


UTSeScholarship

asserting the twenty-first century academic
library's role in open access and data curation


Alex Byrne

CAUL Meeting, April 2009



- A platform for collaboration supported three legs of the eScholarship ‘stool’:
 - OA scholarly publishing:  UTS Press
 - OA fostering of scholarly communities and dissemination of research outputs : **UTSiResearch**
 - Research data curation with an OA disposition: **ASSDA** and **ATSIDA**

<http://epress.lib.uts.edu.au>

-  UTS Press employs the software from the Public Knowledge Project to publish:
 - ❑ Peer reviewed journals (OJS)
 - ❑ Peer reviewed conference proceedings (OCS)
 - Can be used for conference management in conjunction with a bureau based conference registration system
 - ❑ Scholarly books (currently DSpace but will test Open Monograph Press)

<http://utsescholarship.lib.uts.edu.au>

Public History Review

AJ  African Journal of ICT



PORTAL

Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies



- African Journal of Information & Communication Technology (AJICT)
- Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance
- Gateways: International Journal of Community Research and Engagement
- PORTAL Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies
- Public History Review
- Public Space: The Journal of Law and Social Justice
- Sydney Journal
- Transforming Cultures eJournal
- Provincial China

AND

- Unscrunched - quality assured student work

- OA platform using to DSpace to foster scholarly communities of practice and increase impact of research outputs through sharing copies of research publications and working papers
 - built around communities using the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification*,
<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1297.02008?OpenDocument>
- In preparation for RQF in 2007, dark archive of UTS research outputs 2001-2006 created
 - now ongoing with each year's outputs from UTS
 - current project to develop seamless interface to research management system and a semi-automated copyright clearance system
- Also includes UTS higher degree dissertations contributed to the Australasian Digital Theses Program (ADT)

- Research data curation with an OA disposition:

- Australian Social Science Data Archive (ASSDA)
<http://assda.anu.edu.au/> – NSW node

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA) – national role



- Redefining the traditional understandings of collecting, preserving and making accessible information resources of relevance to the university's researchers and scholars

- This entails more active engagement through the inquiry cycle
 - UTSeScholarship: UTSePress / UTSiResearch/ Research data curation

 - Helped establish **Pool** with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in 2007 – a virtual studio to support digital creativity - <http://www.pool.org.au/>

Multinational publishing houses

- The commodified scholarly publishing model has been brought to a new level by Thomson Reuters and Elsevier
- They have vertically integrated by seeking to control editing, publishing and assessment of value, creating a profitably closed system



- Monographs have largely fallen by the wayside

Changing modes of scholarly discourse

- The use of web technologies is changing the way researchers and scholars interact, conduct research and report research findings
- More dynamic modes of scholarly communication are required which will support expression via multimedia, use of executable files and a dynamic praxis in which the outcome is the discourse not a static 'output'

BUT

- The need to capture, preserve and make available the records of research and scholarship remains

Regaining control of scholarly publishing



- The interests of all parties need to be addressed:

- High quality publishing
- **Well supported editors**
- **Well recognised authors**
- Assessed by appropriate and effective indicators **to inform funding agencies**

AND

- At an acceptable cost

UTSePress as an example



- High quality publishing
- All journals peer reviewed
 - may include some non peer reviewed content which is clearly indicated
- Well supported editors
- Editors supported by UTSeScholarship department in the University Library and journal managers and editors forum
- Well recognised authors
- Less prestige for authors than longer established journals but growing
- Assessed by appropriate and effective indicators
- Titles harvested by Google Scholar and in ARC and other lists as they mature
- At an acceptable cost
- Editorial and peer review costs in-kind by academy as in ccc model, publishing costs borne by Library in lieu of subscription costs (free to others)

- UTSePress experience limited but includes:
 - ❑ *A World Proof Life: Eleanor Dark, a writer in her times, 1901-1985* (Marivic Wyndham, 2007) – born digital & simultaneously published in print via POD (courtesy Sydney University Press)
 - ❑ *Bourke Our Yarns* (Ed Gillian Cowlshaw and Bobby Mackay, 2007) – born digital
 - ❑ *Libraries and Indigenous Knowledge: A National Forum for Libraries, Archives and Information Services* (Ed Martin Nakata and Marcia Langton, 2007) – republished digitally & then republished in print by AARL
 - ❑ *Australian Indigenous Digital Collections: First generation issues* (Martin Nakata et al, 2008) – a report, born digital
 - ❑ Other reports in *UTS Shopfront Monograph Series*
 - ❑ And student work in the *UTS Shopfront Student Monograph Series*



Opportunities in OA monographic publishing

- Cheap world-wide dissemination overcomes current dearth of monographic publishing:
 - Few scholarly monographs published because sales are so limited
 - Very few dissertations are published as monographs although increasing numbers are being made available digitally via ADT and similar programs
- Ability to include maps, charts, audio, video, executable files and other content difficult or impossible to include in traditional monographs supports new forms of scholarship and scholarly discourse
- OA online publishing can surmount these challenges to offer a renaissance in publishing scholarly monographs (as at ANU E Press and Sydney University Press)

Challenges in OA monographic publishing

- Distinguishing scholarly monographs from non scholarly monographs, conference proceedings, reports, etc
- Ensuring quality in both scholarship, writing and presentation
 - Quality assurance via peer review more demanding
 - Need for copy editing & design
 - Both of these suggest need for different business model
- ARC requirement that monographs be ‘put on sale’
 - Implies need for ecommerce facility either in-house or via a partnership

- Important form of scholarly communication especially in some fields such as IT
- UTSePress experience limited but includes:
 - *Auswireless 2006 Conference Papers*
 - *Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference of the Association of Architecture Schools of Australasia 2007*
 - *Memory-work Conference 2007*
 - And various seminar series such as *Studies in Cosmopolitan Civil Societies*
- Challenges include
 - Distinguishing scholarly contributions through robust peer review
 - Timely production – best managed from the inception of the conference

The uses of a repository

- Evidentiary support for research assessment
 - Holding the research outputs of the institution, not necessarily
- Increasing research impact
 - By facilitating access to research outputs for researchers, research and other students, and the general public
- Supporting communities of scholarly and professional practice
 - Can include reports, discussion papers, drafts, works-in-process
 - Can host dynamic and multimedia formats
 - Needs to be linked to communicative and interactive media including blogs, wikis, etc

- A key responsibility that returns us to our roots as the archives of scholarship not just repositories of research publications...
- ... and makes us a key enabler of eResearch
- Has potential to link research publications to the underlying data (eg as in astronomy)
- Needs to operate on a disciplinary not institutional basis

- UTS participating in two interlinked initiatives:
 - Australian Social Science Data Archive (ASSDA) <http://assda.anu.edu.au/> – NSW node
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA) – national role

Fulfilling the responsibilities of academic libraries

- These three legs help fulfil our responsibilities to make scholarly information available, support research and promote scholarship
- But they only work in collaborative partnerships
- We also sponsor or support events, such as:
 - *The Scholarly and Public Quality of Research: Why Open Access Matters* - UTS Library in conjunction with the Academic Board, 8 December 2008
 - *Digital Futures Australasia* – UTS Library with King’s College London, 2-6 February 2009
- For UTS, the partnerships include:
 - ANU
 - APSR
 - CLOCKSS & Portico
 - Commonwealth Centre for Local Government
 - Dspace Foundation
 - King’s College London
 - Loyola University (Chicago)
 - PKP
 - State Library of NSW
 - University of Sydney
 - and many others