

rian.ie PATHWAYS TO IRISH RESEARCH



Introduction

rian.ie is the Irish national open access portal which currently harvests metadata from the repositories of eight higher education institutions, in order to make Irish research material more freely accessible. The aggregation of this open access content represents a significant opportunity for disseminating the results of Irish research.

Metadata is harvested via OAI-PMH and then normalised before being presented in a consistent manner through a clearly designed interface. Jointly agreed metadata standards ensure accurate searching of approximately 17,000 full text records. The funder browse index highlights the contributions made to research by various funders and has been attracting much attention. Publicly accessible statistics on deposit rates have engendered a competitive edge between contributing institutions while administrator reports provide useful feedback on the most popular items and top contributing authors. A unique distributed administration system allows local institutional repository (IR) managers complete control over harvesting and other functions through an easy-to-use user interface. IR managers can suspend harvesting or force a full harvest at any time.

rian.ie began as an investigation into institutional repositories by the Irish Universities Association (IUA) Librarians' Group in 2005. In 2006, the group successfully applied for support from the Irish Government's 'Strategic Innovation Fund' and was awarded €1.6 million, half of it to be found in matching funding. The project was run between 2007 and 2010 by the seven Irish university libraries with support from the IUA. It is intended to extend the harvest to other Irish research institutions as rian.ie develops.

Showcasing Irish research excellence and sharing it with the world

Element	From	To
type	Article (peer-reviewed)	Journal article
type	Article (non peer-reviewed)	Journal article
type	Masters thesis (Research)	Master thesis (research)
type	Masters thesis (Taught)	Master thesis (taught)

RIAN Metadata

RIAN uses the federated model to create a national open access portal by harvesting metadata from the institutional repositories of eight higher education institutions in Ireland. These are Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, Dublin City University, Dublin Institute of Technology, National University of Ireland Maynooth, University of Limerick, University College Cork and National University of Ireland Galway. The harvested metadata is transformed and cross walked according to a schema agreed by all participants. So for example, if a local repository has categorised an item as 'Article (peer-reviewed)' and another repository has categorised an item as 'Article', both of these items will appear on RIAN as 'Journal article'. All repositories map their items types to an agreed set of types. This ensures consistency in the presentation of records on RIAN and ease of understanding for the end-user. Additionally all records harvested by RIAN must be full text which meets users' demands for 'Full Text' records when searching.

RIAN Interface

The RIAN public interface offers bilingual search and faceted browsing by author, institution, year of publication, peer-review status, item type, funder and keywords. An advanced search is available and results sets can be sorted by author, title, item type, date, institution, peer review status and language. Results sets can be exported in various file formats or to bibliographic management software. The Funder Browse Index <http://rian.ie/en/browseby/funders> lists the most important Irish research funders and provides a count of the publications which acknowledge funding. Clicking on the funder name returns a list of all the open access publications in RIAN funded by that funder. This is highly visible evidence of compliance with the open access policies initiated by funders in Ireland such as Science Foundation Ireland, Health Research Board, Irish Research Council for Science Engineering and Technology and the Higher Education Authority.

Name: UCC Administrator
User Login Name: UCCAdmin
Email address of manager: cora@ucc.ie
Do you wish to receive email reports? Click the checkbox if you wish to receive monthly email summary reports on harvesting results from your repository and updates to rian.ie
Address: Boole Library, UCC Library, UCC, Cork, Ireland
Phone: +353214205109

Select Funder to Browse by:

- Funder: Enterprise Ireland (437)
- Funder: Environmental Protection Agency (83)
- Funder: Health Research Board (270)

RIAN 'Hidden' Administration System

This is the core back-end interface which combines all the management tools that allow local repository administrators to manage the flow of data into RIAN from their repository. Identification of sets for harvesting is placed in the hands of local IR managers along with the mapping of local descriptions of publication types to the RIAN standardised versions. IR managers can suspend harvesting or force a full harvest at any time and can decide which sets can be harvested onwards from RIAN. The system also allows input from the participating institutions directly on to the RIAN webpages and management of RSS feeds on open access and related issues.

RIAN Statistics

On the front end of RIAN it is possible for everyone to see deposit rates per institution <http://rian.ie/en/stats/overview>. The highest number of open access items currently belongs to Trinity College Dublin. It is also possible to get an overview of the contributions by research funder as well the type of content and peer review status. Each of the local institutional repository administrators receives a monthly report which gives basic usage information such as the number of searches and the number of hits as well as an activity breakdown per contributing institutional repository. The report also includes the Top 10 list for contributing authors, most viewed authors, most viewed items, and keywords.

RIAN as Third Party Service Provider

RIAN was designed from the outset to act as a third party service provider in order to reduce duplication, provide value for money, and act as a focal point for external agencies interested in including Irish research material in their systems. RIAN achieves this by a) compliance with harvesting standards and recommendations (e.g. DRIVER) b) the provision from the outset of 'sets' for harvesting by key agencies national and international.

