Hosting Articles in Institutional Repositories

Making article sharing a seamless process for researchers

Elsevier supports the need for researchers to share their research and collaborate effectively. We aim to work with Institutional Repositories to support this objective and to create an environment where sharing is easy and seamless in a scholarly communication system that continues to validate and recognize vital work. New technologies make it possible to achieve these outcomes while complying with access entitlements.

Helping institutional repositories

Elsevier has a number of pilots with institutional repositories to track research output including:

- **Sharing metadata:** In order to showcase your institutions’ work, an institutional repository must identify your institution’s research output. By integrating the ScienceDirect metadata API into your repository, this task becomes simple. Even if the repository doesn’t hold the full text, the article information and abstract may be displayed as part of your institution’s output.

- **Sharing user access information:** Elsevier is piloting an API that enables your repository to recognize the subscription access rights of a viewer and display the best available version of the article.

- **Working with pilot partners:** We aim to understand your needs and build tools and services which will make sharing easier. We have a number of pilot partners and we are always looking for collaborators and people with feedback. Contact universalaccess@elsevier.com

How we can work together

Sharing research is a common goal for both Elsevier and institutions, but there are some challenges that we have to face:

- **Fragmented metrics:** having multiple versions of articles available on different platforms dilutes the article impact metrics.

- **Standard article usage reporting:** Our industry must work towards a common methodology to report on usage currently fragmented across platforms.
User case: Elsevier and the University of Florida

Elsevier and the University of Florida expand access to publications by University of Florida authors through the university’s institutional repository.

We are piloting new options:

Structured Metadata: Through the ScienceDirect API, the University of Florida will retrieve metadata for Elsevier published articles written by its authors from all titles whether open access, subscribed, non-subscribed. We are further enhancing the existing metadata to include embargo period end dates and links to the full-text on ScienceDirect. This feed includes the abstract which helps indexing of the Sobek repository in search engine results and helping the repository to have an impact. The repository will be able to use the downloaded metadata to retrieve the user access information and embed the article PDF’s described below.

Sharing user access information and embedding final articles: The University of Florida will be testing the workflow in which a user’s access level to the full text is checked on the fly, and if full text access is available, the user will be served the final published version, instead of the preprint or manuscript hosted by the repository. Users who are not entitled to view the full text of the final article will be led to the version available in the repository, or in case this is not available to a page where they can view the first page of the article. This ensures that users will always be served the best available version. This also enables the repository to display the best available version to their users even if no self-archived manuscript is available.