
Steering and strengthening knowledge economy through Open Access initiatives: Case of Zimbabwe

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Abstract

The twenty first century has seen an accelerated development in the activities of library consortia in Africa. The e-revolution has precipitated the transformation of Higher education through ushering in new paradigms with regards to how information /knowledge is generated, managed and shared. It will examine Open Access in Zimbabwe with regards to generation, promotion and coordination to realise the ideals of a knowledge economy. This paper will explore the extent to which open access has been adopted in Zimbabwe's HE. It will also examine the extent of use of ICTs in widening access to scholarly communication. The writers will examine the roles of library consortia, government and research networks in the open access dispensation. It will explore the challenges and opportunities emanating from open access. The paper will examine the extent to which academic institutions have adopted institutional repositories to promote access to e-content. The paper will examine challenges relating to intellectual property rights, for example, licensing and access to open educational resources. The paper will also explore how library consortia can derive benefits from open access. The paper will examine how Open Access Initiatives can help contribute to the knowledge economy

Keywords: open access, knowledge coordination, local e, content, digital literacy

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