

Policy for development and use of open educational resources in covenant university: An open access policy in covenant university

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Abstract:

Establishing an Open Access Policy (OAP) in an academic institution is unlike establishing other policies the institution might have developed. An OAP in an academic institution would require the active participation of all stakeholders; researcher/faculty, library, management (Administration) and even students. OAP development in Covenant University spanned a total of 13 months; covering, draft policy development, legal review of policy, review of OAP by the university community, revision of policy document following institutional review, adoption of OAP by university community, ratification of OAP by University Senate. The OAP development period also saw a deliberate effort by the university through its Open Access (OA) office to sensitize its community on the drive for OA, as well as educates strategic units and departments of the university on OA issues to bring such key units and department abreast on OA and ensure proper execution on the OAP. Covenant University now operates an OAP for the development and use of open educational resources, alongside Institutional Repository (IR) guidelines. The OAP covers publications and access to research information, pedagogy materials and tools as well as access to non-research or pedagogical materials in the university and by the university workers, researchers and faculty.

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Introduction

Establishing an Open Access Policy (OAP) in an academic institution is unlike establishing any other kind of policy, mainly because it is often a policy that requires the full engagement of all stakeholders in that institution. The concern is centered on issues of personal rights and institutional rights are that are involved in OAPs. While other policies may be management-driven, OAPs are essentially contributors—centered as the policy applies to contributors (faculty) more than the administration. One of the focal points of the OAP stated in its objectives is to;

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