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Open Access at Salford – Where next?

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Open Access at Salford – Where next?

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The University of Salford is a research-driven University, with over 20,000 students, based in Greater Manchester in North-West England. The University encourages research which is relevant to the real world, and much of our academics' work has been used in practical ways.

Introduction

Having fully embraced Open Access for its scholarly communications, putting in place an Open Access Mandate, the University of Salford is now reflecting on its success and working on new opportunities. This poster outlines a case study for the implementation of an Open Access Mandate with details of how barriers were overcome, the lessons learned and our plans for the future.

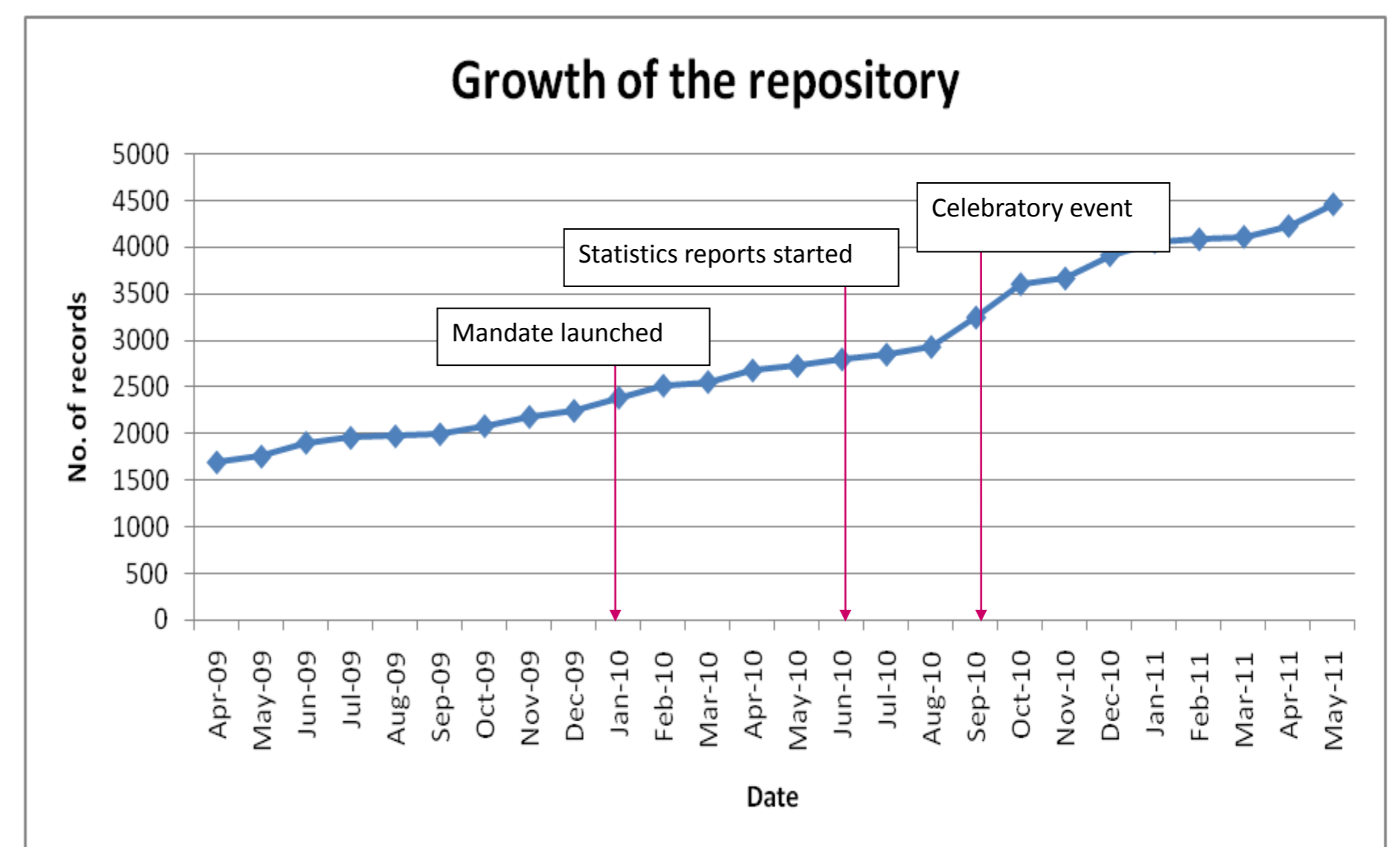
In July 2009, the Institutional Repository at the University of Salford (USIR) was formally launched. Although Open Access came late to Salford, compared to some other universities, progress was accelerated by the swift implementation of an Open Access Mandate, in January 2010.

The University of Salford has an Open Access Policy which requires that, from 1st January 2010, a **record** of all new research output be deposited in USIR.

As of 8th June 2011, it is also mandatory for all **REF submittable outputs** to be included in the repository (i.e. any output of national or international significance published since 1st January 2008).

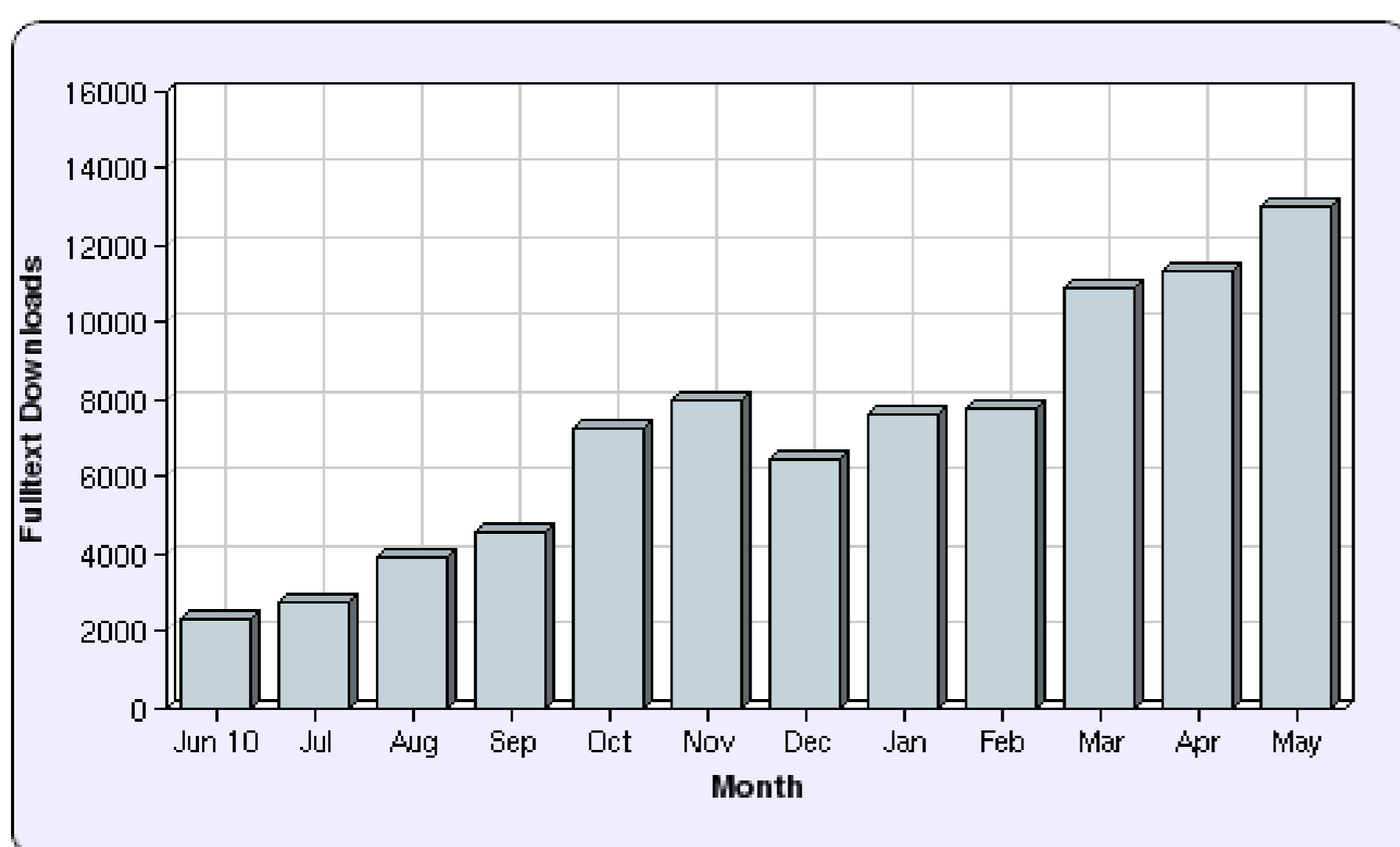
For all REF submittable outputs, and other research published in the form of peer reviewed journal articles, authors should, wherever possible, retain the copyright so that the **full text/documentary output** can also be made available in the repository. This can be the final peer-reviewed, pre-publication version of the output, where copyright restricts the use of the published version.

The deposit of other research outputs (i.e. published, accepted for publication, or in the public domain) and in other formats is also strongly encouraged. Help and advice regarding deposit is available from the USIR Team: usir@salford.ac.uk

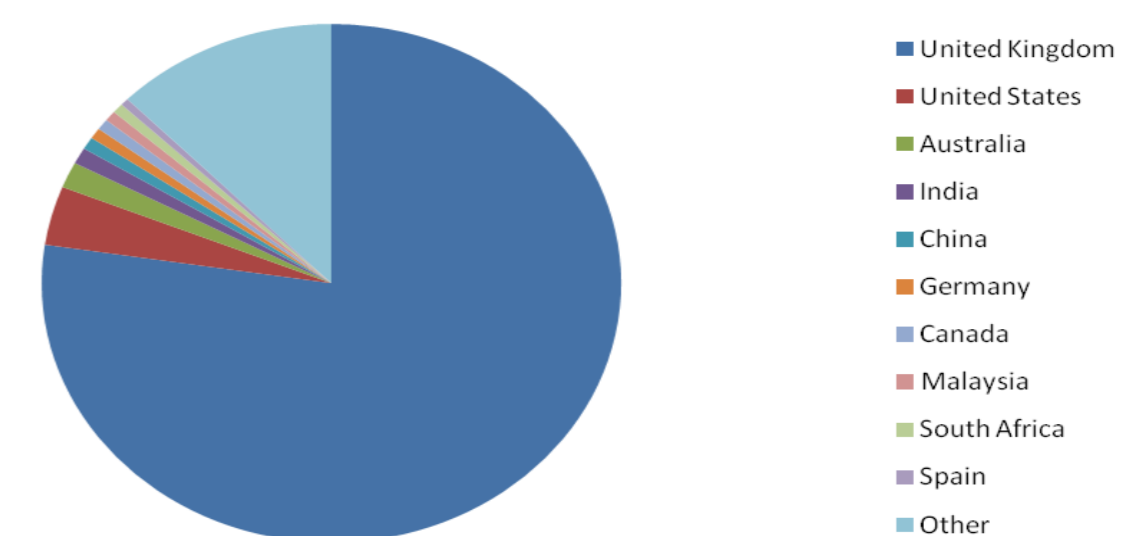


As the 100th institution in the world to put a mandate in place, and with the full support of the Vice-Chancellor and other senior managers, Salford has made great progress in building a strong repository infrastructure, expanding the range of content and the global dissemination of Salford scholarly communications.

Full-text documents downloaded between June 2010 and May 2011 (83,796)



Visits during May 2011



In addition to implementing the Mandate, we have also used other methods to encourage staff to engage with Open Access, such as celebratory events, and the production of a monthly statistics report.

"I use USIR. An academic from a Mexican University contacted me about a paper - now he uses it with his students as one of the main papers for discussion, so currently I am waiting to be cited....in Mexico! Also there is now the possibility in the future that I will write a paper with this person. So but for USIR this would never have happened."
Dr Maria Burke, Senior Lecturer, Salford Business School.



Dr Paul Rowlett, receiving prize from Vice-Chancellor Martin Hall for most deposits in College of Arts, Media and Social Science.

"I have noticed a definite increase in my citations over the last two years since including my publications in USIR"
Dr Farid Meziane, School of Computing, Science and Engineering.

Progress made since the Salford Open Access Mandate was put in place continues to be promoted by key external advocates. Salford statistics and case studies were recently used at the Ministry of Science & Innovation's Open Access Conference, Copenhagen, 10 June 2011

The future....

- Strengthening of the Institutional Mandate, and inclusion of REF publications within this.
- Development of further repository collections, such as exam papers, archives, e-theses, applied archaeology, off-air recordings, arts and public health.
- Use of the repository as a basis for success in the key University Themes, and backing this up by including features such as sound-bites about each key theme.
- Incorporating Web 2.0 and Social Media to link out in a variety of ways, and to draw people in to USIR.
- Using the repository to monitor our international impact and engagement, by recording the location of external collaborators.
- Building on the work being done by our academics to create a 'virtual platform' for sharing data within the local community, to enable local agencies to work collaboratively and deliver shared outcomes.

"The next level is enabling new kinds of research and innovation through friction-free access to information and analysis.... At the core of the University of the Digital Future is the Open Access Repository"
Martin Hall, Vice-Chancellor, Open Access Celebratory Event, 2010.

Further info on USIR



Download a poster pdf

