

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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Use of the University of Zimbabwe Institutional Repository (UZIR) by the Academic Staff

by

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ABSTRACT

Institutional Repositories (IRs) have been considered one of the disseminating and preserving methods for scholarly information. However, the success of an IR is dependent on their uptake and usage by the communities they serve. This research investigated the extent of use of the University of Zimbabwe Institutional Repository (UZIR) by the academic staff. A cross sectional survey research design was used across all the UZ faculties. The sample population was drawn from the faculty librarians and the academic community. Questionnaires were used to collect data from 50 academic staff, whilst interviews were conducted for 10 faculty librarians and the IR administrator. The study results revealed that there was low deposit and access rate on the UZIR by the academic staff. It was concluded that the academic staff gave low priority in use of the UZIR in disseminating scholarly work. The researcher recommended the revisiting of the UZIR marketing and promotional strategies to include incentivizing contributors, incorporating usage statistics in advocacy and the adoption of an OA policy which makes it mandatory for academics to submit their work to the UZIR.