



UniSA

URRSA: The South Australian experience and what next.

Helen Livingston
Director Library Services



What you can expect

“The three South Australian Universities share a joint store, University Research Repository South Australia, which provides secure, high density accommodation for lesser used volumes transferred from the three university libraries. However the group are now rethinking the possibilities for shared storage and shared collection development utilising the advantages of close physical proximity and shared library systems.”



History

- **First Collaborative research repository in Australia**
- **Initiated in 1983 between Flinders and Adelaide Universities**
- **Located on campus at Flinders University**
- **Energy efficient building**
- **UniSA joined in 2003**
- **Capacity 1.5 million volumes**
- **50km of shelving**
- **Operating costs 6 cents per volume**



Institutional goals for URRSA

- **Adelaide**

- **Stores superseded collections and stray collections.**

- **Flinders**

- **Storage for collections on the move as well as aged material.**

- **UniSA**

- **Late entry has adopted last copy store approach.**

- **Physical space**
 - **Flagged a possible extension 2011.**
- **Ownership**
 - **All items remain the property of contributing library**
- **Possible return to library collections**
- **Issues around asset control and accounting practices**
- **Paramount issue- regional access!**
 - **Physical proximity and risk management**



Last Copy?

- Agreed in 2005 to keep one copy of print indexing and abstracts in URRSA on a case by case basis.
 - Each Library will cede some space to facilitate “shared” collection
- All 3 must agree on titles in shared space.
- So far there are none!
- All other titles in URRSA may not be there into perpetuity
- What If held elsewhere in the country?
- UniSA’s behaviour in this regime



JSTOR et al

- **Could we discard paper JSTOR titles?**
- **Could we discard other full text journals?**
- **Decision is not yet**
- **Created to be a regional store in pre-web era**
- **Journal articles are scanned so does a scholar care about where the source document is?**
- **Will URRSA end up storing JSTOR paper for the whole of Australia?**
- **Could there be a national approach?**
- **CAUL discussion.**



Active collection development

- **The selected rather than the discarded?**
- **Collaborative collecting first and then consider the role of the repository**
- **Need to clarify ownership**
- **Large electronic research collections**
- **Change agents will be**
 - **space (or lack of it)**
 - **Trust in longevity of Eresources**
 - **Research resources for SA not so much a repository**