

Economists Online Summing Up

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At:



Subject Repositories

European collaboration in the international context

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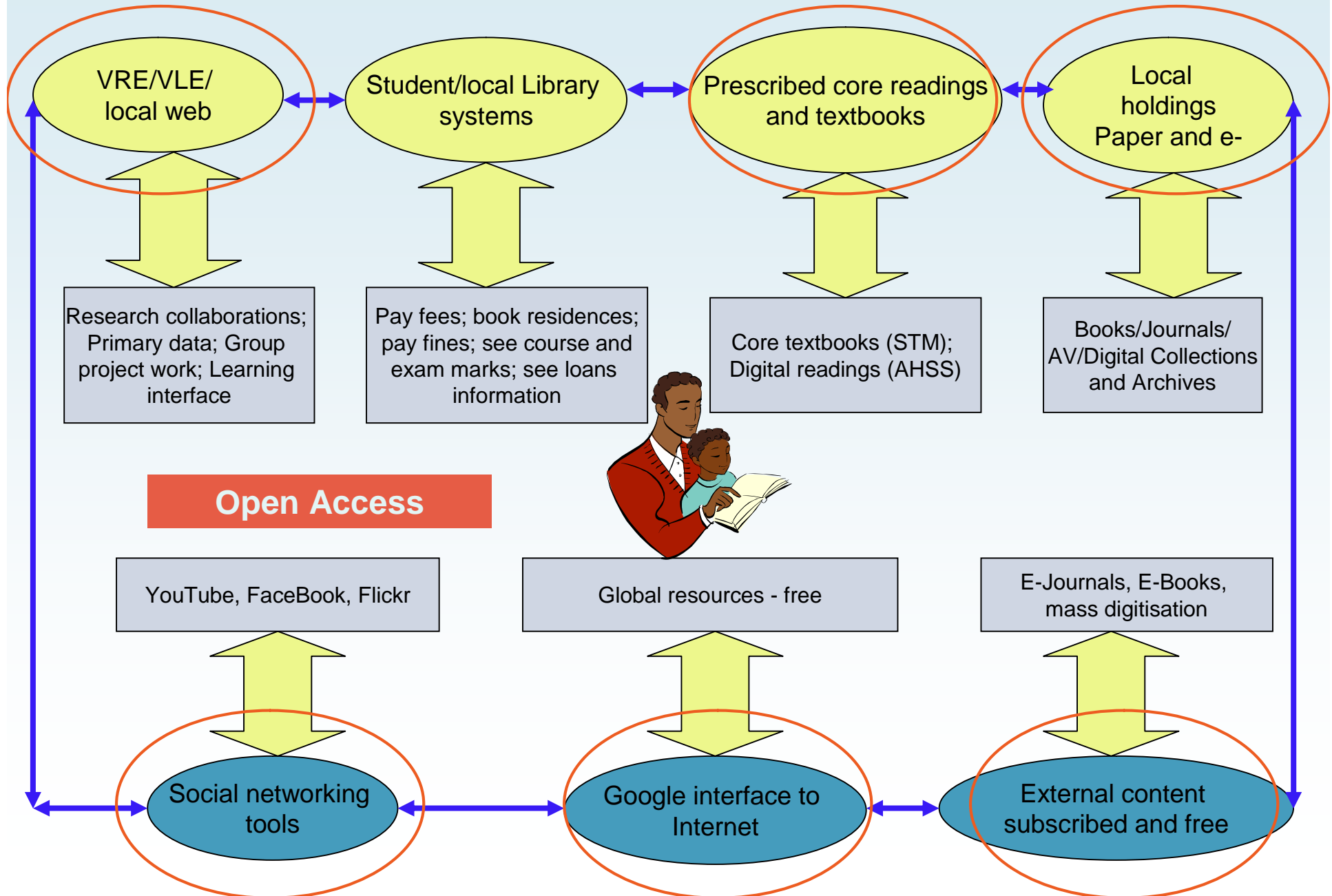
The British Library Conference Centre, London

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- I A research and learning context
- II Repositories – 10 key points
- III Next Generation for repositories?

I. Research and Learning Context

- The Landscape



II. Repositories

- Key Points
 - From the Conference
 - From the Twitter site at #NEEO

1. Why subject repositories?

- Conference has given a good summary of the issues
 - Flourish when linked to disciplinary practice and culture
 - Where grey literature, such as Working Papers, pre-dominate
 - Where research groups are used to international interactions using social or networking tools
 - Researchers identify with subject more than institution

- Economics research ticks many of these boxes**

2. Widening participation

- Not all excellent economics research is published in highly-rated institutions in Europe
 - Economic researchers in national Central Banks
 - Universities outside Europe

- Economists Online needs to re-visit membership criteria??**

3. Back digitisation of core papers

- Interesting idea to increase content
 - I chaired a study for the JISC to look at similar activity for UK research as a whole, starting with the outputs of Research Assessment exercises
 - JISC themselves used the report to undertake detailed modelling
 - Conclusion was that further work was not viable
 - Copyright clearances would be complex
 - Too expensive

4. Mandates

- ❑ Does Economists Online have an advocacy function in the future?
 - ❑ To show the benefits to the discipline that (institutional/funder) mandates bring?
 - ❑ Compliance with NIH mandate is now 60%
 - ❑ Driven by publishers doing the deposit

- ❑ **Could Economists Online advocate for a similar arrangement for economics research?**

5. Funding

- ❑ Australian levels of public funding are staggering
 - ❑ AUD 400 million over 4 years for e-research infrastructure
- ❑ What lessons can be learned from this in Europe?
 - ❑ **Should Economists Online bid for funding to undertake a study to see how European funding streams can be channelled to support dissemination of European economics research?**

6. Sustainability

- ❑ NEEO/Nereus has given a lot of thought to this
 - ❑ Institutional repositories leverage funds by aligning their work with strategic priorities of the institution
 - ❑ Aggregating portals use institutional knowledge and skills to develop portal service at no extra cost
 - ❑ **Subject repositories**
 - ❑ **Cornell model of charging is important exemplar**
 - **Charge institutions which are heavy users**
 - **Charge membership fee for those who supply large amounts of content**
 - ❑ **All being considered by Nereus/NEEO**

7. Digital Preservation

- ❑ Digital Preservation agreement with The Royal Library in The Hague
 - ❑ One of the first such agreements for academic libraries in Europe
 - ❑ Digital Preservation ensures long-term, permanent access, to deposited content
 - ❑ One of the value-added services that Economists Online provides

8. Library Staff

- Repositories, institutional or subject-based, create new roles for library staff
 - Advocacy through liaison with researchers
 - IPR (Intellectual Property Rights)
 - A complex map consisting of national jurisdiction in Member States and European legislation
 - Not a role that academics on their own could manage

9. Content and Services

- Content provision for repositories of any kind works best:
 - Where there is a link to the CRIS (Current Research Information System) at institutional level
 - Link-up with research funder systems too
- Subject repositories are best focus for community building
 - Economists Online is a great starting point
 - Surveys and Focus Groups already held
 - Future involvement with building virtual subject community?**
 - Collaborative tools and work spaces?**

10. Data Management

Data Management

- Who is best placed to work with academics to advocate for the deposit of data?
- Who is responsible for curating data?
- How can researchers' reluctance to share their own data (as opposed to other people's) be overcome?
- Is there a role for research funders here?
- Still a discussion about the role of publishers?

III. Next Generation for Economists Online?

- ❑ 'Third Generation' Subject repositories
 1. Strategic alignment
 - ❑ LERU (League of European Research Universities)
 2. Widening participation
 3. E-Press

1. Strategic alignment

- ❑ Open Access will not take off unless it is embedded in institutional strategies
 - ❑ Key Finding from Embracing the Future: Embedding Digital Repositories in the University of London by Stijn Hoorens, Lidia Villalba van Dijk, Christian Van Stolk
 - ❑ See <http://eprints.ucl.ac.uk/13760/>



EUROPE

LERU



- ❑ League of European Research Universities
 - ❑ an association of research-intensive universities sharing the values of high-quality teaching within an environment of internationally competitive research
 - ❑ See <http://www.leru.org/>
- ❑ UCL hosted a meeting of LERU representative on 15 December 2009
 - ❑ To advise LERU Vice-Chancellors what position, if any, they should take on Open Access

Recommendations

- ❑ 10 Recommendations being discussed by LERU Policy Committee in Leuven on 11 February 2010
- ❑ One recommendation is for LERU to develop key partnerships with key organisations to implement the Work Plan that the Recommendations advocate
- ❑ Clear opening here for Economists Online to support European Vice-Chancellors

2. Widening the partnership

DART-Europe E-theses Portal



- ❑ DART-Europe Open Access E-Theses portal
 - ❑ www.dart-europe.eu
 - ❑ supported by LIBER (Association of European Research Libraries)
 - ❑ 123,184 Open Access full-text e-theses from 210 European Universities
 - ❑ 529 have 'economics' as a title keyword
 - ❑ Metadata harvestable by OAI-PMH
 - ❑ Open Access for young research is good for the researcher
 - ❑ More visibility
 - ❑ And for the subject
 - ❑ Adds to the body of knowledge

3. E-Press

- ❑ What does the future look like?
 - ❑ Economists Online currently takes content from institutional repositories
 - ❑ This itself may be grey literature or copies of material from subscription journals
- ❑ Future for repositories may be to develop e-Press functions
 - ❑ Certainly being considered by institutional repositories in some research-intensive Universities
 - ❑ Delays in publishing (4-5 years in Economics?) make this an obvious development
 - ❑ **Overlay journals built on top of repository content**
 - ❑ **Monograph publisher for text books where current provision is not ideal**
 - ❑ Subject repository is an ideal platform for such functions

And finally

- ❑ Congratulations to all involved in Economists Online for the birth of a healthy baby
 - ❑ **73,000 metadata records**
 - ❑ **20,000 full-text items**
 - ❑ **Multi-lingual portal**
- ❑ This is only the start...