Showcasing Irish research excellence and sharing it with the world

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.

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 among all participants. 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 item 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 ‘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.