Definition:

A convenient brief definition of an institutional repository (IR) (institusionele pakhuis) as obtained from Wikipedia, the online encyclopædia: “An Institutional Repository is an online locus for collecting, preserving, and disseminating – in digital form – the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution.” This has led to the descriptive name for the NWU’s digital research repository, ‘Boloka’ (Tswana), which means: preserve, store, protect and/or maintain.

Have you ever wondered what Boloka is? This icon has been on the Library’s website under Quick links since March 2009 and leads to the NWU’s own digital archives – the institutional research repository.

Objectives of Boloka (as service to the NWU community):

- The collection, indexing and archiving of intellectual results of the NWU in digital format. This includes the following:
  - Electronic full-text versions of theses and dissertations (since 2004).
  - Research articles published in scientific journals and conference proceedings.
  - Any other digital collections as identified by interested parties.
  - Electronic journals published by the University.
- Long-term preservation of digital material, stored centrally, with advanced retrieval and/or search facilities by establishing a unique portal that will serve to showcase the University’s intellectual outputs.
- Global visibility, which leads to greater awareness of this scientific research, as it is indexed by the web crawlers of acknowledged search engines like Google Scholar, Yahoo and Bing. Greater visibility can improve an institution’s ranking in the “Ranking web of world universities”.

Statistics from 1 March 2009 – 20 Julie 2009 indicate an increase in international visitors.
The creation of a platform for open access and full-text search capabilities, not only for staff and students of the University, but for anyone with internet access, by registering the repository with all open archives initiatives. See initiatives like OpenDAOR, eIFL-OA, Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR).

To authors, this means that their research can be made available to a wider circle of readers, which increases its use and impact, and implies more citations, which could promote the profession concerned. The download, print and archive options also make it possible to re-use articles.

**Top ten titles visited since March 2009:**
- Die rol van plaaslike regerings met betrekking tot “Local Agenda 21” / deur J.M. Marx
- Geskoolde werkloosheid in Suid-Afrika, met spesifieke verwysing na die Noordwes Provinsie / Charlene du Toit
- PER: Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal
- Beskerming van kinderregte by die sekwestrasie van die boedel van die ouer(s) / Lizelle Norval
- The impact of HIV/AIDS on morale and productivity in a provincial government department : a case study / E. Zwane
- School violence in secondary schools : guidelines for the establishment of health promoting schools / Alan Gert Meyer
- Organisational support, role clarity, job insecurity and organisational commitment of employees in a petrochemical organisation / Rirhandzu Milder Nqubane
- Identiteitsbeelding van twee jeugkarakters in die film Paljas / E. de Klerk
- Promoting sustainable development through capacity building at Sebideng District Municipality / Lerato Sebolao
- Aspects of the demographic profile and standard of pharmaceutical services in South Africa / J. Adsetts

To make existing self-archiving possibilities available to a larger audience, provide training and set up documentation as soon as procedures, copyright clearance issues and other obstacles have been resolved.

To provide a continuous, reliable service and access by making regular backups; to expand the collection by identifying new digital objects; to establish metadata and digitalisation standards; to provide suitable state-of-the-art software (DSpace) and to determine the usefulness of Boloka through regular checking and provision of statistics (Google Analytics).

### Where are we now with Boloka?

- **Jan. 2009:** Phase 1
  - ESpace installed and operational.

- **Feb. 2009:** Phase 2
  - Boloka registered with different OA initiatives like eIFL-OA, Google Scholar, OpenDOAR, etc. for indexing and broader visibility.

- **Mar. 2009:** Phase 3
  - 1983 electronic theses and dissertations uploaded and indexed from 2004 -
  - Uploading of first electronic journal (PER) 1899 – 2009 to Boloka.
  - Training of other campus’s library staff for the archiving of their own electronic theses.

- **Aug. 2009:** Phase 4
  - Starts with indexing of scientific research articles - only bibliographic data.
  - First full-text article uploaded, with copyright clearance.

- **Jul. 2009:** Phase 5
  - Identify new communities like: inaugural presentations, IRS publications, Africana books already digitised.

- **Apr. 2010:** Phase 6
  - Promote self-archiving initiatives.

- **Apr. 2010:** Phase 7
  - Identify new communities like: inaugural presentations, IRS publications, Africana books already digitised.
Three new databases

The Library recently subscribed to Philosopher’s Index and Environment Complete. Both databases are available on the EbscoHost platform.

Philosopher’s Index is published by the Philosopher’s Information Center and is a comprehensive bibliographical database that covers international research in all fields of philosophy, including ethics, logic, metaphysics, aesthetics, epistemology, social philosophy, the philosophy of history, pedagogics, science, religion, languages and anthropology. The database covers research that has been published since 1940 in roughly 470 journals from 43 countries.

In the environmental sciences, Environment Complete covers ecosystem ecology, energy, natural resources, agriculture, marine and freshwater sciences, geography, pollution and waste management, environmental technology, environmental law, public policy, social impact, town planning, etc. Approximately 1 700 journals are indexed in this database. Access is provided to the full text of 680 journals, including well-known ones like Environment, Ecologist, Conservation Biology, as well as to the full text of 120 monographs like Advances in Water Treatment and Environmental Management.

Subscription to Environment Complete also provides free access to the GreenFILE database. GreenFILE focuses on man’s impact on the environment, and in addition to the indexing of technical journals, it contains references to government publications. Topics include global climate change, green construction, pollution, sustainable agriculture, recyclable energy, re-usage, and more. The database provides excerpts of approximately 384 000 records, as well as the full-text articles of roughly 5 000 open access records.

Activate your reading history

Would you like to know what books you have borrowed, or have you read a book and forgotten the title? Are you interested in downloading a list of books you have read to RefWorks? Activate your reading history to obtain a list of books you have borrowed from the date on which the function was activated. This list can be printed, sent to an e-mail address or hard disk, and even downloaded to RefWorks. Read here how to activate your reading history.

With RefWorks you can create your own database on the web with sources used for research. The references can then automatically be inserted in your research document and formatted in a specific bibliographical style within seconds. A major benefit is that you can now search these sources from any computer with internet access. The database can also be shared if different people are working on one project.

- How to …
- From RefManager to RefWorks
- Download information from the catalogue to RefWorks
RefWorks available via cell phone

The online reference manager RefWorks has gone mobile!

Use any cell phone or PDA with internet access to perform general functions like searching for references, viewing stored references and organising files in the RefWorks database.

The SmartAdd function makes it easier to add references by streamlining searching and adding.

Visit RefMobile at http://refworks.com/mobile on your cell phone and sign on with your group code, user name and password. E-mail here if you do not know your group code.

Harvard format loaded on RefWorks

The NWU uses an adapted version of the Harvard bibliographical style. It differs from the existing Harvard style, which is available in the RefWorks list of bibliographical styles. You will see that there is now an option for North-West University Harvard under “Tools”, “Output Style Manager”, which you can add to your favourites. The basic reference for books and journals are already loaded and we hope to add other types of records soon as well.

Notice boards and signs

In an attempt to upgrade and make signs in the Main Library clearer, we are currently implementing changes. Esteé Steyn, a master’s student in Graphic Design, was to a great extent responsible for the new designs.

The colour code that is used corresponds with the NWU’s colours. It has been decided to designate services in blue, spaces, collections, subject names and numbers in dark red (maroon), and emergency exits and toilet facilities in green.

The central pillar in the foyer in front of Lending and Information Services that currently houses the display case will be converted to a general notice board with a TV screen, which will display information, news programmes and even important sporting events on an ongoing basis. A large new poster board will also be mounted on the wall in the foyer just before the stairs for displaying SC-approved posters.
Using exam papers

Did you know?

- The Exam Paper Database contains digitalised documents from 1998.
- A total of 21 533 papers have already been indexed and are available on the internet.
- The database can be searched by campus, subject code, subject name, degree code, date of exam and/or examiner.
- Papers for the Mafikeng Campus (since 2007) and the Vaal Triangle Campus are also available on this portal.
- Statistics indicate that this is one of the Library databases that is used the most. Have a look at the trends just prior to and during exams:
**e-Books**

In order to provide better support for teaching-learning, the benefits of e-books as a source of information must be explored. We therefore currently subscribe to a variety of e-books. By deliberately focusing on the purchase of prescribed textbooks and reserved books that are borrowed often, we can provide electronic access to essential sources of information. There are numerous benefits for off-campus users. E-books are available from the catalogue and are indicated as follows:

![E-Book Online](image)

Users are welcome to make recommendations for new acquisitions.

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**Shiny eyes... warm hearts**

The Library is sensitive to the needs of the people and particularly the children of our country and has therefore decided to do something for the community of Potchefstroom every year. About three years ago the Ferdinand Postma Library became aware of the good work done by the Mama Afrika Project. This project is sponsored by Clover and is a social upliftment project to help communities to help themselves. Prof Elain Vlok, extraordinary professor in Communication Studies at the NWU, was and remains the driving force behind the project, which identifies women who provide philanthropic services in communities. These women, the Mamas, are empowered with aid and expertise as required.

We realised this year that the Potchefstroom community has its own brave Mama, namely Mama Dorah from Ikageng. Mama Dorah was touched by the hungry, neglected children she saw in the streets every day and decided to provide these children with food from her meagre salary. This 59-year-old woman, who was never able to attend school herself, realised that the children needed more than food and this led to the establishment of the Ncedisizwe creche/nursery school. Clover became aware of her compassion and care for the children and provided financial assistance so that she could equip her premises better and provide certain facilities.

This striking story in times that often generate only bad news led the Library to realise that it would like to provide assistance. We asked what we as Library could do or provide, and the reply was: children’s books, please, that the children can read themselves – therefore picture books for children. It was wonderful to select the books and to know that what we were doing would provide joy to someone. We carefully selected approximately 80 books, CDs and a CD player.

We handed over the gifts in Ikageng ourselves one fine autumn morning. What a pleasure! We were received warmly and entertained with singing and dancing. Our return journey was gladdened by the realisation that the joy, cheerfulness and childish excitement we had experienced would remain with us for a long time.
Our most popular databases

The Library is intentionally subscribing to databases that provide links to electronic full-text articles. These scientific articles are a good alternative for the general information that users like to obtain on the internet with the aid of search engines like Google.

After a period of stabilisation in 2007/2008, the service once more grew during 2008/2009. Our most popular databases include:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Search Premier (EbscoHost)</td>
<td>135672</td>
<td>137255</td>
<td>160569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Source Premier (EbscoHost)</td>
<td>36133</td>
<td>46841</td>
<td>65755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerald</td>
<td>12399</td>
<td>30938</td>
<td>18336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSTOR</td>
<td>6666</td>
<td>25958</td>
<td>25523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAEPublications</td>
<td>151148</td>
<td>187164</td>
<td>247962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ScienceDirect</td>
<td>95431</td>
<td>79613</td>
<td>94384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web of Science</td>
<td>12705</td>
<td>12857</td>
<td>10473</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

![Graph showing database usage](image-url)
Group venues

The four current group rooms are used to such an extent that we organised another temporary group room during the exams. These rooms can be booked with Lending Services and used for group projects, academic group meetings and group study. The room previously known as “Trap-der-Jeugd” was renamed “Omega” to fit in with the others, which were named for the Greek alphabet. Alpha can seat 18 persons, Beta 12, Omega 8 and Delta 6. The temporary room, Sigma, can also seat 8 persons. Plans for a further four rooms are being drawn up and we hope to have them ready on the second floor in the former Journal Reading Hall early in 2010.

Library hours

Library hours are adjusted every year according to user patterns and needs. A number of changes were therefore made in the course of the year.

Since the beginning of 2009 the Theological Library has been open between 13:00 and 14:00 as well. Until November 2009 the hours for the Jan Lion Cachet Library (TL) from Monday to Thursday are therefore 07:30 to 18:00. On Fridays it is open only until 16:00, except when honours courses are being presented, when a special arrangement until 18:00 applies.

From 20 July the Music Library will also be open between 13:00 and 14:00 for a trial period (until November 2009).

The hours for each library are determined according to the needs of that group of users. If a change seems necessary, we experiment for a few months and then determine on the basis of user statistics whether the hours should be amended permanently. You should therefore from time to time check the office hours of the library or branch library that you use.

Library hours for the rest of 2009:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Mondays-Thursdays</th>
<th>Fridays</th>
<th>Saturdays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>vanaf 13:00-14:00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Library</td>
<td>7:30 Open</td>
<td>7:30-22:00</td>
<td>9:00-14:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Library</td>
<td>8:00 Open (Trial period)</td>
<td>8:00-17:00</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science Library</td>
<td>7:30 Open</td>
<td>7:30-17:30 The hours and services of the Natural Science Library may be amended in 2010 as it seems that it is not used often in the evenings.</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Sciences Library</td>
<td>8:00 Open</td>
<td>Normal Fridays: 08:00-18:00, Ed Honns Fridays: 08:00-20:00</td>
<td>10:00-13:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theological Library</td>
<td>7:30 Open</td>
<td>7:30-16:00, Except when honours courses are being presented and a special arrangement until 18:00 applies.</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Holiday hours vary from one library to the next, and users should check these before visiting a library or branch library during the holidays.
Training librarian

To keep pace with international trends of training in research and information products and information literacy playing an increasing role, the Library has had its own training librarian since the beginning of 2009. Erika Rood was an information librarian for many years and still provides information services on a smaller scale. She will in future coordinate the training activities for Information Services and be closely involved with the marketing of these activities. Courses that already being successfully presented are RefWorks, Impact factors & Accredited Journals and Library databases vs Google. Course bookings can be made.

Education Blog

The Education Blog is intended to serve as a means of communication between the Library and the Faculty of Educational Sciences. It keeps everyone up to date on all the services, developments and products that the Library supplies to the faculty. It also attempts to keep students and lecturers up to date on new developments in the field of South African and international education. This includes upcoming education conferences, new educational products, papers and decisions affecting education, as well as new ideas and trends that are discussed. Finally, the blogger attempts to introduce the wider public to events and people in the Faculty of Educational Sciences. A lot of things that are not always generally known take place in the faculty. A blog is very useful here, as persons from all over the world regularly visit to obtain a better overall view of the Faculty of Educational Sciences.

Staff movements and achievements

Yvonne Bucwa from the Library for Educational Sciences and Abel Khaoe (our colleague who has left for Koster in the meantime) passed their exams for an honours degree in Information Science at Unisa. They completed the course within a year, which is also an achievement. (They had to complete certain preparatory studies first in 2007.) They were also the first staff members from the Library who completed their studies at Unisa with the aid of the University’s scheme for such studies. We are very grateful to Organisational Learning and Development, and specifically to Mandi Wallace.

Corrie Breitenbach and Louw Venter attended the African Digital Scholarship & Curation conference from 12 to 14 May 2009. The theme of the conference was the identification of opportunities and strategies for and practical examples of new forms of research and science, and the management of the digital contents of the activities by academics, researchers, scientists, information scientists and IT experts.

Carine Basson and Louw Venter attended the DITCHE (Digital Information Technology in Higher Education) NLIT (National Library IT) event in Port Elizabeth from 19 to 21 May 2009. This gives the staff of university libraries’ IT departments an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with colleagues from all over Southern Africa.
Staff movements and achievements (continues)

Jubrie Oosthuizen and Louise Vos attended a workshop of the CiCD unit of LIASA and CBM Training on Library Leadership & Management: Developing Managerial Competencies from 20 to 21 May 2009.

Jubrie Oosthuizen attended the SANLiC Licensing & Negotiation Capacity Building Workshop at the CSIR from 26 to 28 May.

In June 2009 two colleagues from the Bindery, Gladys Maruping and George Seretse, obtained formal technical qualifications with the aid of Mr Gawie van der Westhuizen, an experienced bookbinder and trainer, under the supervision of the MAPPP SETA (the sector training authority for the media, advertising media, publishing and printing industry).

Carine Basson and Louw Venter presented submissions at the GAELIC Millennium Show ’n Tell workshop on 15 July 2009. Carine spoke about Non-CASE load in ERM and Louw on GAELIC “Beta” BBS.

Retha Badenhorst and Isabel Blom attended a Quality Customer Service: Shedding light on skills development course presented by KwelangaTraining in C1, Institutional Building on 8 and 9 June 2009.

Tom Larney, the Director for Library Services on the Potchefstroom Campus, attended two library conferences in the USA and UK respectively in July. From 9 to 12 July he attended the annual conference of the American Library Organization (ALA) in Chicago and on 14 and 15 July the biennial Umbrella conference of the British Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield, just north of London.

Several things draw your attention at these conferences, he said:

- The enormous scale of the ALA conference. In addition to the large number of participants, which is unique to American conferences (with 8 000 attendees the ALA is definitely not one of the biggest conferences feeding the conference centres and hotels), exhibition areas are the size of two or three rugby fields, and with 500+ exhibitors they provide an indication of the major business that public and academic libraries constitute in the USA. In contrast, Umbrella with its approximately 400 attendees was actually miniscule.

- The pressure, resulting from the recession, on libraries to take an increasingly critical look at the employment of their budgets and of scarce human resources.
Staff movements and achievements (continues)

- The commonality of certain core themes in the USA and Britain and also in South Africa that arise time and again as strategic priorities not only for libraries, but for universities as a whole. Two of the main themes are the increasing role of non-conventional teaching patterns and students (the support of distance students, for example), and the role of the library in establishing information literacy and supporting research.

- The apparent calm affecting technological innovation, particularly with regard to academic libraries. After the enormous impact of CD-Rom in the early nineties, and – later in the same decade – the development of the web and the availability of linked databases and electronic journals and large omnibus systems for subscribing to these, everybody seems to be holding their breath for the next major development. Neither mobile computing nor electronic books, whether in the shape of the Kindle or of linked subscriptions, seems set to fill this role.

The University of Pretoria has received funds from the Carnegie Association to promote leadership in the library profession. A limited number of two-week Carnegie Library Leadership Academy courses will be presented and 20 librarians from all types of libraries will be able to attend each course. Candidates can apply to attend the academy by means of a letter of substantiation and a referral from the director. Twenty librarians will then be selected from the applications. The first CLLA was held at Leriba Lodge, Centurion, from 5-17 July 2009, and Erika Rood was one of the twenty candidates selected to attend. The programme was filled with lectures, workshops and assignments.

Erika’s reaction: We reflected on our profession and our leadership qualities and other matters affecting the organisations in which we work. Good speakers provided guidance on topics like legislation that affects our profession, strategic planning, change management, diversity in organisations and teamwork. It was a truly enriching experience and new bonds were forged with colleagues.

Training rooms

The Library has two training facilities namely Besembos and Tarentaal. Students and staff may book these facilities at the Information Desk of the Main Library or by phoning Ria Adelaar at 018 299 2812.