Author Self-Archiving in Open Access Institutional Repositories for Awareness Creation in Universities

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Abstract : The study explored the authors self-archiving to create awareness of open-access institutional repositories in universities. The qualitative approach of the study was informed by the interpretive paradigm as well as the case research design. The target population for the study was all twelve (12) open-access institutional repositories managers and administrators purposively selected from the five (5) universities in Ghana. The universities were chosen since they were the only ones listed in the Directory of Open Access Repositories. Interviews were conducted using a semi-structured interview guide and data were analyzed using thematic analysis. The study revealed that academics had some information about self-archiving in open-access institutional repositories and university libraries with open-access institutional repositories were using DSpace software. Managers and administrators of open-access institutional repositories mediated content uploaded and believed that author self-archiving could improve awareness of open-access institutional repositories. The study recommended that universities should fully implement the author's self-archiving protocol, and academics should be trained to be able to upload research works onto open-access institutional repositories. Furthermore, the university and university library should provide rigorous policies on author self-archiving and incentives for author self-archiving in the open access institutional repositories.

Keywords : author, awareness, institutional repositories, open access, open archive, self-archiving
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