UK Research Reserve: a shared service in the UK

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United Kingdom Research Reserve (UKRR)

- What is UKRR?
- Why is UKRR needed?
- How does UKRR work?
- Who pays how much for UKRR?
- What next for UKRR?
What is UKRR?

- UKRR is a government-sponsored scheme which helps UK university libraries dispose of low use research journals, safe in the knowledge that one copy will be kept in British Library Document Supply Centre (BLDSC) with two backup copies elsewhere.
Why is UKRR needed? (1)

• UK universities urgently need more space
• We can no longer cope with our ever expanding library collections
• Print material is becoming ever less important to researchers
Why is UKRR needed? (2)

• Strong political pressure on UK universities to share services to reduce costs and increase efficiency

• BLDSC needs to modernise its systems to meet changing user demands
What does UKRR consist of?

- UKRR is a partnership between 29 universities and the British Library
Why is UKRR special?

- Dual role: building research reserve and releasing space
- Encouraging culture change
How does the UKRR process work?

• Member libraries keen to dispose of material they no longer need check if the BL and/or other member libraries already holds the titles in question

• If yes, they can confidently dispose of the material

• If no they offer the material to the BL to plug gaps in its collection, and/or retain the items themselves on behalf of all UKRR members
How are UKRR members rewarded for taking part?

- For every metre of material offered for checking UKRR will pay the library 29 Euros
- 24 hour secure desktop document delivery from BLDSC
Who pays what for UKRR?

• UKRR is funded by UK government
  – €12m grant:
    o €3.4m to BL to modernise BLDSC
    o €3m to UK universities (UKRR members) for material they submit to the process
    o € 715k UKRR running costs
What next for UKRR?

• Funded until 2014
• To deliver a sustainable system to support cooperative collection management
Is there life after UKRR?

• Extend UKRR model to
  – Monographs?
  – Government publications?
  – Grey literature?

• Work across national boundaries?
UKRR - final thoughts

• Something has to give!
• We cannot go on amassing physical material as we have over the past centuries
• We must have a coordinated solution to protect the information infrastructure on which all our research activity depends
Introduction

The UK Research Reserve (UKRR) is a collaborative distributed national research collection managed by a partnership between the Higher Education sector and the British Library. It allows Higher Education libraries to de-duplicate their journal holdings of a title if two copies are held by other UKRR members, ensuring continued access to low-use journals, whilst allowing libraries to release space to meet the changing needs of their users.

Phase One of UKRR showed the effectiveness of creating a shared collection of low-use journals, with eight Higher Education libraries releasing over 11,000 metres of shelving through coordinated de-duplication.

UKRR is now in Phase Two, and is continuing its work building a sustainable national research collection. Having received funding from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) for five years, it has the ambitious target of releasing 100 km of shelf space by the end of 2013.
To find out more

www.ukrr.ac.uk

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