



SUCCESS STORY: UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI DIGITAL REPOSITORY AND OPEN ACCESS POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Rosemary Otando
Deputy Director, Technical Services
University of Nairobi Library

Rosemary.otando@uonbi.ac.ke

INTRODUCTION

- University of Nairobi – one of the oldest public universities in the country whose inception goes back to 1956
- Research, Innovation and Technology enshrined in the strategic plan 2008-2018



VISION

**A World-class University committed
to scholarly excellence**

FACTFILE

- Six colleges and 14 campuses
 - 586 programs
- Student population – 84,000
- Teaching staff – 2,052
 - 164 professors
 - 264 associate professors
- Administrative and technical staff – 5,525

Research at the University

- Importance of research emphasized in the revised University Research Policy of January 2013
- Establishment of research centres and institutes to focus on research (9)
- Establishment of research libraries to complement research activities (7)
 - Focusing on documentation and dissemination of research output
- Develop and maintain institutional repository
- Support development of local journals (e-versions) and publishing both in commercial and open access platforms

Dissemination of research output

- Article 35 of The Constitution of Kenya 2010 guarantees right of access to information by citizens
- Avenues established by the University to enhance access to information
 - Conventional
 - Open access policy
 - Digital repository
 - Publishing in OA platforms e.g. Pubmed

Open Access Policy at UoN

- Process of developing OA policy begun in 2008/2009 through formation of committee
- Policy adopted in December 2012
- University signed Berlin Declaration on Open Access to knowledge in October 2012

“The Open Access Policy will provide our scholars the opportunity and platform to promote their academic work”

Implementation of the Open Access Policy

- Strategies adopted to sensitize users on the policy and the digital repository
 - Use of media to reach alumni
 - Teaching programmes (eg communication skills)
 - Electronic resources trainings conducted by the library
 - College outreach programmes to academic staff
 - University and Library website
 - Email broadcasts
 - Brochures and posters

Operations of the UoN Digital Repository

- Preparation for the Implementation began way back in 2008
- Installation and pilot submission on a temporary server, 2009 – 2010
 - uploaded abstracts, inaugural lectures not copyrighted
 - Not copyrighted/open access full-text
- Hosting on permanent server – 2011
- Alive on World Wide Web after approval of OA Policy – November 2012 - <http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/>

Operations cont...

- Available at <http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/>
 - Has total of over 80,000 entries
 - Registered repository and policy with ROAR and OpenDOAR and ROAMAP
- Operates as a non-profit, non-commercial facility
- The Creative Commons End-user license applies to the Digital repository where copyright is owned by member of staff
- In February 2013, UoN became a Foundation member of BioMed Central and receives automatic article feeds



University of Nairobi Research Archive

Login

Repository Home

University of Nairobi Digital Repository

Welcome to the University of Nairobi Digital Repository that collects, preserves, and disseminates scholarly outputs of the University of Nairobi.

[UoN Home](#) | [Library Home](#) | [Online Catalogue](#) | [E-Books](#) | [E-Journals](#) |

Communities in Repository

Select a community to browse its collections.

[Archives \[8716\]](#)

[Books \[2029\]](#)

[Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Proceedings \[7288\]](#)

[Journal Articles \[27201\]](#)

[Lectures and Speeches \[106\]](#)

[Policies/ Reports/ Newsletters \[567\]](#)

[Research Papers \[2292\]](#)

[Theses and Dissertations \[33919\]](#)

[University Projects / Collaborations \[116\]](#)

Recently Added

Search

BROWSE

All of Repository

Communities & Collections

By Issue Date

Authors

Titles

Subjects

MY ACCOUNT

Login

Register

DISCOVER

Author

University of Nairobi (7331)

Ndinya-Achola, JO (265)

Contents Submitted in UON Digital Repository

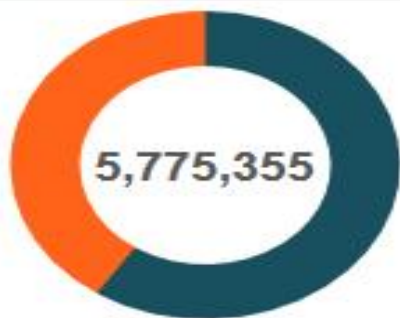
1. Research Articles and preprints
2. Working/conference//Technical papers
3. Theses/Dissertation
4. Images/audio files/video files
5. Inaugural lectures, distinguished speeches, conferment of Honorary degrees, etc

Why UoN Digital Repository?

- Proactive response to OA Movement
- Visibility of our research output/webometric ranking
- Improve access to our local publications
- Showcase intellectual output for institutional prestige
- Share resources
- Enhance research by reducing duplication
- Attract Research funding

Statistics of usage

All Time Usage



■ Downloads
■ Page Views

Past 6 months: page views

Community	
Theses and Dissertations	865.7k
Journal Articles	407.7k
Archives	129.5k
Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Proceedings	121.9k
Research Papers	41.9k

Past 6 months: downloads

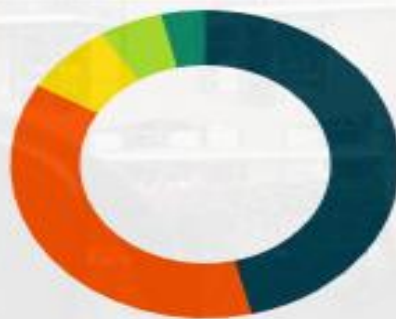
Community	
Theses and Dissertations	1.3m
Journal Articles	181.2k
Archives	62.9k
Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Proceedings	33.3k
Research Papers	29.6k

Top countries by item views of the past 6 months



■ China
■ Kenya
■ Brazil


Top countries by downloads of the past 6 months



■ China
■ Kenya

Statistics contd

☰ Top items of the past 6 months based on page views

Item	
Challenges facing teachers in implementing guidance and counseling programme in public secondary schools	4.1k
Factors affecting student performance in mathematics: a case of secondary school students in Uasin Gishu District, Kenya	3.4k
A survey of student strikes in selected secondary schools in Nairobi province	2.1k
Problems facing teacher education in Kenya: a case study of teaching practice in the University of Nairobi	1.8k
The Use of satirical techniques in Ferdinand Oyono's novels: 'House boy' and 'The old man an the medal'	1.8k
Show more	

☰ Top items of the past 6 months based on downloads

Item	
Procurement category management among fast Moving consumer goods companies in Kenya	17.3k
Uhakiki wa kimaudhui na kifani Wa kidagaa kimemwozea	14.9k
Impacts of social media among the youth on behavior change: a case study of University students in selected universities in Nairobi, Kenya	9.6k
Effectiveness of communication approaches used in disseminating integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) practices in Muvau and Kathonzweni wards, Makueni county	8.6k
Influence of drug abuse on students academic performance in public universities. A case of Uasin Gishu county in Kenya	7.3k

Enhancing UoN Digital Repository

- Capacity building and advocacy
- Submission of theses and dissertations on soft copy
- Project to source all UoN historical documents
- Harvesting local content in other site – while protecting copyright (check sherpa Romeo site)
- Maintaining integrity to enhance quality
 - plagiarism software subscribed
- Digitization of backlogs - outsourced
- Upgrading software and use other s/w tools to enhance visibility of repository e.g bawker syndentic, ORCID, Google Scholar (Exploring altmetrics)
- Established digital Content Unit (Digital repository, E-resources and ICT unit in the library – 6 permanent & 7 on contract)
- Develop subject repositories eg Health Information repository

Implementation successes

- Growth in numbers of items deposited
- High levels of usage noted from the statistics (5.7 million in the last six months)
- Contributed to the excellent performance of the University in Webometrics Ranking
- Contributed to visibility of researchers (many enquiries have been received for funding)

Challenges

- Empowerment/sensitization of users so as to fully utilize the resources in the repository
- Awareness of policies
 - Plagiarism, Open access, IP
- Mindset of researchers and distrust/lack of understanding
- Faculty not providing content on a continuous basis to populate the repository
- Lack of understanding of copyright and publisher's policies
- Streamlining systems for comprehensive monitoring quality of research outputs
- Sensitization of authors, researchers, postgraduate students and academic staff at College level

Way Forward & Lessons Learnt

- Sensitize policy makers, and researchers to support the concept.
- University management commitment to support OA Initiatives
- More training/capacity building
- Priority – consider IR initiative as core activity/target for budget allocation
- Development of OA policy, plagiarism policy and Successfully Implement the policy

The logo of the University of Nairobi is located in the top-left corner of the slide. It consists of a vertical gold-colored bar with a fine grid pattern. On the left side of this bar, there are three overlapping circles in shades of gold and brown, arranged vertically.

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

The Success Story of

OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVES

African nDigital Health Library (ADHL)

ADHL

<https://library.adhl.africa>

Central ADHL Node

Central ADHL

2018-10

Institutional Repository (IR) Implementation at the University of Nairobi

Otando, Rosemary

African Digital Health Library (ADHL); University of Nairobi

<http://library.adhl.africa/handle/123456789/4467>

Downloaded from African Digital Health Library (ADHL)