

Posters





Creating a content-rich resource of e-theses

Peter Lund

Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge (E-mail: opl21@cam.ac.uk)

■ Introduction

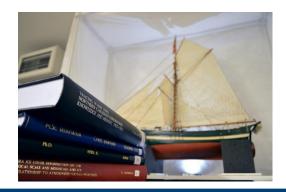
Following a significant number of global requests for digital copies of SPRI theses, the author aimed to create a content-rich resource to benefit polar researchers. Using a digital licence agreement permission was sought from copyright available to make their theses holders retrospectively as open access through the University's institutional repository (Apollo). A web page helps showcase completed theses. This work coincided with a University policy change – all PhD theses need to be available digitally from October 2017.

Results and Discussion

SPRI theses added to repository

	Full text	Embargoed items	Total	Proportion of total print theses
Masters	39	3	42	21%
Doctoral	39	1	40	31%
Total	78	4	82	25%

- 82 theses have been added to the repository, a further 9 await digitisation.
- ■220 (of 333) graduates were contacted.
- ■40% success rate based on graduates contacted achieved to date.





■ Downloads (source: IRUS-UK)

Top 3 downloads: titles	
The Southern Whale Fishery Company, Auckland Islands	535
Cone penetration testing in polar snow	269
The corral and the slaughterhouse: knowledge, tradition and	
the modernization of indigenous reindeer slaughtering practice	
in the Norwegian Arctic	192
Total downloads	2384
Average no. of downloads per thesis	30

■ Conclusion

- •SPRI theses have attracted a high number of downloads confirming expected benefits highlighted by Copeland (2008): more theses are read and some are read by many more people than when only held in paper form. Showcasing SPRI research is an additional reputational benefit.
- •. Communicating with graduates has been fun but time consuming the policy change is more efficient.

■ Reference:

Copeland, S. (2008) Electronic Theses and Dissertations: promoting 'hidden' research. *Policy Futures in Education*, Vol. 6 (1) 87-95.

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