THE MAIN DIRECTIONS FOR CREATING A REPOSITORY IN THE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

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Abstract

The issues of creating an institutional repository in the institution of higher education of the Republic of Belarus are considered. The experience of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov has been consecrated in providing open access to the organization's publications..

Keywords: institution of higher education, VSU named after P.M. Masherov, institutional repository, open electronic archive, repository rating, university library, Republic of Belarus, Digital Library

1   Repositories in the Republic of Belarus

The introduction of computer technology into the practice of libraries at the end of the 20th century marked the beginning of a new era in the development of the library business. Computerization of library processes allowed libraries to fill traditional forms of library services with new content and new features. For example, user service is provided through an electronic library card, access to the electronic catalog is provided both in the walls of the library and through the organization's website, electronic delivery of documents is offered, virtual book exhibitions, booktrusters, etc. are created.

In the first decade of the 21st century, the libraries of institutions of higher education in the Republic of Belarus are actively developing a new direction of work - creating full-text databases and providing access to them for users. Subsequently, experience in this area allowed libraries to join the initiative of open access to scientific information through the creation of an institutional repository.

Institutional repository (IR) is an electronic archive for long-term storage, accumulation and ensuring long-term and reliable open access to the results of scientific research conducted in the institution [1].

In the Republic of Belarus, the first steps were taken by the employees of the Fundamental Library of the Belarusian State University (BSU). September 25, 2009 in the registry of open access repositories Registry of Open Access Repositories registered Digital Library of the Belarusian State University.

In 2012, on the basis of the BSU, the staff of the Scientific Library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov received training courses on the topic "Creation and maintenance of the electronic library of higher education institutions".

In April 2014, the repository of the educational institution Vitebsk State University named after P.M. Masherov was registered. It is based on the DSpace platform software, which was chosen with the following parameters: open source code, free, indexed by the Google search engine, authoritative developer - Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

It should be noted that the relevance, and at the same time, little experience in the creation and operation of the institutional repository of library staff of institutions of higher education, showed the need for organizing a training event at which one could share their achievements and difficulties encountered.

On the initiative of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M..Masherov on its base in December 2014 a republican seminar was held on the topic "Creating an institutional repository of open access in a higher education institution".

This seminar was attended by directors and staff of the libraries of higher education institutions of Belarus: Belarusian State University, Municipal State University named after AA Kuleshov, Belarusian-Russian University, Gomel State Medical University, Vitebsk State Technological University, Vitebsk State Academy of Veterinary Medicine, Vitebsk Medical University, Polotsk State University.

Deans, heads of departments, teachers of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov were invited to the seminar.

The creation of an institutional repository is a joint activity of teachers and staff of the library of an institution of higher education. Only in this case this direction of work will be most productive. This idea was repeatedly heard by the speakers at the seminar.

It should be noted that the seminar participants raised a number of issues related to the organization of the electronic archive, approaches to the placement of materials and ensuring their safety. Do not stay away from the discussion and copyright issues.

All seminar participants agreed unanimously that the creation of an institutional repository is an important direction for the development of a modern university. By providing open access to the results of scientific research conducted in the institution, the university promotes an increase in the citation index of the work of its employees, the improvement of the university's position in national and international rankings, upgrading the status of the university and its image, and, importantly, competitiveness in the educational services market [2, p. 36-37].

In 2015, the staff of the scientific library of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov took part in the republican seminar "Open Access Repositories in Belarus: opportunities for integration and joint use". In the course of this event, a new vector for the development of repositories was planned, the essence of which was to unite the information resources of the open repositories of libraries of Belarusian institutions of higher education in order to increase the visibility of participants' repositories for search engines [3].

In February 2017, the presentation of the OAI-Belarus project took place at the republican seminar "Repositories of Open Access of Belarusian Universities: Current Status and Prospects for Development". Technical aspects of implementation". It noted that nine repositories of institutions of higher education in Belarus have already united in this project. The results of the work were summed up and further prospects were outlined [4].

The Belarusian library community is trying to work out a common policy of maintaining the repository, to support the beginners and to indicate the path of further development for those who have experience in this direction.

2   The repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov

As of 31.01. 2018 in the Registry of Open Access Repositories 22 repositories of institutions of higher education of the Republic of Belarus are registered.

In our report, we will consider in more detail the experience of creating a repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov.

As noted above, the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov was established in 2014. In 2016, the International Center ISSN in accordance with the international standard ISO 3297: 2007, he was assigned an international standard number. In 2017 he became a participant of the OAI-Belarus project.

In the International Ranking of Webometrics Ranking Web of Repositories during his time of existence, he held the following positions (Table 1).

Table 1 - Position in the Webometrics Ranking Web of Repositories
for 2014-2017

Year	2014	2015		2016		2017	
Month	July	January	July	January	July	January	July
Position in the world	1344	1099	1031	864	1087	810	714
Position in the Republic of Belarus	9	5	6	5	5	5	3

Thus, the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov in 2016 held the 5th position among 22 repositories of higher education institutions of Belarus, and by the end of 2017 it reached the third position.

The staff of the scientific library has always responsibly approached the issues of maintaining the repository: the operative placement of new materials, the expansion of the nomenclature of collections, the improvement in the design of the presentation of materials, the expansion of search queries, etc.

In 2016, in the social network "VKontakte" was created a page of the institutional repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov, which refers to the official page of the library in this network. The aim pursued by us is the promotion among the users of scientific publications, educational materials, rare editions from the fund of the scientific library.

According to statistics Google Analyties for 2017 the repository of the VSU named after P.M. Masherov was visited by 49187 users, 257747 pages were viewed by them.

To date, the following collections have been identified in the repository: "Dissertations and Abstracts of Dissertations", "Materials of Congresses, Conferences, Seminars", "Collections of Scientific Articles", "Periodicals of the University", "Faculty of the University", "Scientific Library", " P.M. Masherov in the press. "

The collection "Dissertations and Abstracts of Dissertations" is by far the smallest - 4 documents. The library plans to digitize and post 3372 abstracts of dissertations that are in the library's fund.

The collection "Materials of congresses, conferences, seminars" contains 6017 documents. This collection contains materials of congresses - 125 documents; international conferences - 3136 documents; regional conferences - 2569 documents; republican conferences - 165 documents; student conferences - 22 documents. All the above-mentioned events were held on the basis of the VSU named after PM Masherov.

Collection "Collections of Scientific Articles" contains 270 digitized scientific articles of university teachers, published in the public domain and named after PM Masherov. Chronological coverage of the collection from 2010 to 2018.

The collection "Periodicals of the University" contains 3626 documents. It contains the materials of the publications of scientific periodicals of the Voronezh State University named after PM Masherov: "Vesnik Vitsebskaga dzyarzhaŭnaga ŭiniversiteta" - 2,143 documents, chronological coverage since 1996; "Art and Culture" - 500 documents, chronological coverage since 2011; "Right. Economy. Psychology "- 124 documents, chronological coverage since 2015; "Modern education of Vitebsk region" 307 documents, chronological coverage from 2013; "Scientific notes of the Ural State University named after P.M. Masherov "- 552 documents, the chronological coverage since 2002.

The collection "Faculties of the University" contains scientific publications and educational materials of the following faculties of the VSU named after PM Masherov: "Biological Faculty" - 313 documents; "Historical Faculty" - 218 documents; "Mathematical Faculty" - 149 documents; "Faculty of Foreigners' Training" - 30 documents; "Pedagogical Faculty" - 219 documents; "Faculty of Social Pedagogy and Psychology" - 204 documents; "Faculty of Physical Culture and Sports" - 166 documents; "Philological Faculty" - 288 documents; "The Art and Graphic Department" - 117 documents; "Law Faculty" - 152 documents; "Faculty of retraining of IPC and PC staff" - 42 documents.

The collection "Scientific Library" contains 204 documents on various branches of knowledge and types of publications. The main part of the collection consists of 192 digitized editions from a rare library fund. Chronological coverage from the early 19th century to the early 20th century.

As an example, we want to draw your attention to the book by the French author Sh. Szenobos "The Political History of Modern Europe (1814-1896)", published in 1901 in St. Petersburg. One of the sections of chapter 20 of this work is devoted to the history of the formation of the state of Romania.

It should be noted that in addition to rare publications in the collection of the "Scientific Library" the articles of the staff of the scientific library and the bibliographic tools created by them are reflected.

The collection "VGU named after PM Masherov in the press" contains 405 documents. It reflects the materials published in the university newspaper "We and the Hour", which, as a rule, are devoted to the historical past and the present university.

As of February 15, 2013 11,763 documents have been placed in the repository.

It should be noted that the placement of scientific publications of university employees in the public domain promotes their citation, which affects the citation index, which is widely used around the world to assess the work of researchers and research teams.

Thus, the presence of an institutional repository in the institution of higher education contributes to the integration of research scientists into the global scientific community, the growth of the authority and significance of the organization.

In our opinion, the open access repository can be a platform for cooperation of libraries not only within the republic, but also beyond its borders. We hope that in the future we will be able to identify mutually beneficial projects for the scientific library of the VSU named after PM Masherov and the library of the University "Luciana Blago" in Sibiu.

The library can provide information support for the proposed projects, which will be implemented by our universities. For example, the joint creation of thematic full-text collections, bibliographic or factual databases. And also the library is ready to consider all proposals for cooperation.

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