

Rights and Rewards: Use cases

Introduction

The Rights and Rewards project have been investigating the workflows surrounding research output and teaching material. We created scenarios and use cases based upon the findings of this workflow study and our motivational survey, which attracted 430 responses ranging from 88 distinct Higher Education Institutions (HEI's). The following sections justifies the need for these scenarios and use cases from our findings.

1. An example of formal sharing with peers

The current practice amongst academics is to share their teaching material in a Virtual Learning Environment. A VLE mainly focuses on delivering material to students, yet other peers may be interested in seeing module content or new ways of teaching a particular subject. Predominantly, VLE's restrict access to those peers within the host institution, yet the majority of existing repositories are open access to all. Therefore the repository can be viewed by external peers as well as internal colleagues. This use case highlights the need for a repository of teaching materials in relation to the most popular system currently used for sharing teaching material.

2. Submitting an exemplar to a peer reviewed repository

Over half (57%) of participants from our motivational survey wanted their ideal repository to have a mechanism which controls quality of the content. Therefore the scenario and use case shows an example of how the mechanism could work in a teaching and learning repository context.

3. Submitting material to a repository with assistance

The survey and interview results suggest that contribution to a teaching and learning material repository is more likely if there is assistance and support available to help deposit material. Therefore this use case shows an example of how support can encourage, aid and deliver the deposit of materials to a repository. Furthermore, this example could be applied to a variety of repository types.

4. Making material available to students

This highlights how depositing to a repository of teaching materials is of benefit to students. Existing practice shows that academics make their materials available to students via a VLE, however, this example shows how academics can use a teaching and learning material repository to benefit students.

5. Two authors submitting to a teaching material repository

Although some academics produce material alone, some produce material in pairs or teams. This use case shows an example of how an author who has co-authored material with a colleague, can share this material in a teaching and learning material repository. The use case distils the processes of how the repository has to get permission from both authors before the material is deposited.

Further information and reading

Detailed reports from the workflow and motivational study can be found within the documentation section of our project website: <http://rightsandrewards.lboro.ac.uk>.