Current status of the Omani Digital Repository

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Abstract

Objective: This paper outlines and discusses the current and the next steps to be taken in order to adopt a national digital repository at the Sultanate of Oman.
Significance: Outlining the current process conducted to adopt the national repository in Oman and presenting these steps in the ETD connference will help to get a wider overview about the project and may open discussions about possible modification and changes in the project.

Results: This paper presents the process that are currently conducted to adopt a national repository in Oman. One of these process is a promotional campagin to let people get aware about this prject. People will be informed about the importance of this project, what they need to do in order to praticipate in the project, and also provide clarifications about the possible issues and concerns they might have like copyright, plagiarism, quality of theses, prior publication and the instiutions reputation. Sultan Qaboos University was selected to be the first institution to conduct the promotional campaign. Postgraduate students at SQU will be informed about this project and also will be encouraged to submit their theses and dissertational in electronic format in order to be included in the project.

In addition, the paper presents standards and rules that will be applied in this project. Such standards include theses formats, metadata elements, file submissions, files organisation, embaroges, access levels, access charges...etc.
In addition a technical team is working on Dspace, which is an open source software, in order to customise it to work according to project needs.

Keywords: Electronic Theses and Dissertations Programmes, Sultanate of Oman, national repository, Open Source programs, Dsapce.

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