Adding value to the institutional repository - the NECTAR experience

Introduction
NECTAR is The University of Northampton’s new open access institutional repository. Its primary purpose is to showcase and preserve the research outputs of university members. Like other repository teams, we want to add value to NECTAR in order to better meet the needs of our research community. This poster describes some of the added services that we have provided so far and invites readers to suggest future directions for repository added value.

Annual Research Report
The Annual Research Report is the lynchpin of our strategy to populate NECTAR. With effect from 2007, the university’s Annual Research Report is generated from NECTAR content - if a researcher doesn’t enter their publication details into NECTAR, they won’t be recognised and counted by the university. Research administrators welcome the extra value that NECTAR and this report offer compared to their previous reporting procedures.

School Research Summary
In the absence of any prior university-wide research publications database, this report for the first time allows research managers to quickly compare the numbers of research outputs from each of the six Schools. The data are exported in .csv format, convenient for manipulation in a spreadsheet. Senior managers love this research summary and the evidence it gives them of research activity.

Departmental Publication Lists
Eprints software makes it easy to produce personal and departmental publication lists from repository content. This is an example of a dynamically updated departmental list. Not only is it always up-to-date, but researchers greatly appreciate being able to supply their data once and then re-use it for multiple purposes.

Comment at the Fringe:
We may have only just started, but we know that other institutions have already added some impressive functionality to their repositories. We’d love to hear about this. Alternatively, you may be thinking ‘I wish that someone would do that’. In the spirit of the Repository Fringe, this is your chance to share your ideas with the community:

School of Education
Annual Research Report 2007
Ascherov, N.
Hall, R.
Hend, K.

Annual Research Report

For further information please contact the NECTAR team: NECTAR@northampton.ac.uk