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Open Access: Wits Research - Stepping onto the Global Stage

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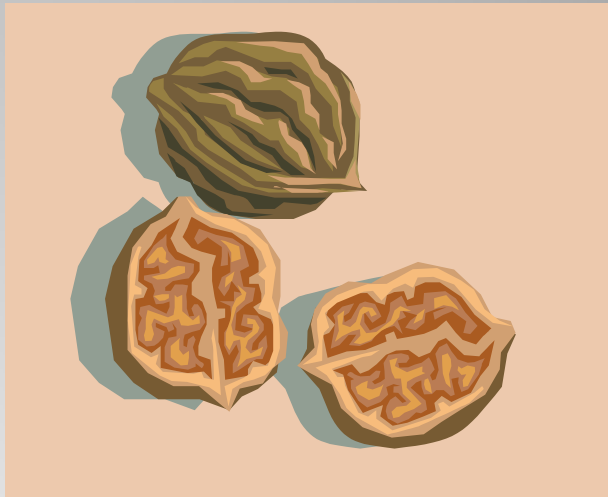
Open Access -

Wits Research - Stepping onto the Global Stage

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What is Open Access?



- Free
- Immediate
- Full Text
- Permanent
- Online access
- Limited/no copyright restrictions
  (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access)

Open Access Movement

- Open Access Timeline
  http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Timeline
- **Budapest Open Access Initiative (2001)**
  http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml



Open Access Movement (cont'd)

- The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences & Humanities
  http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlin_declaration.pdf
- The Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing
  http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/bethesda.htm



Open Access: a positive alternative

- Evolving process – more institutions supporting OA
- Funders' conditions for grantees - see: SHERPA-Juliet
  http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet



Commitment to Open Access by SADC Vice-Chancellors

SARUA/AAKA Open Access Leadership Summit, Botswana,2007
http://www.sarua.org/?q=content/open-access-leadership-summit-gaborone-botswana



"Obscurity is a far greater threat to authors and creative artists than piracy" *(T. O'Reilly)*



Why Open Access for Authors?

- Most research articles accessible by only a few
- Online managed, permanent database of scholarly output
- Directory of Open Access Journals – www.doar.org
- Open Access (OA) maximizes:-
  - research *visibility, usage and uptake*
  - research *applications, impact and citation*
  - research *productivity, progress and funding*
  - research *manageability and assessability*

By maximising research accessibility!



Why Open Access for universities?

- Ethical argument – give public access
- Maximises, measures and rewards uptake, usage, applications and impact of research activity
- Showcases research output on global stage
- Reduce e-licences, journal subscriptions & copyright fees



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Open Access Week 18 - 22 October 2010

Thank You

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