

CRIS2018 extended abstract

Title:

Presenting DARAT: Developing the University's linked CRIS and Institutional repository to create an Open Access disability accessible archive

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Abstract:

The Trinity College Dublin Current Research Information System (CRIS) known as the Research Support System (RSS) is a locally developed web-based enterprise system that has been running since 2002. The RSS was built as an in-house collaboration between IT Services and the Library. In 2006 a DSpace repository was also setup and the two systems were linked together and managed by the same department. It allows research staff and students to input and update their biographical data, research projects and research outputs, including scholarly publications, datasets, and conference presentations. It currently contains over 100,000 bibliographic records. In this talk we discuss the creation of an Open Access disability archive using the CRIS and Institutional Repository.

About the project

The Disability Accessible Research Archive (DARAT) is an online resource that aims to build accessible spaces at the university through dissemination of research conducted by academics, staff and students in accessible formats. DARAT incorporates three features to ensure accessibility of the information: a) short presentation of the research publication in plain spoken English; b) short presentation of the research publication in Irish Sign Language (ISL); and c) plain English written summary of the publication.

DARAT enables researchers at the university to share information about their research in accessible formats and therefore comply with current international and national legislation on the provision of information in multiple formats, to position the university at the forefront of research dissemination innovation, and to increase access to research projects and findings by disabled people and the wider public.

DARAT is available through the university's Institutional Repository (IR) and is synchronized with the CRIS. When users of the CRIS update their research outputs (for example, add details about a new peer-reviewed publication), they have the option to upload the accessible features of that publication to the system. These accessible features will be automatically uploaded to the DARAT central collection in the Institutional Repository.

Only research which incorporates the following three accessible features is uploaded to DARAT:

- A plain English summary.
- A plain English presentation of the research (using either PowerPoint or Keynote) with voice over narration and Irish Sign Language (ISL) narration.

When creating their plain English summaries, authors are asked to summarise the content of their paper in 150-200 words. State simply why the research is important, and, where relevant, why it should matter to people with disabilities, using the following headings:

- Why was important to do this research? (background)
- What did the researchers want to find out? (aims)
- How did the researchers do the study? (methodology)
- What did the researchers find out? (findings)
- Why should people care about this research? (implications)

Technical developments

The Institutional Repository (IR) would host the archive in a discrete collection. Currently items deposited into the IR are automatically sent to the submitters' assigned school collection. Items submitted to DARAT would also have to be mapped into the correct school collection. Additionally items which did not meet the DARAT guidelines would have to be automatically excluded from the archive. It was also important that the archive be easily searchable within the repository.

To achieve this the CRIS and institutional repository had to be adapted. In the CRIS system a new tab was created. Here Researchers could select from a list of keywords that would tag their papers in the repository. Two lists of keywords were created. The first list was thematic and the second list was disability/impairment. Researchers must select keywords from both lists. Papers which have selected keywords from both list are then eligible for inclusion in DARAT. When this data is passed to the IR the inclusion of the tags indicate that the item may be included in DARAT. At the next stage the submitter attaches the full text of the item they are depositing in the repository. Additionally anyone wishing to have their work in DARAT must include the plain English summary and the presentation with voice over narration and Irish Sign Language (ISL) narration. New item types descriptions were created which clearly indicate these item types and badge them with icons. Only items which include these extra files are placed in DARAT.

Relevance for CRIS 2018

Considering FAIRness of Research Information. These projects clearly demonstrate approaches to reusing research information. Researchers in the university are already submitting the details of their papers to the CRIS and uploading the fulltext to the repository. The University's IR is FAIR compliant and thus is the natural choice for hosting an archive of this type.

Keywords:

disability; plain English; sign language; accessible features