
Title	:	The impact of the development of institutional repositories on “Kiyō” or institutional research journals in Japan
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Problems/goal

The purpose of this paper is to describe the impact of digitization and development of institutional repositories (IRs) onto “Kiyō” or institutional research journals published by many Japanese universities, their departments, or research institutions. Kiyō has been considered as one of the primary media to disseminate research outputs by Japanese researchers particularly in humanities and social sciences, even though they have been circulated among universities and research institutions only on an exchange basis. Kiyō has also occupied a rather big portion of the journal collections of Japanese university libraries, but the whole picture of Kiyō, even the accurate number of Kiyō currently being published in Japan, leaves unrevealed. Under such circumstances that IRs have been rapidly developed in universities and research institutions with open access movement, Kiyō articles have been recognized as one of the prominent contents to be stored in and served via IRs.

Methods

The research will be composed by three components. The authors will conduct a survey using some bibliographic and union catalog databases in order to seek how many Kiyō titles are currently published by Japanese universities and research institutions and how they are held by libraries. Secondly, the author will analyze the ILL transaction records in cooperation with the National Institute of Informatics, which operates the nation-wide ILL request sending system called NACSIS-ILL, in order to analyze the demand and service patterns for Kiyō articles from 1994 to 2007. Thirdly, the access logs of IRs will be analyzed in order to investigate the usage of Kiyō articles. The survey will be conducted as a part of the research project entitled REFORM2, which has been financially supported by the Japanese government’s grants-in-aids for scientific research for 2007-9.

Expected results

The preliminary analysis of ILL transaction records and IRs’ access logs clearly indicates that IRs promote the access to articles published by Kiyō, which result in the decrease of ILL requests for those articles. The authors would discuss the role of IRs in providing for access to Kiyō articles and other scholarly contents produced by Japanese university and research institutions and have had limited accessibility.