INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY MOVEMENT IN TURKEY

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Abstract:
ANKOS (The Anatolian University Libraries Consortium) established Open Access and the Institutional Repositories Working Group (OARWG) in order to raise awareness on Open Access (OA) and Institutional Repositories (IRs) among information professionals in Turkey. Ankara University is one of the first open access initiatives in Turkey. It has been involved in ANKOS since 2001, expressing a strong interest from the beginning. Over seven hundred fifty scientific papers produced by faculty members have been self-archived (http://arkivci, ankara.edu.tr/) and made accessible since the beginning of 2006. The "Hacettepe University Electronic Thesis Project" has been carried to make the full-texts of graduate theses and dissertations accessible through the Internet. The Middle East Technical University Electronic Thesis and Dissertations project was started to provide web access to theses and dissertations that have been completed at the Middle East Technical University. The "Hacettepe University Electronic Thesis and Dissertations" project was established and since that time students have been submitting their theses in both print and PDF. On the poster, activities of ANKOS OARWG will be summarized. Several examples of open access initiatives in Turkey will still be Ankara and Hacettepe Universities' Institutional Repositories and Middle East Technical University's E-Theses Archive.

ANKOS Open Access and Institutional Repositories Working Group (OARWG)

ANKOS Open Access and Institutional Repositories Working Group (OARWG) was established in January 2006. Its mission is to raise awareness of Open Access (OA) and Institutional Repositories (IRs) among information professionals in Turkey; ensuring the cooperation between ANKOS information professionals, researchers as to the related practices; and cooperating with domestic and international organizations who operate in the relevant areas. OARWG's goals may be summarized as follows:

- Informing member organizations about the studies carried out in Turkey and outside on OA and IRs.
- Enabling member organizations, as a consortium, to exercise and take advantage of the OAM movement.
- Creating opportunities for member organizations to expand and apply OA within their own structures.
- Providing methodological guidance for the relevant organizations in enabling them to build their own repositories.
- Engaging in activities to sustain the related actions in a coordinated manner, making the educational and supplementary documents available at the ANKOS website.

OARWG has been using its web page (www.ankos.gov.tr/arkivci) (Figure 1) and blog (www.arkivci.blogspot.com) (Figure 2) as a promotional tool to create a greater awareness of OA and IRs.

The Dipase software (Version 1.2) was installed on a web server (Apache Tomcat) running on Linux Fedora Core (Version 3) operating system with access to PostgreSQL database. A domain name was assigned to the web server to that metadata and full-texts of theses and dissertations can be input and searched via a web-based Dipase user interface.

ANKOS Open Access Initiative

ANKOS is working in cooperation with the OA Advisory Committee to support events on OA. ANKOS is a member of SPARC and aligns itself with the goals of SPARC on OA and IRs. OARWG has begun by inviting the library community to join and the OA Advisory Committee and engaging authors in library science to deposit their work in open archives e.g. E-prints (in Library and Information).

Ankara University Open Access Repository (AUOAR)

Ankara University was founded in 1948, including 15 graduate and undergraduate schools. Ankara University is one of the big universities of the country with 364 academic staff. Major fields of study are health and natural sciences, and social sciences.

Ankara University has become one of the first open access initiatives in Turkey (http://arkivci.ankara.edu.tr/) (Figure 3-4) since 2005. Indeed, AUOAR was formed as part of the Open Access Project according to the administrative decision in April 2005, for the purpose of supporting scholarly research.

Firstly, it has been decided to place the pre-prints and post-print, course notes, project reports, and book chapters, conference presentations and texts prepared by the faculty members to the open archive.

The software is constructed on PHP based MySQL in July 2005 and has been upgraded to a server that is only used for open archive purposes. Between July 2005 and October 2007, testing of the project was carried out with 15 faculty members of Information and Records Management Department and 10 publications have been added to the open archive for web-based access. Articles written by the academics of the university and published in the academic refereed journals published by the university itself, together with articles passed by the editorial boards of the journals, and the articles which are published in the administrative board decision in June 2006. Since the beginning of 2009, the repository has added articles published in the researchers' journals and articles published in the OAL-PHM. Today, total number of downloads by 670 different academics has reached 856 (297 post-prints, 403 theses and dissertations, 137 project reports, 17 conference presentation and text and 7 course notes).

Hacettepe University Open Archive: Open Access to Electronic Theses and Papers

Founded in 1967, Hacettepe University is one of the top public universities in Turkey with more than 25,000 students and 2,000 faculty. Some 600 graduate theses get completed each year. Faculty members are most productive in publishing refereed papers in scholarly journals.

A project has been carried out to demonstrate that the full-texts of graduate theses and dissertations can be accessed through the Internet. Selected theses and dissertations including multimedia components (pictures, maps, audio and video features) were scanned and files in PDF (Portable Document Format) format were created. Metadata elements such as titles, tables of contents, and abstracts were captured through an optical character recognition (OCR) software. Machine readable cataloging (MARC) data for theses and dissertations were obtained from the university library. Dublin Core-based metadata was created for each thesis and dissertation using 15 fields (title, author, abstract, keywords, notes, contributors, dates, language, description, format, publisher, source, related-url, contributor, keywords, etc.) and advanced search and retrieval techniques (e.g., stemming, fuzzy search) to query the database.

The Dipase software (Version 1.2) was installed on a web server (Apache Tomcat) running on Linux Fedora Core (Version 3) operating system with access to PostgreSQL database. A domain name was assigned to the web server to that metadata and full-texts of theses and dissertations can be input and searched via a web-based Dipase user interface.

The Dipase interface was translated to Turkish to facilitate the data input, search and retrieval process. Dublin Core-based metadata and corresponding full-texts of theses and dissertations were exported to the system. Using the Dipase software, a small scale and experimental archive ("Hacettepe University Open Archive") was developed. The Dipase software and its database can be used for many different purposes, especially for institutional archives and personal archives.

The Dipase project has been carried out in cooperation with the Dipase Development Team. The Dipase project has been carried out by the Dipase Team (M. Altuğ Ayvaz, Y. Arslan, A. Keçeci, H. Cengiz, etc.). The Dipase software is a powerful, user-friendly and customizable tool for digital library management.

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The Middle East Technical University's E-Theses Archive

Middle East Technical University (METU) is founded on November 15, 1956 to contribute to the development of Turkey and Middle East countries and especially to train people so as to create a skilled workforce in the fields of natural and social sciences. METU is one of Turkey's most competitive universities. Each year, among the students taking the National University Entrance Examination, over 1/3 of the 1000 applicants with the highest scores entered METU. Over 40% of METU's students go to graduate school and over 21,000 students have registered to METU in the 2005-2006 academic year. Approximately 25% of these are enrolled in graduate programs. Each year, between 800 to 1200 students with various academic degrees from nearly 50 different foreign countries attend METU.

METU has 47 undergraduate programs within 6 faculties. Additionally, there are 51 Graduate Programs and 55 doctorates and a "School of Foreign Languages" which includes the English Preparatory Department, 10 undergraduate programs (including 1 international program) in the preparatory school, and 5 new campuses.

The Middle East Technical University Electronic Theses and Dissertations project was started to provide web access to theses and dissertations which have been completed at the Middle East Technical University (METU) since April 2001. In March 2003, David F. Karl (Dean and University Librarian Emeritus, University of Cincinnati) has been invited to work with METU ETD Group. In April 2003, METU ETD Web site has been created and the ETD Submission Form put into the site (Figure 6-7).

In September 2003, the METU Library Theses and Dissertations Archive was established and since that time students have been submitting their theses in both print and PDF. Since April 2004, the Middle East Technical University Library has been a member of Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDTL) as an initiative to improve graduate education, increase sharing of knowledge, help universities build their information infrastructure, and extend the value of digital libraries. Today, there are more than 2,600 e-theses and dissertations in the METU Library Theses and Dissertations Archive.