



NECTAR

Northampton Electronic Collection of Theses And Research

<http://nectar.northampton.ac.uk>

Repository mission

NECTAR is an open access institutional repository. Its purpose is to showcase and preserve the research outputs of university members.

Overview of current contents

The first (metadata only) records were imported into NECTAR in January 2008. A major drive to acquire full text and other full content is planned.

Organisational context

The University of Northampton is a new university with ambitious plans to raise its research profile in both scholarly and regional communities. NECTAR is the only centralised database of research outputs in the university.

Overview of current deposit activity

NECTAR offers a mediated deposit service. RAE submissions have been bulk imported and records are currently undergoing metadata enhancement. New records are being created as part of the university's annual research reporting exercise (see below).

Developmental phases

Ongoing: Consultation, advocacy, training, evaluation



Institutional embedding

The repository project has been led from the start by a Steering Group comprising members of both the research community and Information Services (Library and IT departments). There has been consultation with research leaders and liaison with appropriate committees (e.g. University Research Committee and the Research Degrees Committee). Electronic submission and **mandatory deposit in NECTAR of final copy PhD theses** has been agreed. Existing research reporting channels are being exploited to gather NECTAR content. From January 2008 the university's Annual Research Report will be derived from NECTAR — **if a research output is not in NECTAR it will not be reported.**

Policy formulation

NECTAR policy is based on the OpenDOAR 'optimum' recommendations for metadata, data, submission and preservation. NECTAR content comprises quality research outputs previously made publicly available.

Service sustainability

It is intended that NECTAR should provide permanent open access to the research outputs of University of Northampton members. It is supported strategically by the university's Directorate and operationally by the Department of Information Services. Advocacy and training efforts will ensure that NECTAR is recognised as an accepted part of research workflow.

Measuring and demonstrating success

Success with NECTAR means:

- A 'critical mass' of full text (or multimedia) content will have been achieved.
- Researchers (staff and students) will be aware of the benefits of NECTAR and open access to research outputs
- NECTAR will be fully compliant with other elements of the repository landscape (e.g. EThOSnet, Google Scholar and other OAI-PMH services)
- The university's Annual Research Report will be automatically generated on demand from NECTAR

Hosting and support

NECTAR uses Eprints version 3.0 software. Initially developed and hosted by Eprints Services at the University of Southampton, NECTAR is now hosted on a dedicated server at Northampton. Extensive changes have been made to Eprints to support the crucial research reporting role of NECTAR. Support from Eprints Services has exceeded expectations.

Challenges and unresolved issues

Outstanding challenges include:

- Full stakeholder engagement
- Acquisition and upload of full content
- Verification of intellectual property rights
- Version control
- Digital preservation

Funding

NECTAR is a repository start-up project, supported in part by the JISC Repositories and Preservation Programme



This sheet has been produced by Miggie Pickton, Repository manager and NECTAR Queen Bee.

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