 - Digital Repository Federation (DRF)
 - National Institute for Informatics





COAR Principles



- Global: COAR focuses on the needs and issue of interest of repositories across the world
- Sensitive to local differences: COAR is cognizant of the tremendous diversity globally, and aware that needs will differ depending on the distinct regional environment.
- **Strategic:** Bringing together policy makers and regional networks to work for a future vision of repositories
- Grass roots: COAR aims to support developing local capacity at member institutions
- **Synergistic:** in order to achieve a common vision, repositories around the globe must adopt common approaches to policies, metadata schemas, vocabularies, etc.





Executive Board



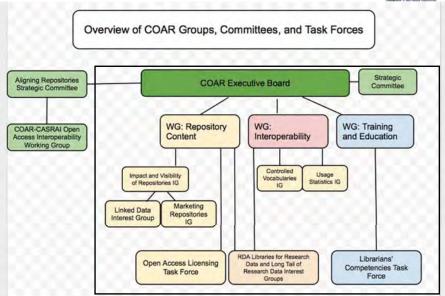
As of Oct 2015:

- · Chairperson: Eloy Rodrigues, University of Minho, Portugal
- · Vice Chairperson: Carmen-Gloria Labbé, CLARA, Chilé
- Treasurer: Márta Virágos, University and National Library of Debrecen, Hungary
- Wolfram Horstmann, University of Gottingen, Germany
- Oya Rieger, Cornell University, United States
- Daisy Selematsela, National Research Foundation, South Africa









Major Activities



Global voice for the repository community

RAISE THE VISIBILITY OF REPOSITORIES AND THEIR VALUE



Promoting Open Knowledge and Open Science Report of the Current State of Repositories

May 21, 2015



Produced by Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) on behalf of the COAR Aligning Repository Networks Committee



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Major Activities



Aligning repository networks

A GLOBAL OPEN ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRES COLLABORATION

Why?

- To develop a seamless scientific infrastructure that supports the needs of researchers at the global level.
- To provide evidence that services are being developed in parallel with international activities.
- To provide uniform information about the impact of open access policies.
- To avoid duplication of work across networks and enable cost synergies in areas of common interest.





Major Activities



Global voice for the repository community

SHORT EMBARGO PERIODS ARE ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL FOR OPEN ACCESS!

- <u>COAR Statement on Embargo Periods</u>: "Embargo periods dilute the benefits of open access policies and we believe that, if they are adopted, they should be no more than 6 months for the life and physical sciences, 12 months for social sciences and humanities."
- <u>Statement against Elsevier's Sharing Policy</u>: In their new policy, Elsevier has placed greater restrictions on depositing into institutional repositories (and imposed embargo periods to up to 48 months)





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Major Activities



Aligning repository networks

A GLOBAL OPEN ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRES COLLABORATION

How?

- Policy and advocacy: high-level coordination that raises the visibility and strengthens legitimacy of regional networks.
- Technical: adopting common set of interoperability standards to ensure that content can be aggregated across networks, facilitating discovery, re-use and the development of value added services.
- Service: common approaches to service adoption that would be of interest at the global level (e.g. common usage statistics across regions, routers, etc.).





Major Activities



Aligning repository networks

HARMONIZING METADATA WILL ENABLE NETWORK SERVICES TO BE BUILT ACROSS THE REGIONAL NETWORKS

 COAR-CASRAI Working Group on Metadata for Open Access Repositories – harmonizing metadata elements across repository networks.

Funding agency	Different approaches
Project/grant number	Different approaches
Author name	✓
Output types	Controlled vocabularies being
	proposed by COAR
Publication date	√
Open access status	Different approaches
Embargoes	
Licenses	
Unique identifier for publication	✓
Jurisdictional information	Ø

Ø



nstitution







CONTROLLED VOCABULARY FOR RESOURCE TYPE (DRAFT VERSION 1.0)



https://www.coarrepositories.org/activities/repositoryinteroperability/ig-controlledvocabularies-for-repositoryassets/deliverables/





Major Activities



Aligning repository networks

COAR AIMS TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTOLLED VOCABULARY FOR OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORIES

 COAR International Controlled Vocabulary - develop, translating and maintaining a set of international controlled vocabularies (including into Chinese)



Major Activities



Aligning repository networks

DISCUSSING COMMON WAYS OF MEASURING USAGE

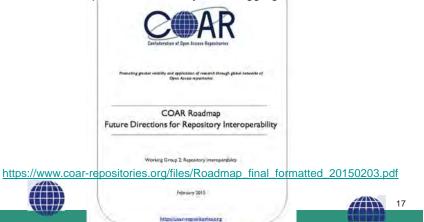


Major Activities



Interoperability with other systems

Repositories must be integrated and interoperable with other systems such as research data repositories, CRIS systems, aggregators, etc.



Major Activities



Developing local capacity

SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS DEPENDS ON CAPACITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

- Planned for 2016:
 - International best practices for repository management
 - Pilot projects partnering two COAR institutions for knowledge transfer and staff exchanges

Major Activities



Developing local capacity

SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS DEPENDS ON CAPACITY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL



Through COAR, members can:



- Pursue a common vision
- Promote policies and practices that support repositories
- Network with international colleagues
- · Develop skills and knowledge
- Monitor trends
- Participate in a community of practice
- Learn about standards and best practices











For more information:



Participants of the COAR Meeting in Portugal 2015

- Visit the COAR Website: www.coar-repositories.org
- Contact COAR Executive Director, Kathleen Shearer: kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org
- Contact the COAR office to register your interest in becoming a member of COAR: office@coarrepositories.org
- Follow us on Twitter: #COAR_eV
- Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/COAReV



