Digital libraries in European higher education – opportunities and challenges
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OVERVIEW

- The role of libraries
- Digital media
  - Electronic books and journals
  - Institutional repositories
- New services
- New skills
A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

- 1997 - electronic publishing forecast to be 5 - 15% of the market by 2002

- 2006 - 90% of [English language] scholarly journals now available electronically
THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES

- Supporting students and teachers
- Supporting researchers
SUPPORTING STUDENTS

- Computer provision in libraries
  - Changing design concepts?

- 24/7 access on and off campus
  - E-induction
  - E-reference

- Multiple sources
  - Single access
SUPPORTING TEACHERS

- Facilitating access to e-resources
- E-literacy
  - Critical evaluation
  - Plagiarism
CHANGES IN THE CULTURE OF UNIVERSITIES

- Blurring of boundaries between the role of teachers and librarians
SUPPORTING RESEARCHERS

- Table of Contents alerting services

- Older journals
  - Barriers to digitisation
  - Alternatives to digitisation
    - Inter-library loan
    - Electronic document delivery
CONSOLIDATION IN THE INDUSTRY

*Global market share of scientific journals*

- 28.2% - Elsevier
- 14.1% - Springer
- 9.5% - Thomson
- 3.9% - John Wiley
- 3.6% - Taylor and Francis
- 3.6% - Ingenta
- 3.6% - American Chemical Society
- 3.6% - Blackwell Publishing

66.4%
INDEXING SERVICES

- ISI Citation Indexes
- Emerging challenges
  - SCOPUS
  - Google Scholar
OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

- Quality control
  - Peer review

- Copyright

- Marketing
  - Indexing services
  - CrossRef
OPEN ARCHIVES / INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

- Advocacy – getting content
- Copyright
- Metadata creation
OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

- Free to the user, but who pays?
  - Sustainability
  - Preservation

- Language barrier
CHANGES IN THE INFORMATION SECTOR

- Blurring boundaries between industry sectors
  - Converging roles of players in the industry

- Awareness of the commercial and ethical issues
  - Publishing skills
  - Negotiating skills
  - Collaborative purchasing
NEW ROLES AND SKILLS?

- Developing tools and services to help users
  - Appropriate levels of ICT skills
  - Pedagogic skills
  - Business skills

- Changing cultures
  - Management
  - Personal, transferable skills

- Leadership
http://www.rgu.ac.uk/abs

Thank you for your attention
Questions?
Comments?