



# **Out in the Open - Outsourced Solutions for Open Access**

A collaborative case study in conjunction with Southern Cross University

Sharon Bradshaw, ProQuest Information and Learning  
Phil Finnimore and Des Stewart, Southern Cross University



## Agenda

- ProQuest
  - Commercial strategies & new directions
  - Current OA initiatives
  - Digital Commons
- IR Platform Choices
  - Benefits a outsourced solutions brings
  - Criteria used for evaluating a commercial partnership
  - Value that partnership brings to the project



# ProQuest

## Commercial strategies & new directions

ProQuest seek to achieve a sustainable open access publishing model while maintaining the ability to reinvest in our wide-ranging publishing and solutions initiatives



## Current OA initiatives

- OA linking within the ProQuest platform
- OA linking from within Serials Solutions Services
- OA publishing model for dissertations & thesis
- IR platform – Digital Commons



## Digital Commons

- Digital Commons is ProQuest's Institutional Repository offering, powered by bepress
- Digital Commons is feature-rich and customisable
- Annual subscription pricing starts at USD\$12,500
- Digital Commons licenses includes:
  - Setup
  - Training
  - Support
  - Documentation
  - Upgrades
  - Hosting



The OA movement is pushing the IR movement forward, but there are multiple components to consider including;

- Contents - Institutional repositories vs. subject repositories
- Publisher Relationships
- Architectural and Administrative
- Publishing and Processing
- Stability and portability
- Outreach and content recruitment
- In house vs outsourced licensed solutions
- Cost comparisons and funding structures



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*A new way to think*

**SCU Library -**  
ePublications@SCU

Phil Finnimore and Des Stewart

# Benefits of outsourcing

- Open source is not 'free'
- SCU has limited staff and time
- We wish to put efforts into promotion
- Efforts into getting support from stakeholders
- The arrangement is a 'trial'



# Evaluating commercial partnership

- Evaluation – not done in detail
- Feedback from other users positive
- Emphasis on ‘trial’ suit SCU Library

# Value the partnership brings

- Dealing with a known vendor/partner
- The arrangement is a trial only
- Able to launch quickly
- Saves 'reinventing the wheel'
- Access to expertise