According to the charter of KU, which is “a research university dedicated to education”, KURA is expected to collect research and educational materials produced by the intellectual activities in the campus to disseminate KU’s scholarly outputs on the Internet.

KURA must be an e-prints archive in order to contribute to Open Access!

KU introduced KURA at June in 2006. Managed by Information Planning Section daily. The System is DSpace 1.4.2

KURA was set up by the top decision of the vice president. KURA is not the library’s database, but is the University’s database.

Peer-reviewed articles are the first target of our advocacy activities in increasing digital contents.

KURA must be more user friendly. A harvester for multiple institutional repositories in the university will be set up at the end of next March.

We take 3 strategies to promote KURA. Especially, the collaboration system of IR and Achievement Database(ADB) is the most characteristic feature of KURA and the one of the most important function to sustain IR in Japan.

Top Management

How to make KURA

Describing KURA by 4 keywords

It will enable end-users to search various scholarly information in the campus at one time.

Open Access

The Policy of KURA

Self Archive through ADB

The Strategies of KURA

Added Value

One Stop Service

What does KURA mean in Japanese?

KURA means: an old Japanese repository to preserve important valuable assets from disasters, robberies, etc.

In the same way, KURA stores the achievements of the researchers of Kanazawa University.

About Kanazawa University

Kanazawa University (KU) is...

Located in Hokuriku region on the west coast of Japan’s mainland facing Japan Sea.

One of the top 20 research universities in Japan.

Kanazawa University Repository for Academic Resources (KURA)

One of the top 20 research universities in Japan.

3 Strategies to promote KURA

We take following 3 strategies to increase the useful contents and to transform the concept of IR into Japanese way. 1) Don’t underestimate Kiyo (紀要), 2)Put collaboration of IR and ADB into practical use, 3)Recruit new contents steady. Under these strategies we are promoting OA in Japanese way in our campus.

Purposes of the Poster

1. Describing KURA by 4 keywords which characterize KURA.
   1) **Top Management**—How to make KURA
   2) **Open Access**—The Policy
   3) **Self Archive through ADB**—The Strategies
   4) **Added Value**—One Stop Service

2. Introducing 3 strategies to promote KURA.
Strategy 1: Don't underestimate *Kiyo* (紀要)

■ What is *Kiyo*, Japanese University Bulletin?
  — One of the most popular publication style in Japanese academic communities
  — Articles in *Kiyo* are mainly not peer-reviewed, so the quality may be varied.
  — But, especially in the areas of Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS), *Kiyo* is important as before. It is a kind of the preprint for their compiled books.
  — The copyrights of *Kiyo* are mainly held by the authors. So the permissions are gained from the authors more easily than journal articles.

→ Initial contents in Japanese IRs.

■ Positive Function of *Kiyo*
  — Free and exchanged between universities. It seems to be almost open access, but published in print media.
  — By making them online, we can start open access journals in each university.

→ *Kiyo* has some potentiality!

The Details of Deposited Contents in KURA
Most of the contents from HSS faculties are bulletin papers, while there are many peer-reviewed articles from STM faculties. This trend reflects the feature of Japanese scholarly communication of each field.

The Merit of our Collaboration System
The merit of our system is to be easy to introduce. It takes mainly 2 steps.
1) Little alteration of program in your ADB: It’s not so crucial but costs some.
2) The installation of collaboration program into your DSpace: It’s easy.

This program is open source and you can download it and brief manuals (in Japanese) at the following site:
http://www.lib.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/kura/achievement/

This system is not perfect. But you can get start easily. We think we can contribute to the promotion of IR in Japanese Universities. To boost open access movements in Japan, it is more important to do in all universities than in only one IR.

Strategy 2: Put Collaboration of IR and ADB into Practical Use

System collaboration of KURA with the University’s ADB
![Diagram showing the collaboration between researchers, ADB, and KURA]

Bank the articles and meta-data by researchers.

Both the content and meta-data are transmitted to KURA at one time.

Researchers in KU

Library staffs ingest the items after checking the contents

KU library

KURA

ADB

The Details of Deposited Contents in KURA
Most of the contents from HSS faculties are bulletin papers, while there are many peer-reviewed articles from STM faculties. This trend reflects the feature of Japanese scholarly communication of each field.

The Collaboration of IR and ADB is Needed in Japan
*ADB* has already been introduced in KU and the faculties have registered the bibliographical data of their achievements, including journal articles (but it is not mandate). In a sense...

IR is an additional function of ADB in Japan.

So the faculty says “KURA? Another DB! It’s a bother, too”. This situation may be common in the most Japanese Universities. In order to gain the understanding IR from the faculty and their self-archiving, IR need to work together with ADB.

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Strategy 3: Recruit New Contents Steady

But this collaboration system has just started and the registration to ADB isn’t mandate, now.

So we recruit new contents every week as follows:
1) Collect the bibliographic data of the newly added articles into Elsevier’s *Scopus* written by the researchers of KU, using its alert function.
2) Library staffs check if the articles are permitted to archive.
3) If OK, we send e-mail to the authors to get the contents, mainly the author final version files.

The Results:
About 66% of the search results are allowed to archive into IR. And about 30% of the authors send back the contents. The number is about 240 per year. We don’t know it is small or not. “Size isn’t everything.” (Leslie Car and Tim Brody, D-Lib magazine 13(7/8), 2007)

We go forward step by step.

Graph for KURA from ROAR
http://roar.eprints.org

Cumulative Graph

3,000

2,000

1,000

0

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008

Checks for KURA from ROAR
(http://roar.eprints.or)

Our Goal is to realize
Self Archiving and OA in Japanese Way.

Total: 6,651 items (as of Jan. 28, 2008)

Daily deposits in last year: 67 days of 1-9, 73 days of 10-99, 9 days of 100+