Open Repository Developed into Full Service platform for Open Publishing

The Case of 25 Universities of Applied Sciences in Finland

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What is Theseus?

- In 2009, Finland’s Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) launched an open repository Theseus for their theses and research publications.
- Currently Theseus has over 150,000 Bachelor’s and Master’s theses, which makes it the biggest open repository in Finland.
- The Open Access mandate for research papers was given in 2010.
- The initial goal of the project in 2009 was to make a user-friendly one-stop shop for all the research done in Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences. The goal has not yet been achieved in full scale.
Theseus is a joint project

- Theseus was built as a joint project for 25 UASs, National Library of Finland working as a technical developer and later as a technical support.

- Theseus is based on DSpace and for the time being, we’re running DSpace version 5.6.

- One sign-in system Shibboleth and an option to choose Creative Commons licenses to curate the user rights.

- Same policies and one UAS user support group to help UASs with questions related to upload and self-archiving.

- The new initiative is being built together with National Library of Finland, CSC (IT Center for Science in Finland) and Finnish National Archives.
National Requirements for Open Access

- By the year Horizon 2020:
  The rule: Open access mandatory either through a repository or directly by publishing in open access to peer-reviewed publications. Depositing in a repository is mandatory either way you proceed.

- By the year 2020 Finnish universities are required to publish 100% open access.

- At the same time, The National Archives of Finland demands all universities to archive their theses in digital long-term preservation (DP).

Horizon 2020 Open Access to Scientific Publications.
The current state of self-archiving

- The self-archiving of research papers has not started on a full scale yet in all Universities of Applied Sciences.
- At the same time the reporting of publications to the Ministry of Education is being done in a time consuming way without any CRIS.
- Accordingly, the long-term preservation and archiving required by legislation has great variation and is mostly organized in printed format.

![Amount of Open Access publications of Finnish Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences 2015 - 2017](chart.png)
Our solution

- A current research information system (CRIS) is going to be launched in 2019 to help UASs reach national requirements.

- The integration of a CRIS to the open repository will save resources by streamlining the processes and help report publications to the Ministry. This will presumably lead to growing numbers of self-archiving as well.

- As a part of Theseus reform, the UAS theses will be exported to the DP services. In addition, a new way to manage the publicity of uploads will be developed. The connection to the DP services will meet the requirements of an operative e-archive described by the National Archives System in Finland and provide a transfer to long-term preservation by the National Library of Finland.
The New Theseus Process