Open Repositories 2017
Isomorphic Pressures on Institutional Repositories in Japan

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• Digital Initiatives and Information Technology Faculty Librarian, Open Access

• Work with Faculty and our Repository & Research the How/What/Why/When we can get stuff into our IR

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Number of Institutions which have released IRs
Number of Institutions which have built or been building IRs on JAIRO Cloud

- IR built on software other than JAIRO Cloud
- IR built on JAIRO Cloud
- IR under construction on JAIRO Cloud

JAIRO Cloud under construction

Number of Institutions which have released IRs: 712
Previous Work

• **Rate of growth** in IR numbers. (e.g., Davis & Connolly, 2007; Lawal, 2002).

• **Adoption** by faculty and researchers slowly adopting IRs (in terms of contributing and using content) in most areas (with IRs such as arXiv, PLOS and PubMed Central as exceptions).

• **Advocacy faculty-researcher engagement** with repositories (e.g., Buehler, 2013; Foster & Gibbons, 2005).

• **OA Policy** - How institutions, funders, or other agencies have developed IR policy mandates to increase IR usage (e.g., Larivière et al., 2012; Pinfield, 2005).

• **International or Global IR trends** explained by research on Diffusion of Innovation Theory (Rogers, 2003; Jones, Andrew & MacColl, 2006; Xia, 2012).
Holistic Framework

• **BIGGER PICTURE** of “organizational legitimacy”
  • Examining norms, values, beliefs, and definitions, in order to understand how IRs are legitimized (or not) by larger organizational structures

• **Neo - Institutional Theory 3 mechanisms (pressures)** that produce a phenomenon called isomorphism, or “institutional pillars”:
  • regulatory/coercive,
  • cognitive/mimetic, &
  • normative

(DiMaggio & Powell, 1983; Scott, 2001).
Problem

How are IRs are legitimized (or not) by larger organizational structures in Japan?
Why is this important?

• Rapid growth in IR numbers, infrastructure, technical underdevelopment, or other infrastructure barriers
• Faculty submissions to IRs lagging (e.g., Dubinsky, 2014, Lynch, 2017…)
• Research on IRs has mainly focused on Western Europe, North America, and Australia
• Tensions in interests, Lack of public availability of research, produced with public monies, that remains inaccessible behind publisher paywalls…
Institutional Environment

Pressures
- Normative
- Regulatory
- Mimetic

Legitimacy
- External
- Internal

Actors
- Librarians
- IR employees
- Faculty
- Campus Admin

Institutional isomorphism

Source: Proposed Framework created by the author and influenced by DiMaggio and Powell, 1983.
What?

NORMS:
• Institutional expectations perceived as normal and behaviors are transferred onto individuals within a profession

Legitimacy:
• How organizations adapt to social expectations to gain acceptance
  • External
  • Internal
Data Collection

Phase I - Content analysis of Websites of Institutions IRs in Japan (& United States) - via ROARMAP and OpenDOAR.

- Analysis of mission and vision statements, types of institution, policy status, IR locations, and people involved,
  (1) identified themes, trends, mandates, and core beliefs;
  (2) captured the language and definitions being used;
  (3) identified cases for further study;

Phase II – Open-ended Interviews:

SPARC - National Institute for Informatics – Tokyo, Japan
Librarians, Universities in Japan
Faculty, Universities in Japan
Findings:

A Few Interesting Normative Pressures:

1) Technical / Infrastructure

NII supports shared cloud instance of IR architecture system on a virtual server April 2012

Limited resources and less technical knowledge no longer impede the implementation of IR esp. at small universities.

2) Policy / Process

- Open Access Policies in Japan very recent - most OA University Policy is New Since 2015 - 2017
  http://openscience.jp/oa/oa-policy/
Findings continued:

• Librarians play a Major Role but NOT long term - usually only in the IR role for ~ 2 years then transfer to different section

• Librarians assist directly in University faculty deposits

3) Faculty Behaviors

• Some different models of scholarly communication i.e. Kiyo (Department Journals – where research gets published and can now be globally accessed) + international

• Depositing in IR’s not necessarily connected to pressures of Tenure and Promotion
Thank you, Aloha!

Question? Comments? Feedback?

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Please email me for sources 😊