Open Access -

Wits Research -
Stepping onto the Global Stage

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What is Open Access?

- Free
- Immediate
- Full Text
- Permanent
- Online access
- Limited/no copyright restrictions

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access)
Open Access Movement

- Open Access Timeline
  http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Timeline

- Budapest Open Access Initiative (2001)
  http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml
Open Access Movement (cont’d)

- The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences & Humanities
  http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlin_declaration.pdf

- The Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing
  http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/bethesda.htm

- Salvador Declaration on OA:
Open Access: a positive alternative

- Evolving process – more institutions supporting OA

- Funders’ conditions for grantees - see: SHERPA-Juliet
  http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet
Commitment to Open Access by SADC Vice-Chancellors

SARUA/AAKA Open Access Leadership Summit, Botswana, 2007
http://www.sarua.org/?q=content/open-access-leadership-summit-gaborone-botswana
“Obscurity is a far greater threat to authors and creative artists than piracy” (T. O’Reilly)

If you aren’t on Google, you don’t exist!
Why Open Access for Authors?

- Most research articles accessible by only a few
- Online managed, permanent database of scholarly output
- Open Access (OA) maximizes:
  - research visibility, usage and uptake
  - research applications, impact and citation
  - research productivity, progress and funding
  - research manageability and assessability

*By maximising research accessibility!*
Why Open Access for universities?

- Ethical argument – give public access
- Maximises, measures and rewards uptake, usage, applications and impact of research activity
- Showcases research output on global stage
- Reduce e-licences, journal subscriptions & copyright fees
Wits Institutional Repository (WIReDSPace)

http://www.wiredspace.wits.ac.za

Includes ETDs, Scholarly Publications; Conference Papers; Presentations; Special collections ....

What is missing? ..... Your publications!!
Publishers’ copyright policies

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http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/

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Thank You

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