

Seamless Scholarly Communication for the Universities of Gujarat: Centralized Institutional Repository

Dr.Nimesh D.Oza,
Asst.Professor, DLIS,
Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar 388120
E-Mail ID: ozand@yahoo.co.in
Research Paper Presented at ADINET, 27th Aug,2011

Introduction

- Knowledge – Organized Channel of Communication
- Any individual, group or institutions imparting in the process of research are always in need of organized channel of communication by using of which, research can be addressed to those who are really interested or involved in the same area of interest.

- The platform of conventional channel of such scholarly communication taking much time, as they are associated with peer reviewing process. More over, at the time they published, it is almost out of date as much time passed out after the actual research has been complete.

- The formation and establishment of Institutional Repository at the Universities provides the platform to new thoughts pertaining to research as well as support pre-prints or even not published paper to procure its place in digital form for the fast communication.
- Such Institutional Repository will definitely fulfill the expectations of research community of the state and will become able to meet the requirement in Knowledge Management as demanded by The National Knowledge Commission's Mission.

Objectives of the Study

- To examine the academic environment and the research output in different faculties of the University for building the Central Institutional Repository of Gujarat State.
- To workout the technical feasibility of selecting the appropriate software and hardware for maintenance and offering suitable services from the Centralized Institutional Repository.
- To workout the strategy for the sharing of resources among the academic and research community of the Universities of Gujarat State.
- To design and develop a viable Centralized Model of Institutional Repository for all the universities in Gujarat State

Scope and Limitation

- The present study covers the published, semi published, or in case unpublished articles, research report, and other such types of documents by university faculties only. Present study is limited to the following **07 (Seven)** universities of Gujarat only on the basis of their academic nature.
- Bhavnagar University, Bhavnagar
- Gujarat University, Ahmedabad
- Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan
- M.S.University of Baroda, Vadodara
- Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar
- Saurashtra university, Rajkot
- Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat

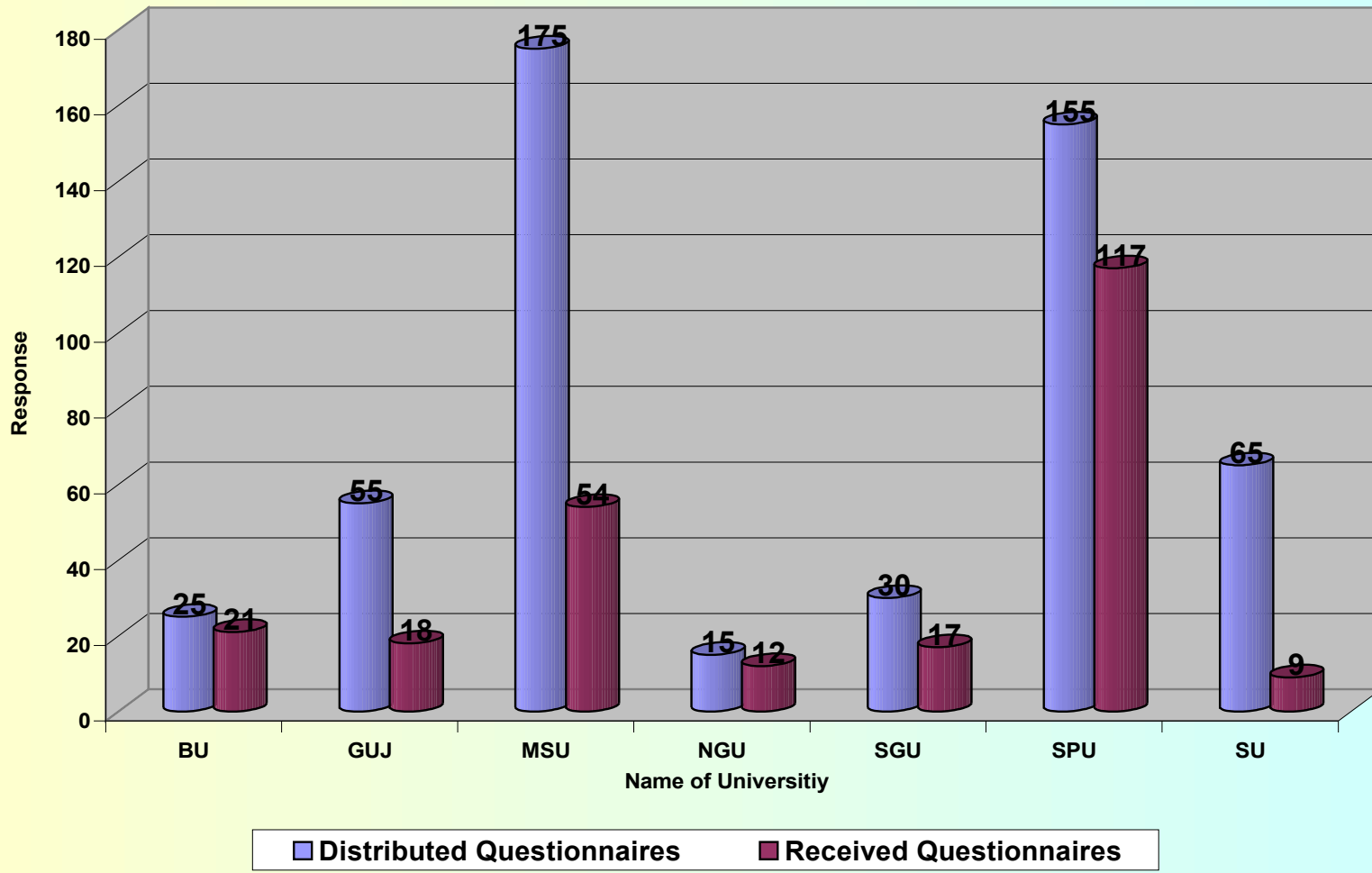
Research Methodology

- Researcher carried out a relevant literature survey to acquire an advances and trends pertaining to the area of study on: (a) the Institutional Repository, (b) Software for Digitization, and (c) Digital Scholarly Communications in general at international and national level.
- Questionnaires prepared and circulated to university PG Faculties, under the span of study, for getting the primary data and their reactions.
- Secondary data are collected from the annual report of Universities and Interview with the faculty members as and when required.

Analysis of Data - Questionnaire Response

Name of University	Distributed Questionnaires	Received Questionnaires
• BU	25	21
• GUJ	55	18
• MSU	175	54
• NGU	15	12
• SGU	30	17
• SPU	155	117
• SU	65	9
• Total	520	248

Response Rate



- It is found from the above table and graph that the highest responses are from the SPU in terms of the percentage (75.48%), though the numbers of responses are higher in the case of MSU- 175 which has secured only 30.85%.

Publication of Faculty Members

- The highest numbers of publication of the faculty members' from the sample is of the 'National level Conference paper' in English languages and lowest in Hindi language with only 29 numbers. As its concern to 'Research Paper Publication', it is somewhat similar to National and International level and in English language as compare to State level, which almost half is observed in English language. The same 'Research Paper publication' is impressive in Gujarati language while for the Hindi - it is very less with only 48 numbers.

Importance of an institutional repository

- The findings for the Institutional Repository's valuable tool in preferential manner shows, out of the sample taken, 237 respondents visualize a benefit out of the repository for the preprint versions available to a worldwide audience. Similarly, 233 respondents believe that it will make available types of materials that have not been made available through the traditional publishing process, including large datasets and rich media formats such as audio, video, and graphic images. While only 38 respondents (3%) are in the opinion that it will benefit for the preserve the research of the university in a convenient, central place.

Interested in using institutional repository when it available at the university

- The most of faculty members (30.74%) are having 'Neutral' view about their interests in Institutional repository available at their own university. Only 10.25% of the respondents are Extremely Interested which indicates proper advocacy on the part of University Authority and Information Professionals towards the faculties.

Concerns for the submission to an institutional repository

- The concern factor/s for cooperation in the Institutional Repository Content creation by the faculty members found that - 22.37% of the respondents believe that to submitting in Institutional Repository might be a hurdle to the journal submission. Almost 21% of the respondents ready to submit that only formally published works should be available in Public Domain. The fear of non – citational or low – citational value and therefore counting for the future promotion will adversely affect is also observed with 41% in the respondents.

Findings

- The academic environment and the research output in different faculties of the Universities are viable as far as building the Central Institutional Repository of Gujarat State is concern.
- Publication of the different Faculty Members are scattered in more than one language.
- There is need for the advocacy and awareness among the faculties of the universities for the Institutional Repository's benefits and its growth and development
- It is observed from the analysis that many faculties are use to go for formal channel of publication i.e. peer reviewed journals. As they are much worried related to copyright issues of their Scholarly Publications. Hence, the clear-cut strategy for the sharing of resources amongst the academic and research community of the Gujarat State Universities should be workout.

Suggestions

- There should be an advocacy for Digital Content Creation of all Scholarly work carried out by any Faculty Members among the all universities.
- To pool the scattered scholarly resources of the faculties of universities covered under the study, there should be a Network of such resources through the Centralized Institutional Repository. For this, University can opt for the 'Mandate' for the submissions of such type of work to an Institutional Repository and it should be clubbed with Career Advancement Scheme for the promotion purpose. Furthermore, it should be recorded in Performance Appraisal Report annually.
- To organize physical, financial and information resources there should be a clear policy and strategy for the implementation of the proposed model and for that,
- To prepare a MOU between the participating Universities. There should be a common understanding among the participatory Universities for this purpose. For this very specific reason, MOU should be signed by the Sardar Patel University on one part and rest of the universities at another part. Here is the suggestion for the preparing, drafting and executing MOU among such universities in detail.

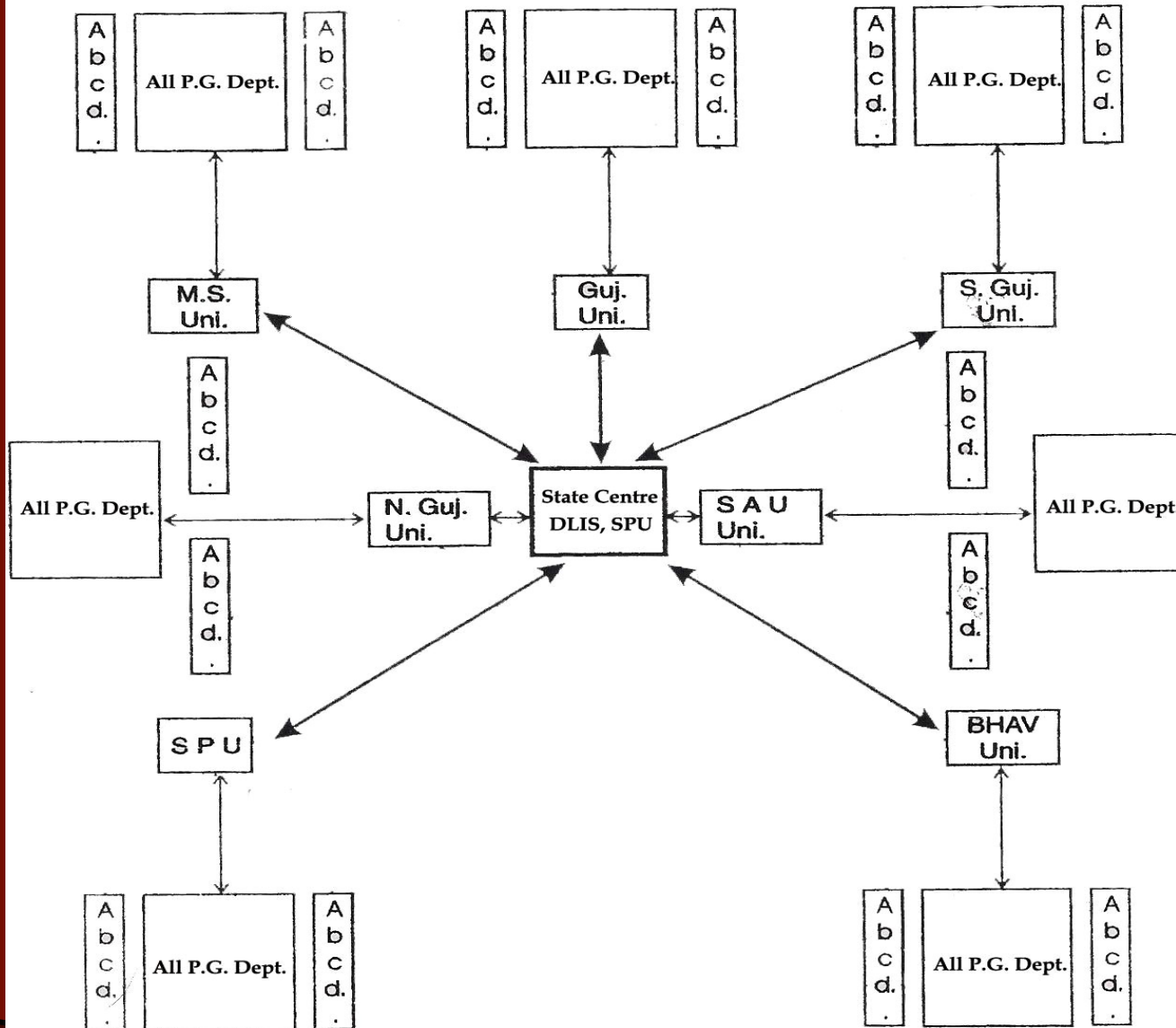
Centralized Model for Institutional Repository

- On the basis of analysis undergone for study, Centralized model may be adopted which will cover 06 universities of Gujarat State and will be contacted to Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar under the conditions of clauses of MOU specifically made for this model only.
- The universities will submit their last 5 years content, in full text form (either born digital or to be digitized) of Scholarly Communication only and from the Science Discipline at the first phase, to the Central Hub (Web Server) located at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar.
- Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar collect all these content and will create a Digital Collection supported by Greenstone Software by Gathering or Downloading, Enriched with suitable Metadata, Design, Format for more options for browsing by creating Hierarchies.

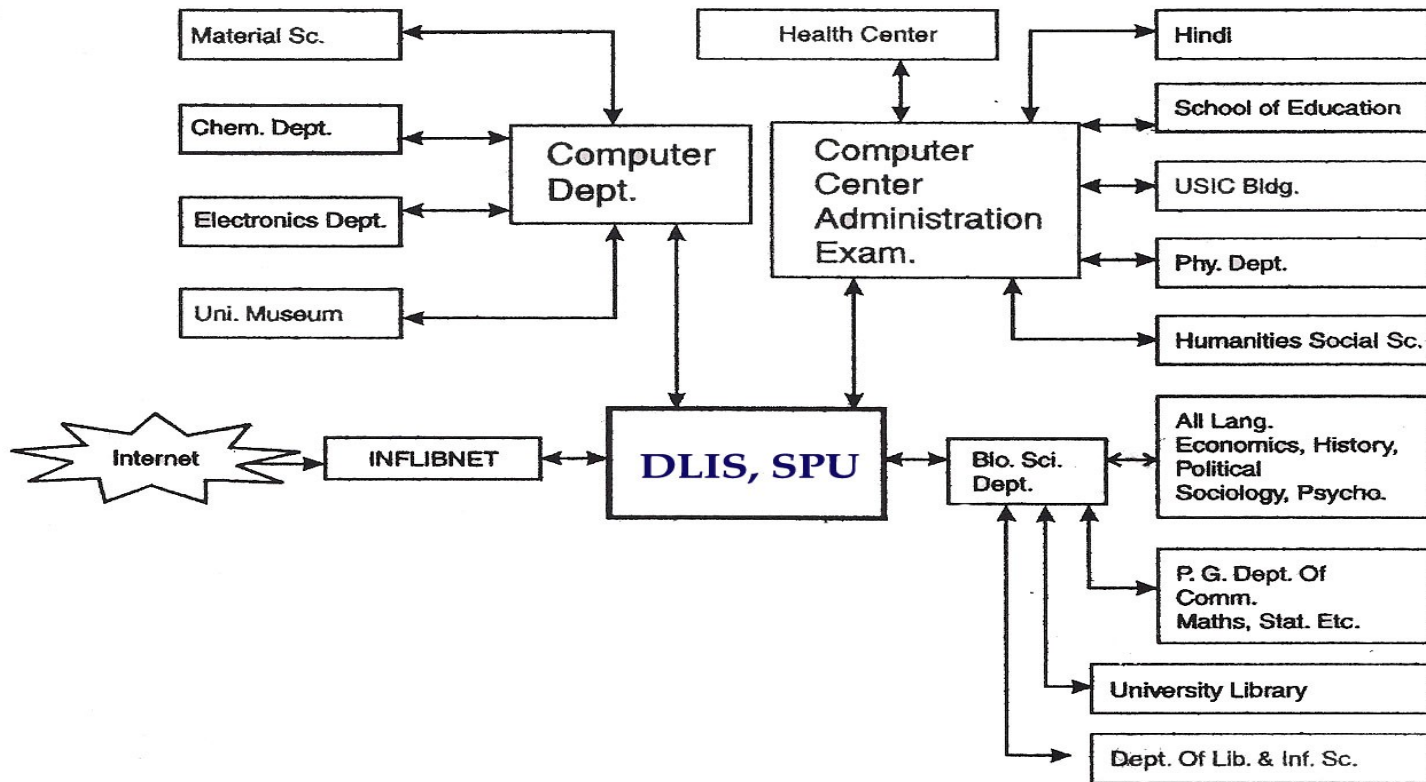
Centralized Model for Institutional Repository

- The entire collection of Centralized Institutional Repository at Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar will register with Open DOAR and thus, it will initiate the local knowledge-base to global arena and reciprocally local researchers will have an easy access to global space of scattered scholarly communication in their respective field of interest.
- The Greenstone software suit will be appropriate for the building of Digital Scholarly Communications for the Universities of Gujarat State.
- In this particular model, all other universities will be Data Provider while Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar will be Data Provider and also will be act as Service Provider for the rest of the universities in the case of global access are concern, to the rest of the universities of Gujarat State.
- Looking to the recommendation of National Knowledge Commission, government of India, universities have to go for the mandate. In turn, faculty members have to submit their research or other kind of scholarly communication in the Centralized Institutional Repository.

Centralized Model of Institutional Repositories- Gujarat State



Institutional Repository at Sardar Patel University-Vidya Repository



Requirements for the implementation of Centralized Model

- At the initial stage we have to be confirmative for the decision regarding software for the purpose of storage and preservation organization, and suitable hardware option, server for the access management, scanner for the digitization purpose and peripherals like, printers, UPS etc.
- Software: The Open Source Software option will be opt for the acceleration in the OA movement. Greenstone Digital Library is the competent for this model.
- Hardware: Intel Pentium 4, Clock speed 3.0 GHz, 1 MB L2 cache, 800 MHz FSB, 512 MB PC 2700 ECC DDR RAM, 2X 36 GB ULTRA 320 SCI HDD or 3X 80 serial ATA HDD, 2X 10X 100 Mbps LAN Card, DVD – RW, Intel Advance Graphic Cards, Integrated audio serial and parallel I/O Ports, WINDOWS software.
- Server: Since Greenstone is a suit of number of software in within there is no extra server will require.
- Scanners: A4 size, Flat Bed, 24 or 36 Bit Color Scanner, 4800X 9600 dpi: USB connectivity, Bundled with OCR software - or ATIZ Book Drive – Pro
- Printers: HP Laser jet 1020

THANKS.