The role of academic library in disseminating grey literature – Adam Mickiewicz University Repository as a case study

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• AMUR – Adam Mickiewicz University Repository
• Institutional repository established in 2010 and based on DSpace software,
• AMUR contains 12,362 items,
• AMUR has got 1,650 registered users (scholars of AMU and PhD students),
Grey literature - definition

Grey literature is that which is produced on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in print and electronic formats, but which is not controlled by commercial publishers i.e., where publishing is not the primary activity of the producing body (New York definition).
OA repositories do collect grey literature

![Bar chart showing content types in OpenDOAR repositories. The chart indicates that journal articles are the most common type, followed by theses and dissertations, books, chapters, and sections, and unpublished reports and working papers. Multimedia and audio-visual materials are the least common. The total number of repositories is 2,973.](image-url)
Types of grey literature in AMUR:
1,411 items

- ETD: 1,173
- Unpublished research papers series: 86
- Conference materials: 72
- Preprints: 39
- Teaching materials: 40
- Miscellanea Univ.: 1
Grey literature versus white literature in AMUR

- Grey literature: 11%
- White literature: 89%

10,951

1,411
Policy in AMUR

- Self-archiving policy:
  - all scientific output except PhD theses is deposited on voluntary basis,
  - PhD theses are deposited on mandatory basis,

Each doctoral candidate signs a non-exclusive license and grants either the right to use PhD thesis in open access or limits the use of PhD thesis to just on-campus-only access.
Access to the full text of grey literature collections

- Open access (41%)
- Restricted access (59%)
Legal issues

- Digital content of repositories is protected by copyright,
- In the Open Science area there is a distinction between two kinds of OA: **gratis OA and libre OA**, 
- Gratis OA is free, perpetual, open access which grants the right to use the work in the frame of fair use (i.e. for personal use and didactic purposes) to all users,
- Libre OA removes not only price barriers (as gratis OA) but also at least some permission barriers – e.g. the CC licences,
- In the AMUR repository **41 items** of grey literature are under CC licenses,
- In the AMUR repository **1,370 items** of grey literature are protected by copyright.
Standards for metadata

- Dublin Core scheme is widely used in OA repositories,
- DC scheme is composed of 15 main attributes with qualifiers,
- In AMUR one specific element is created as regards grey literature - dc: thesis supervisor,
- There is no specific metadata for conference materials in AMUR.
626,956 downloads of OA grey literature in AMUR (820 non-OA PhD theses are excluded)

![Bar chart showing the number of downloads for different categories: ETD, Teaching materials, Conference materials, Preprints, Unpublished research papers series, and Miscellanea Univeritatis. The ETD category has the highest downloads with 525,892, followed by Teaching materials with 61,382, Conference materials with 28,100, Preprints with 24,272, Unpublished research papers series with 4,282, and Miscellanea Univeritatis with 2,705.]
Average number of downloads of OA grey literature

- Miscellanea Univeritatis: 2,705
- Teaching materials: 1,573
- ETD: 1,502
- Preprints: 639
- Conference materials: 390
- Unpublished research papers series: 50
Comparison of average number of downloads between grey and white items in AMUR

![Comparison of average number of downloads between grey and white items in AMUR](chart.png)
Language coverage of grey literature and download origins in AMUR

![Language and Country Coverage](chart.png)

**Language:**
- Polish/Poland: 70%
- English/USA: 27%
- Others/Others: 3%

**Country:**
- Polish/Poland: 50%
- English/USA: 17%
- Others/Others: 33%
Conclusions

• An implementation of a promotion strategy that would be helpful in gaining more grey literature into the repository is needed

• The awareness of scholars in the context of granting free licenses needs to be raised

• New metadata elements regarding conference materials should be created
Thanks for listening
Any questions?

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