THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Original citation:
Budden, Yvonne C. (2012) Open Repositories 2012. CILIP Update, October issue, p. 44.

Permanent WRAP url:
http://wrap.warwick.ac.uk/50529

Copyright and reuse:
The Warwick Research Archive Portal (WRAP) makes the work of researchers of the University of Warwick available open access under the following conditions. Copyright © and all moral rights to the version of the paper presented here belong to the individual author(s) and/or other copyright owners. To the extent reasonable and practicable the material made available in WRAP has been checked for eligibility before being made available.

Copies of full items can be used for personal research or study, educational, or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge. Provided that the authors, title and full bibliographic details are credited, a hyperlink and/or URL is given for the original metadata page and the content is not changed in any way.

Publisher's statement:
© CILIP Update.

A note on versions:
The version presented in WRAP is the published version or, version of record, and may be cited as it appears here.

For more information, please contact the WRAP Team at: wrap@warwick.ac.uk

warwickpublicationswrap
highlight your research

http://go.warwick.ac.uk/lib-publications

Open Repositories 2012

Yvonne Budden reports from OR2012, the 7th International Conference on Open Repositories with the theme: 'Open Services for Open Content: local in for global out'.

Yvonne Budden (v.c.budden@warwick.ac.uk) is E-Repositories Manager, University of Warwick Library.

THE Open Repositories conference (OR) took place in Edinburgh in July (http://or2012.ed.ac.uk), and showcased five days of the best the repository world has to offer. This year's conference attracted 460 delegates from more than 40 countries, and once again showed the passion and enthusiasm of the repository community.

This year the key topic was research data management, which has been discussed at previous OR conferences, but which this year took centre stage. There was a sense that repositories have reached a level of technical and infrastructure maturity that is allowing them to move into curating a much wider portfolio for resources. There was also a sense that the community is ready to position itself as a central part of the research process and this will be essential to manage research data.

Demand side filtering

The keynote address, given by Cameron Neylon, emphasised the idea of connectivity and low-friction information transfer. He also discussed the idea of 'demand-side filtering' – that traditional processes like peer review can block useful information from users, and that the best people to filter material are the users themselves. Cameron also touched on the need to recognise that a research *outcome* is not the same as a research *output* and to be clear in our mind who our users are and why we are doing what we are doing.

OR2012 continued its tradition of including a strong participatory element this year with a wide range of 'hands-on' workshops and software specific sessions run by the developers of the main software solutions used by repositories, a great chance to get your hands dirty and experiment. This year the conference also included elements from the popular Repository Fringe[1], including the 'pecha kucha'[2] talks.

Something new and something cool

A regular feature of OR is the developer's challenge, hosted by the DevCSI team. This year the challenge was simply to 'show us something new and cool in the world of Open Repositories'.[3] All the entries have potential to be developed into exciting tools, but the winning entries, Patrick McSweeney's 'Data Engine' (repository tools for small science data manipulation and visualisation) and the 'MATS: Mobile Audio Transcription and Submission' app from Keith Gilbertson and Linda Newman (audio/video record, repository deposit and submission to transcription services, in one app) really caught the attention of judges and delegates alike.

The session topics were wide-ranging: digital preservation; name identifiers; usage statistics and showing impact; shared services; non-traditional content and much more. Posters were presented in under a minute in Poster Minute Madness, a great way to 'trailer' your poster before the drinks reception in the evening. Our poster

contribution, on a branding and marketing project we had undertaken,[4] proved very popular at the reception (which was fantastic, but meant I didn't get to speak to as many of the other poster presenters as I might have liked). Networking at OR events is always great fun – discussions focused on the key topics from the conference, but also on open access issues more widely. These were felt keenly by the UK repository community after the publication of the Finch report[5] and the new RCUK policy[6] on research outputs and linked back to the work being started on research data management, in part due to, new guidelines[7] from the RCUK.

The OR conference is a world-class event for anyone interested in any area of repository work. The team in Edinburgh has done a great job to make as much of the material available as possible.[8]

The conference sent me home enthused about the work I and my team are doing and with a list of new ideas to prioritise with my development team. Here's to next year!

References

1 www.repositoryfringe.org/
2 A challenging presentation style of 20 slides progressing automatically every 20 seconds for a total time of six minutes and 40 seconds.
3 Details of the challenge and all the entries can be found on the DevCSI website: http://devcsi.ukoln.ac.uk/
4 http://wrap.warwick.ac.uk/47777
5 'Accessibility, sustainability, excellence: how to expand access to research publications. Report of the Working Group on Expanding Access to Published Research Findings' (2012). www.researchinfonet.org/publish/finch/
6 www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/Pages/outputs.aspx
7 www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/Pages/DataPolicy.aspx
8 Live blog available on the website (http://or2012.ed.ac.uk/category/liveblog/) **and most sessions available on the You Tube channel** (www.youtube.com/user/OpenRepos2012).