

Institutional Repository—the New Library

A presentation within the workshop “Integrative Information Management for Integrative Science”

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Historical forestry technical reports, student research reports, miscellaneous research center reports, NGO reports, international agency reports, and state, provincial, and federal/national governmental reports have been produced since the historical beginnings of each institution. They have never been systematically given to nor acquired by institutional libraries. It has been asserted that institutional memory is essential for the best use of resources within each institution, yet people tend to bypass the library as a useful partner in archiving past, present, and future institutional memory (documents produced by the institution). A strong case needs to be made to show the currency of library personnel and library procedures and protocols for any institutional repository of institutional intellectual materials. Librarians can become active, useful partners in the development and implementation of these institutional repositories. In my presentation I will present a case for librarians to be active partners in the development and organization of repositories of information, a new term for what librarians have been doing for centuries—build usable library collections.