

## **Construction of the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo (RIUC) Experience in progress**

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### **Abstract**

Currently, institutional repositories worldwide are available on the Web for researchers with the preservation of research materials in Open Access. Therefore, Universities are designing these digital portals to disseminate, and provide both visibility and accessibility to their scientific productivity. This paper aims to present an outline of experience in the construction process of the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo (RIUC, in Spanish). The qualitative methodology is addressed documentary, where the information collected is focused on active participation in the project. Therefore, the result of it provides the overview of RIUC as part of the socialization of knowledge that is a landmark in higher education, where the reuse and sharing academic benefit the community. In conclusion, the construction of the repository is a contribution to generate and foster a culture of knowledge sharing, in addition to bringing together information as a contribution to other designs.

**Keywords:** Repositories, Open Access, researching, accessibility, visibility.

## 1. Introduction

The development of information technology in the virtual era has opened various fields, in particular, access to research high impact and updated practically given accessibility and visibility immediately to the world way, facilitating academic research be updated and have this productivity anytime and in any space or environment in which it is located. In this regard, UNESCO (n.d.) exposes Open Access (OA) as the following:

Building knowledge societies that are peaceful, democratic and inclusive is at the heart of UNESCO's mandate. And a fundamental condition for the global knowledge society is universal access to information ... Open Access offers unlimited entry to scientific information and allows anyone to use digital information without restrictions. With this access, high costs and copyright is no longer an obstacle to the dissemination of scientific information. Anyone is free to add information, modify the content of a text, translated into other languages or share the complete version of a digital publication. (n.d)

Similarly, UNESCO (S / f) defines Open Access from this perspective: "Open Access means free access to scientific information and unrestricted use of electronic data for everyone." (n.d). There are policies established and initiatives of Budapest and Berlin Declaration, among others. In this same vein, Suber (2006) states that Open Access is: "... Digital literature, online, free charge and free of most copyright restrictions and licenses. What make it possible are the internet and the consent of the author or owner of the copyright." (n.d)

In the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities (2003) reads as follows:

Establishing open access as a worthwhile procedure ideally requires the active commitment of each and every individual producer of scientific knowledge and holder of cultural heritage. Open access contributions include original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, source materials, digital representations of pictorial and graphical materials and scholarly multimedia material. (para. 6)

The above mentioned quotations indicate the relevance in today's world of open access, where researchers have free use of the research, academic and cultural information, which can be copied and downloaded, as long as the copyright is respected without barriers of time and space. These contributions are not only available for these purposes but also preserved over time online. It is also conceivable that the knowledge society through open

access has no barriers. On the other hand, this book access to scientific information is stored in institutional repositories for Lynch (2003, Adame, Silvia et al, 2013) defines a repository as:

A computer system that integrates a set of services that incorporate, collect, preserve, consult and support the management and dissemination of digital resources created by the university to the community members, through an interface or website through appropriate classification of its resources through metadata (p. 148)

In the opinion of this author, it is not a mere repository deposit material but is dynamic, developed by the members of the institution where the dissemination of research is offered and available to all. In this context, McDowell (2007) is of the opinion that an institutional repository must meet certain characteristics, such as:

- An institutional service is open to the entire university community and all kinds of topics.
- Your goal is to collect, preserve and provide access to, among other things, the production of researchers and teachers in multiple formats. Any repository to put limits on this production, for example, only learning objects thesis or just to name a few would be excluded.
- It must actively receive content either through a web form or simply through email.

It is an institutional repository that not only responds to the enduring preservation of some documents but also the dissemination and availability of it is vital. This initiative has been increasing in both universities, Europe, Asia and Latin America, contributing even to create networks of institutional repositories as Federated Network of Institutional Repositories of Scientific Publications = *Reference*, where the following participating countries: Argentina, Brazil , Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and, most recently, El Salvador. Its north is "visible the science of Latin America." From there they intend to achieve agreements, establish policies regarding the storage of collections and recovery, among other goals and objective. To define standards for interoperability to

use tools for documental registration, safety and quality, intellectual property and copyright and other aspects to be considered for sustainable growth of the Web.

Given this trend, the demand intention and research communities, Venezuelan universities such as Universidad de los Andes, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Universidad del Zulia, Universidad de Oriente, among others create their institutional repositories, which have even entered the Ranking Web Repositories (<http://repositories.webometrics.info/9>).

This growth of repositories invites universities to develop at least one to offer their researchers the opportunity to gain visibility and accessible their research and that could be recovered by search engines like Google Scholar (Google Scholar), where statistics are raised number of citations and publications in high impact scientific articles in line with its peers worldwide. Therefore, a university community should not only be consumers of information but also generates it.

Therefore, the University of Carabobo on par with other higher education institutions is the project of creating their own institutional repositories, becoming a support tool for academics and researchers poses. This digital space begins as part of the Strategic Plan of the Academic Vice President of the University of Carabobo 2009 - 2012. In this context, the project is attached to the Directorate General of Central University Library, where the construction begins Repository Institutional of the University of Carabobo (RIUC).

### **1.1. RIUC, an experience.**

For 2009 the Academic Vice President designates the first Commission to create the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo (RIUC), which is assigned and managed by the Directorate General of Central Library, where it was started with a diagnostic phase being drafted objectives, criteria design, definition of the knowledge communities, policies, among other design approaches. It was decided to take DSpace as the platform for the development of the repository, since this is open source software, used in repositories which facilitate the deposit, the organization in communities and assigning metadata, along this manager allows diffusion harvesters or aggregators. DSpace was

designed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and adopted by many universities for this purpose.

Therefore, between 2010 and 2012 the program source code obtained from the Web is installed, a small start uploading files, and important documents necessary for the operation thereof, such as the definition of RIUC (2011) approved. Which states as follows (Available in <http://www.bc.uc.edu.ve/docs/riuc/riuc.pdf>):

Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo is a tool for the exchange of knowledge that reflects the commitment to make visible the production of teaching and research and is composed of digital files that collect and preserve the intellectual output for dissemination and access open to resources stored in it, in order to maximize visibility, use and impact of scientific and academic production. (para. 1)

In addition, its overall goal, which is also indicated: "Spreading the academic and scientific, intellectual production, extension, service and management, in free form, enabling collaboration in the development of comprehensive research activity." . As part of policies it is highlighted:

It being understood that the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo (RIUC) is a platform that allows store intellectual production generated by the members of the university community, to enhance the visibility of these contained in the academic world, under a cooperative construction voluntary. Where the author retains his property rights and integrity of the work, and is solely responsible for their violation. Furthermore, it results with digital preservation, long-term preservation of scientific and academic heritage of the University of Carabobo. (2011, p. 1)

Among other things considers the preservation formats: pdf to text; jpeg for images, mp3, audio or mp4 or flv to video files; also content policy and collections. RIUC can accommodate all types of intellectual production material, provided that:

- Be produced or wholly or partly funded the University of Carabobo.
- Belong to the field of research or scientific disclosure, ie, the author or co-author of a work is affiliated with one of the research facilities of the UC.
- Be in digital format, in any language.
- Do not be ephemeral.

- The author and / or authors Institutional Repository granted to non-exclusive licenses to preserve and disseminate the work in question through institutional repository.
- In the event that the author of a work has transferred his copyright to an external editor Institutional Repository shall release the full text provided when the policy editor permissions provisions in question provides for open access to post some version of job.

As for the License, RIUC uses a non-exclusive distribution license provides that the contents are consolidated and updated according to the research priority areas defined by the Council of Scientific and Humanistic (CDCH) of the University of Carabobo as communities besides University Management, UC Heritage and Culture. Among the types of documents that can be deposited in RIUC are academic and scientific material: Undergraduate work approved in any of the Powers of the UC works Specialization, Master's and Doctoral programs approved postgraduate studies in any of the Faculties UC, job advancement; provided that he not been registered as any of the above categories, articles or editorials published in a magazine of the University of Carabobo, among others.

On July 2012, it is released to the Web, and then, it was begun the process of presentation in different Faculty Councils. By 2014 the work was taken up and raised new strategies, initiating the process of formation and cargo, which continues until now, where the experience was interesting and motivational process starts, although very discreet size, which from November 2014 to date it is 855 degrees, the action plan is to continue motivating, loading and increasing the size as well as being collected by Google Scholar and enter the next measurement in the Ranking Web of Repositories, increasing the number visits as well as downloads, among other relevant aspects for the success of an institutional repository.

In addition, it seeks to develop a culture of moving from the traditional way of communicating research printed only have open access to scientific publications, a change of horizons to consolidate repository. For this, the team has been striving, the north is reached.

## **1.2. Identity and visibility.**

Other items to include in this process is to make known the importance of researchers signature that identifies you as the author and set yourself apart from others so that they are cited correctly and can be retrieved entire production. Since the variants with an author signs his scientific papers make it difficult to analyze the citations, which reduce the impact of its scientific production and visibility.

Today, it is very important to increase the visibility of the scientific production promotes and favors the recognition in the scientific and academic community, according to this Ochoa Henríquez (2004) expressed about it the following:

The dissemination of knowledge is a phase of scientific work that occurs when the user reaches the intellectual production, i.e., goes beyond editing work; this requires making visible the editorial work means putting in view of the potential user to facilitate consultation. Without visibility there is no use of knowledge that is ultimately the rationale for their production. (p. 2)

In line with the above, RIUC is working to contribute, disseminate and improve the accessibility and visibility of the research conducted at the University of Carabobo. However, it is valid to note that the product is of quality research and has the necessary merit to achieve this, is also required. So eventually it aims to improve the number of citations, downloads and dissemination.

## **2. Purpose of Research and methodological sketch.**

The purpose of this study was to present an outline of experience in the construction process of the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo (RIUC). The methodology was qualitative documentary; it was carried out with techniques such as observation, data collection, registration, critical review and analysis of print and digital sources. The information gathered focuses on active participation in the project. The particularity of the experience exposed in one way or another complement the contemporary relevance of the study.

## **3. Final reflections**

The approach to the experience of building the Institutional Repository of the University of Carabobo is expressed from collaborative perspective to the university work with their own characteristics and objectives. The presentality of researching productivity in the Web allows the possibility of achieving recognition with peers and share research

without diverting so that an institutional repository among its main functions are: deposition mechanism, involving self-archiving authors , access mechanism, retrieve information, be available to search engines. As has been raised, the continuous work and shared experiences allow nurture the process.

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