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The Readiness of Thai Universities towards the Research Data Quality Accreditation Standards in Institutional Repositories.

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♦ Abstract

Trust and certification in research data and theses in institutional repositories are the new concept for Thai university professionals both in the university libraries and the research centers. Even though institutional repositories and research databases are infrastructures of scholarly communication that ensure accessibility of research data and theses which requires policies, standards, and data management plan. This study focuses on how Thai universities handle research data and theses for long-term use, and introducing basic and formal certification in repository assessment methods to the library directors and research center directors in Thai universities.

The research objectives are to analyze the factors of research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories, and to study the readiness of Thai universities towards research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories. A qualitative research method was applied by interviewing 30 library directors and 10 research centers directors in 30 Thai universities. In-depth interviews were qualitatively analyzed using content analysis.

The research findings will identify the status of research data and theses in Thai universities and the readiness level of Thai Universities towards the research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories.

♦ Introduction

Research data services are gateway to provide access to research data kept in the library databases and the institutional repositories (IRs) in the universities which are digital archives of the intellectual products or the storage of knowledge assets of the institutions. Collaboration is essential in developing research data services, therefore, research data services can be a partnership between Research Computing and the Libraries that includes other groups with relevant expertise, such as the research data manager from Research Computing and the research data and metadata librarian from the libraries serve as co-coordinators of the Research Data Services.

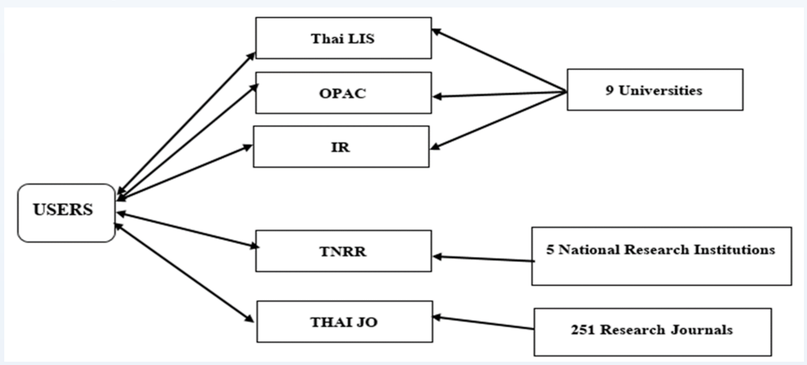
In Thailand, there are 43 online research databases available (comprises of 22 accessible IRs and 21 research databases providing abstracts and/or full-text of research data).(Wipawin and Wanna 2014) Do Thai universities need the Research Data Quality Accreditation Standards in Institutional Repositories? Are Thai universities ready for these standards?

♦ Objectives

1. to analyze the factors of research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories, and
2. to study the readiness of Thai universities towards research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories.

♦ Results

1. Most Thai research university libraries provide electronic theses and dissertations in Thai Library Integrated System (ThaiLIS) , Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC), Institutional Repository (IR) and every libraries submit theses to ThaiLIS databases which is the university library consortium under the Department of University's Affairs and Thai Library Integrated System Project. The Thai National Research Repository (TNRR). *Users have to access each database instead of One Search*. For example: case of Thai research



2.The research data quality accreditation standards in institutional repositories are two levels such as Basic Certification(Data Seal of Approval(DSA) and World Data System(WDS) and Formal Certification (DIN 31644 and ISO 16363). *Some Thai universities are ready for the first level of basic certification* which comprise of the guidelines for data producers, institutional repositories, and data users, but most of them provide full-text of theses and research reports to users.

3. According to the interview conducted, most universities have the digital preservation and archiving policy but *there is no such solid university policy towards research data* (only CU has the library policy regarding open research data policy), but rather general practices by all university libraries.

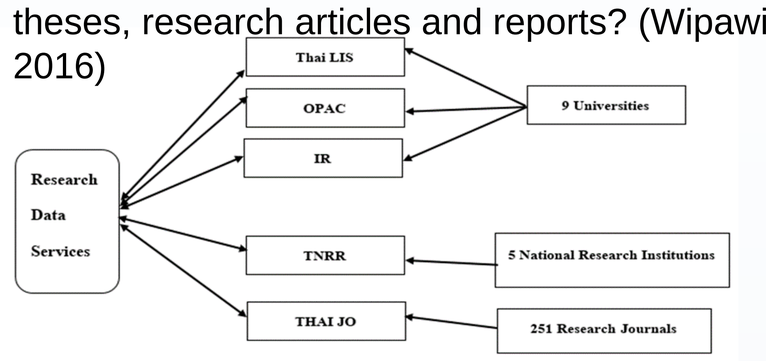
4.No Thai universities are using research data quality accreditation standards. Even though, *Thai universities are in an early stage of applying these standards*, most library and research directors agree on the possibilities in using international accreditation standards such as Data Seal Approval(DSA).

♦ Methods

A qualitative research method was applied by interviewing 30 library directors and 10 research centers directors in 30 Thai universities with. In-depth interviews were qualitatively analyzed using content analysis.

♦ Discussion

1. Can One Search of Research Data Services help users in developing the accessibility of theses, research articles and reports? (Wipawin 2016)



2.Can Research Data Quality Accreditation Standards in Institutional Repositories support the availability and accessibility of open research data in the universities?

♦ Conclusion

It has been recommended to set up the university policies in open research data for quality research data services. The collaboration among the research centers, graduate schools, computer centers and the libraries are significantly important to design the university research data services as One Stop Service.

The early stage of accreditation standards in Thai Universities depend on the research data university policy to support the practices for managing research data services.

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