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Title
Repositories in Australia

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Bibliographic citation
Sale, AHJ (2007). Repositories in Australia. University Of Tasmania. Conference contribution. https://figshare.utas.edu.au/articles/conference_contribution/Repositories_in_Australia/23213171

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Repositories in Australia

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Presentation available at
http://eprints.utas.edu.au/1031

Australia in brief

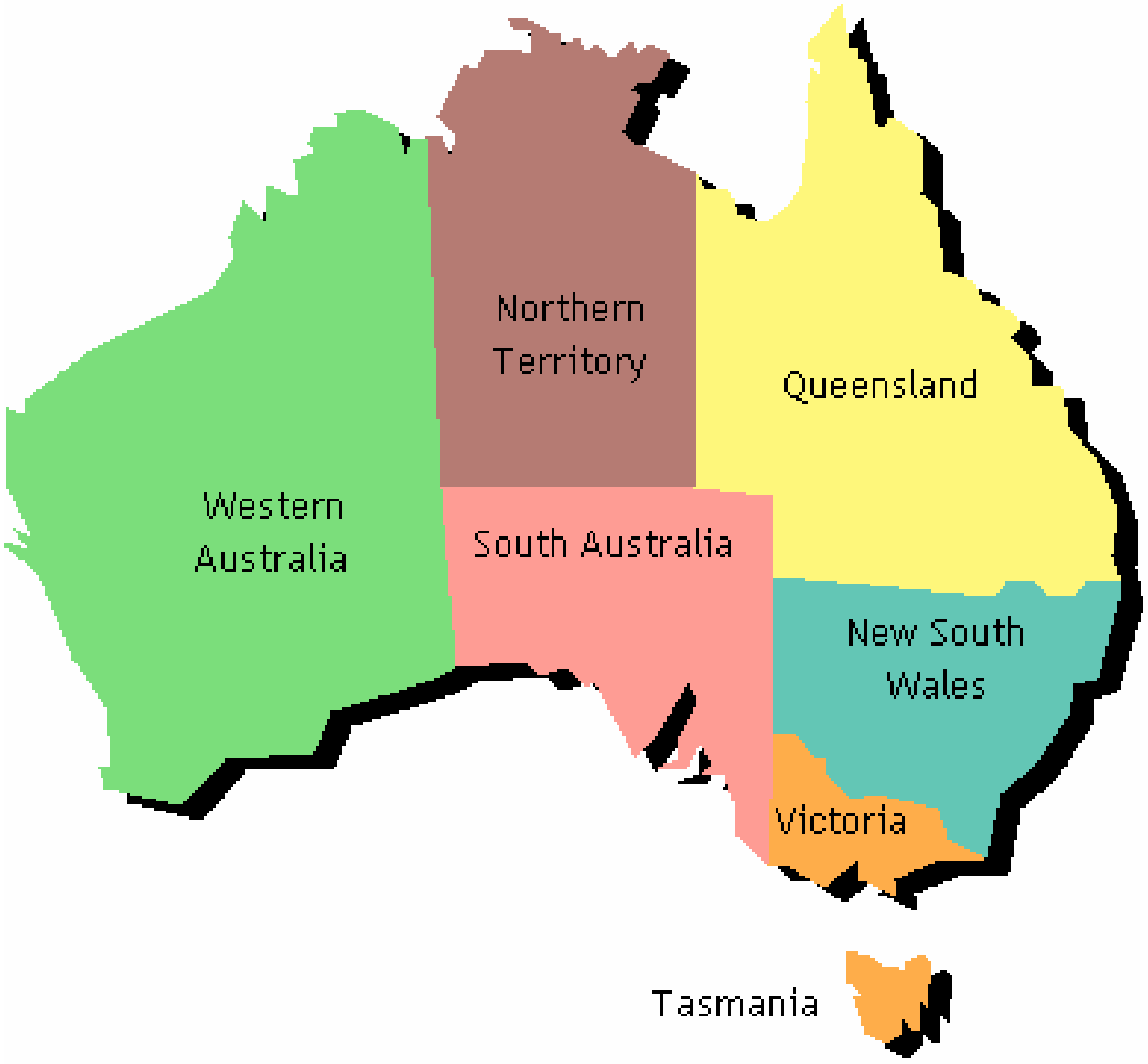
About the area and dimensions of the USA

Federal governance with six States and two Territories

Population 20.8 M

Highly citified; cities mostly on the coast; big distances between major cities (one per State)

Produces ~3% of world's research


Northern Territory
Queensland
Western Australia
South Australia
New South Wales
Victoria
Tasmania

Higher Education Sector

38 universities ranging from research intensive to regional (+4 small colleges)

Large fraction of funding from Federal Government through **DEST** (*Department of Education, Science & Training*)

Other income from fees (including international students), research grants, consultancies, and endowments. Two private universities.

Research funding

Two Research Councils fund projects and fellowships: **ARC** (*Australian Research Council*) and **NH&MRC** (*National Health & Medical Research Council*).

About to undertake **RQF** (*Research Quality Framework*) in 2008, which will affect block research funding for each university from 2009. RQF (Aus) ≈ RAE (UK).

Both the Research Councils and the RQF will be discussed later.

Early Repository Activity

Digital repository activity commenced in Australia around 2003/2004.

Early adopters were the Australian National University, University of Melbourne, University of Queensland, and University of Tasmania, all with EPrints software, and all research-intensive, top quartile.

University of New South Wales undertook a major digital theses repository project.

“Backing Australia’s Ability”

Federal Minister and DEST decided to fund $A 35M substantial digital repository-related projects, some of which are:

ADT, ARROW, APSR, RUBRIC, OAK-Law, MAMS

This talk will flesh some of these and give links for further information

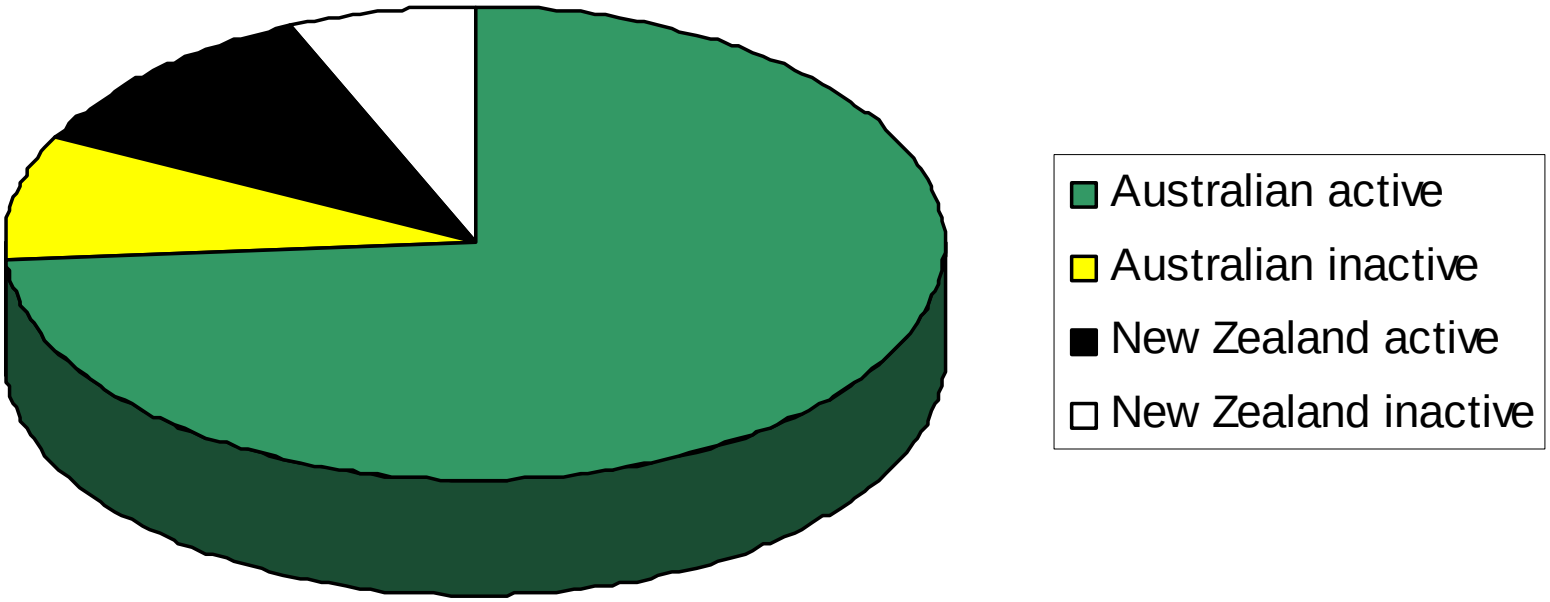
Australian Digital Theses

ADT is the oldest of the initiatives and provides a searchable gateway for electronic copies of **graduate research theses** (eg PhD) to digital repositories in 41 universities in Australia *and* New Zealand.

Distributed model: local repositories and local decision-making; centralized gateway and coordinated standards and support.

http://adt.caul.edu.au/

Figure 1 - ADT program participation



ARROW

Australian Repositories Online to the World has undertaken two main activities:

- The **ARROW Discovery Service** is a federated gateway to OAI-PMH compliant repositories, run by the National Library http://search.arrow.edu.au/
- Developing a commercial front-end to Fedora software, known as **VITAL** and licensed by VTLS Inc (USA).

ARROW National Discovery Service: search browse alerts statistics

Home > Home

Search: Go

advanced searc

arrow

Contributions:

Australian Computer Society	33
Australian Digital Theses	13446
ALIA	101
Australian National University	2649
Australian Policy Online	4138
Bond University	687
Curtin University of Technology	1137
Flinders University	1246
Griffith University	10319
Journal of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature	92
Monash University	1035
Queensland University of Technology	1504

Arrow Discovery Home

A selection of the research most recently added to ARROW Discovery Service is:

- Quilting Professional Stories: A Gendered Experience Of Choosing Social Work As A Career., *Mensinga, Joanna Tempe; j.mensinga@cqu.edu.au.*, 2005
- Development of a Risk Assessment Checklist for Juvenile Sexual Offenders: a Meta-Analytic Approach, *Rombouts, Sacha; n/a.*, 2006
- Patient-specific models of cartilaginous tissues based on laser scanning confocal arthroscopy, *Taylor, Zeike Amos.*, 2006
- Physical activity, weight change, and self-perception changes among obese individuals, *Teakle, Helen.*, 2006
- Physiological and metabolic responses of repeated-sprint bouts : specific to field-based team sports, *Spencer, Matthew.*, 2006

The most recently accessed research is:

- Borderline : Australia's response to refugees and asylum seekers in the wake of the Tampa, *Mares, Peter W.; Swinburne University of Technology. Institute for Social Research.*, 2002
- The deadly waiting game, *Browne, Peter M.; Swinburne University of Technology. Institute for Social Research.*, 2002
- Le Journal du Père Antoine Garin 1844-1846. Une édition critique présentée avec commentaire, transcription et annotations., *Serabian, Hélène; chocolat@clear.net.nz.*, 2006
- Safety, courts and crime, *Johnstone, Richard; National Research Centre for OHS Regulation; ANU.*, 2003
- The prevention of occupational injuries and illness: the role of economic incentives, *Clayton, Alan; National Research Centre for OHS Regulation; ANU.*, 2003

http://search.arrow.edu.au/

APSR

The *Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories* has:

Done considerable work on **sustainability of repositories**, and runs workshops in conjunction with ARROW

One partner, the University of Queensland, has developed an open-source front-end to Fedora software, known as **Fez**.

OAK Law

The *Open Access to Knowledge* Law project has concentrated on copyright and legal matters, running out of the Queensland University of Technology.

Excellent guides to copyright and other legal matters available online from http://www.oaklaw.qut.edu.au/

Also working on adding to SHERPA database with Australasian journals.

RUBRIC

Regional Universities Building Repository Infrastructure Collaboratively remit is to assist smaller universities to establish repositories in line with best practice.

RUBRIC is led by the University of Southern Queensland, and has a range of software for evaluation. It operates an EPrints repository itself.

http://www.rubric.edu.au/

MAMS

Meta Access Management System is building a identity module based on Shibboleth, which will manage identity authentication for Australian researchers, regardless of what institution(s) they work for or collaborate with. Required for Australian collaborative environment.

http://www.federation.org.au/

Current repositories

Leaving the ADT repositories aside, there are now 19 universities with OA repositories in Australia (exactly 50%).

As will be seen later, this will reach 100% by end of 2007, through the RQF program and its ASHER offshoot.

The current repositories cover all the top nine research-intensive universities, and most of those in the second tier.

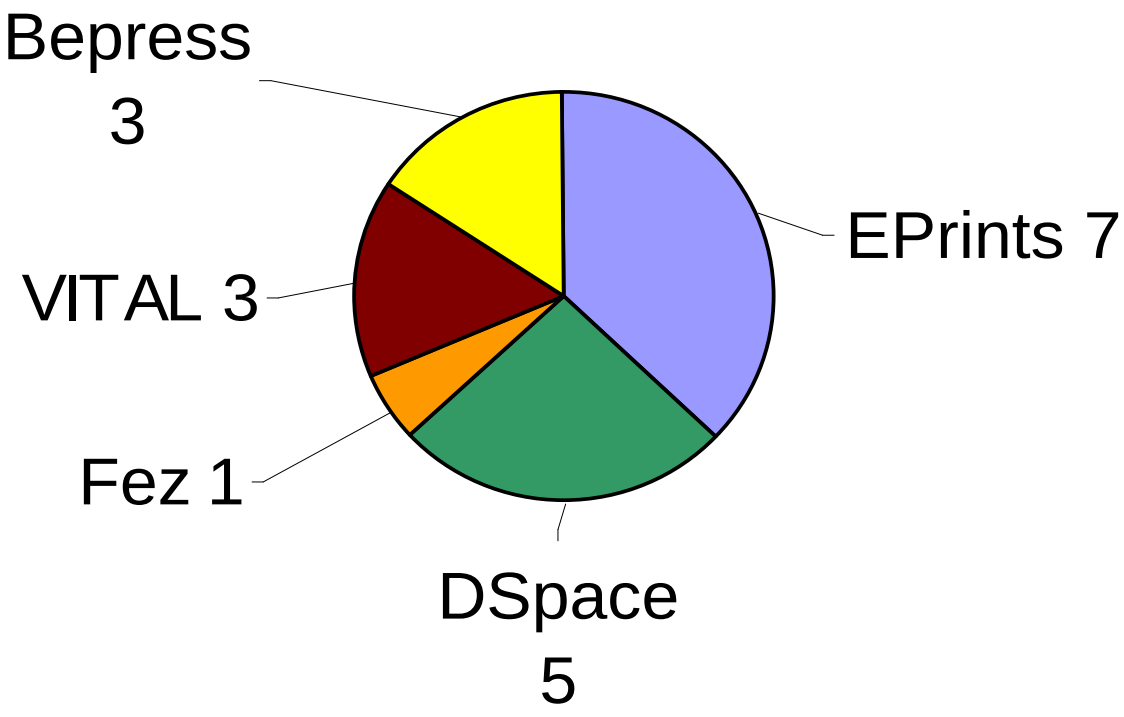
Software

Only five different software packages are used in Australia, and this is not expected to change in the near future except perhaps by the addition of *Ex Libris*.

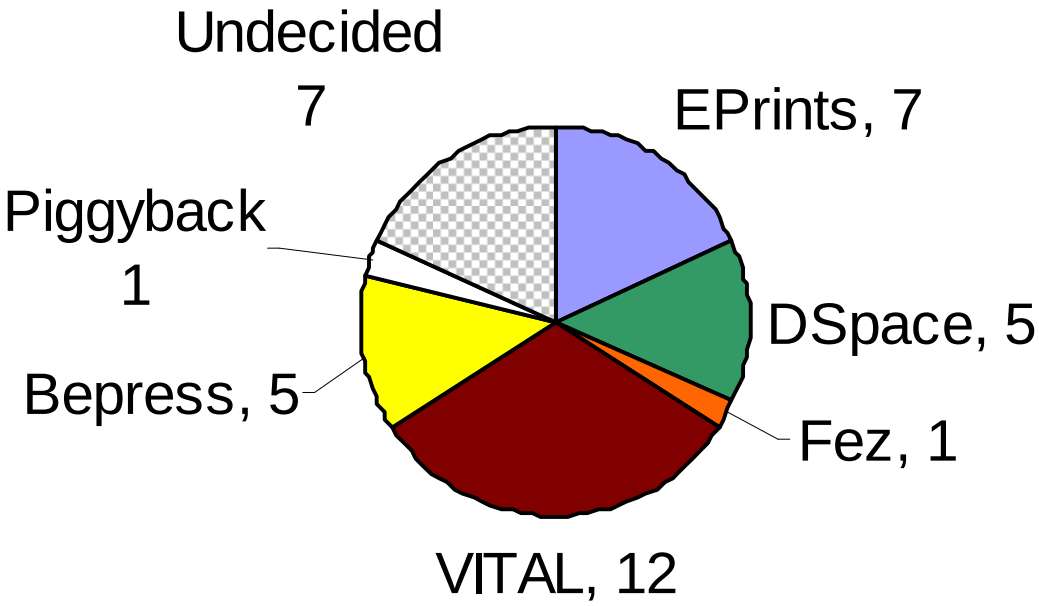
The packages are EPrints, DSpace, Fez, VITAL, and ProQuest's Digital Commons.

Three original EPrints repositories have migrated to DSpace (ANU), Fez (UQ) and VITAL (Monash)

Mid 2007 repositories



2008 repositories



RQF

The Federal Government have decided to have an RAE-style research assessment, which will determine part of the block grants to universities from 2009. It is known as the *Research Quality Framework* or **RQF**.

Although based on the UK's RAE, it is significantly different – in some facets more advanced, in some behind.

Key points

Like RAE – four best research outputs of group member for evaluation

Also total output of group to be listed

Citation data will be supplied to panels

13 discipline panels

Evaluated on *Quality* and *Impact* separately. *Quality* relates to research outputs; *Impact* to social consequences.

Effect on repositories

All evidence portfolios will be submitted electronically.

All research objects (evidence) will be accessed electronically in repositories situated in Australian universities

First consequence: by early 2008 **all** Australian universities will have a repository or belong to a repository consortium

ASHER program

$A 25.5M will be made available to universities to achieve this target, or upgrade their repositories, plus $A 16.4M for RQF compliance.

Guidelines are due any day and applications will be made shortly.

Expenditure backdated to December 2006 is acceptable. ASHER Program will run for 3 years.

The RQF IMS - 1

All evidence portfolios will be held in the RQF IMS for access by panel reviewers.

Panel reviewers will log in to the IMS and can request a research output assigned to them.

The IMS will anonymize the request and retrieve the item from a distributed repository, even if restricted (not open access).

The RQF IMS - 2

DEST is indemnifying all universities for copyright and negotiating with publishers.

Research objects must reside in an Australian repository. No out of repository links are allowed, even for already OA items.

Traditional research objects must be "publisher's pdfs". In the fine and performing arts there will be variations.

Australian Data Collection

All Australian universities report their research outputs and research training annually to DEST in the Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC), since at least 1992.

Research outputs comprise journal papers, conference papers, book chapters and books. http://www.avcc.edu.au/documents/publications/stats/HERDCTimeSeriesData1992-2005.xls

HERDC is spot-audited for accuracy.

Use of the data

As a consequence, we know the refereed research output and PhD graduations from each university, as an open document.

It becomes possible to estimate just how much of its research output, or theses, is being collected in repositories.

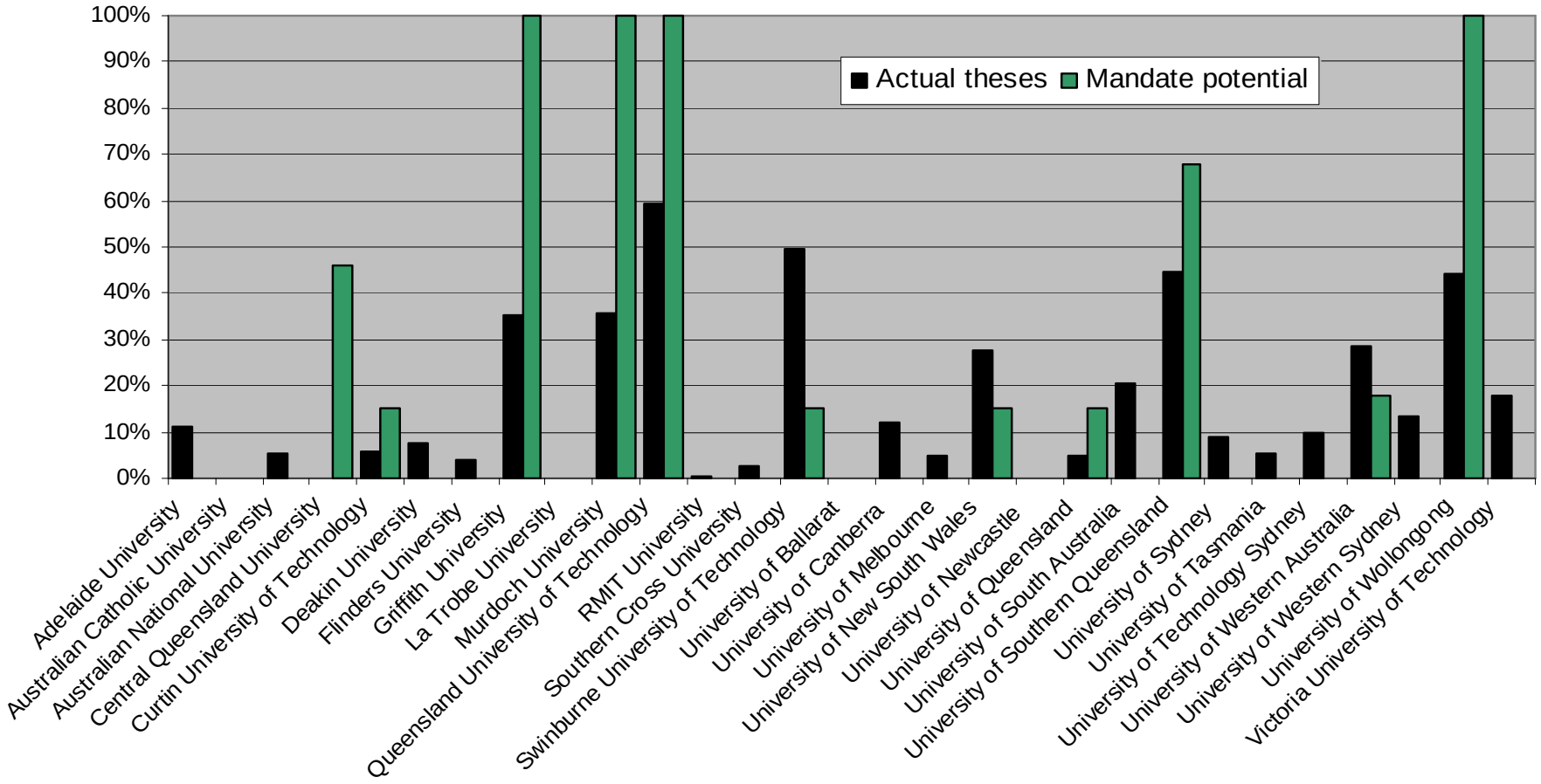
Let's look at some examples.

ADT

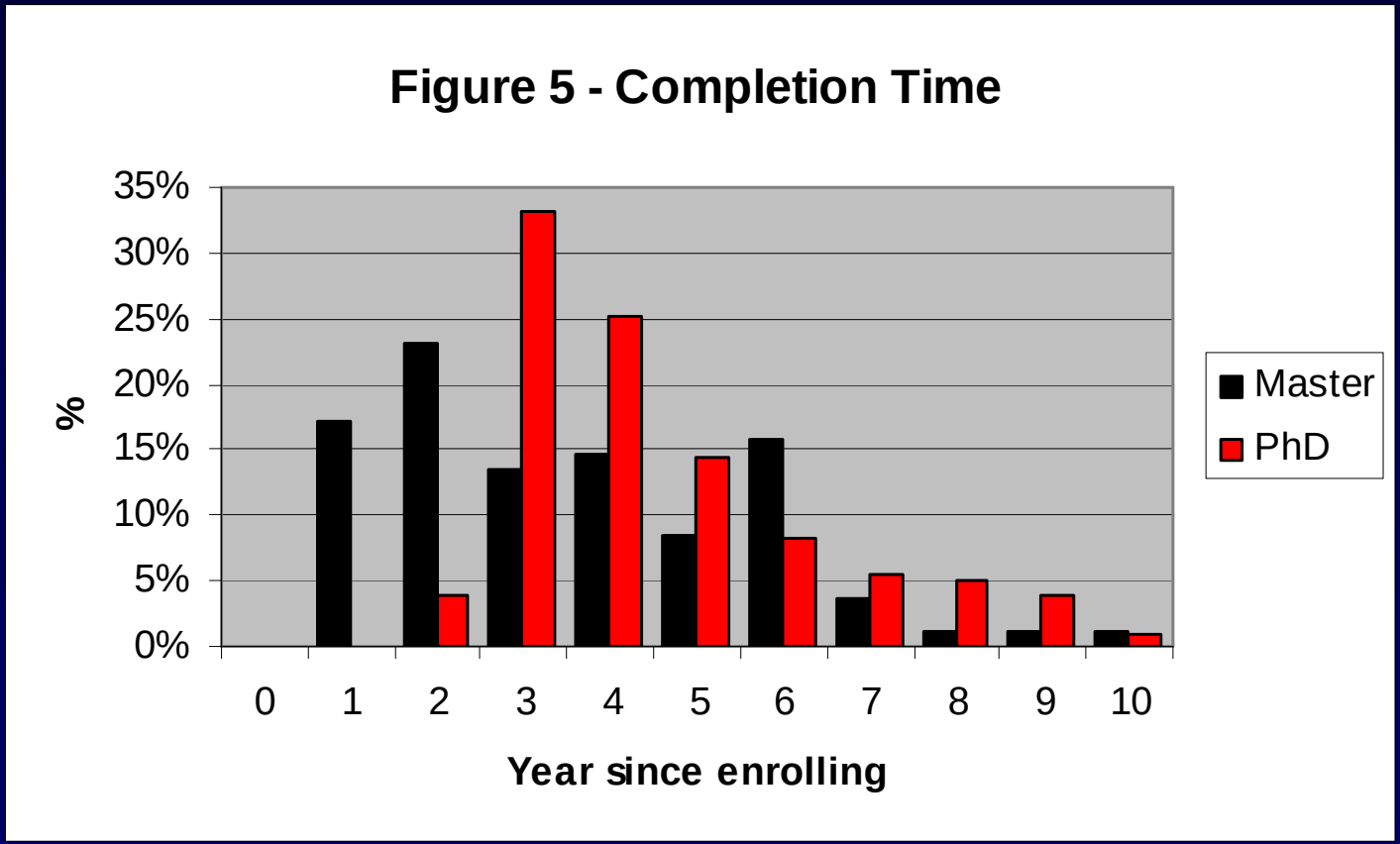
Universities find it easier to create rules for students than for staff.

Of the 34 universities contributing to ADT, 16 have **mandatory deposit policies** in place (47%).

The outcomes are clear: mandate and the repository fills with theses; don't and it stays derisorily empty (<20%).


100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
Actual theses
Mandate potential
Adelaide University
Australian Catholic University
Australian National University
Central Queensland University
Curtin University of Technology
Deakin University
Flinders University
Griffith University
La Trobe University
Murdoch University
Queensland University of Technology
RMIT University
Southern Cross University
Swinburne University of Technology
University of Ballarat
University of Canberra
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
University of Newcastle
University of Queensland
University of South Australia
University of Southern Queensland
University of Sydney
University of Tasmania
University of Technology Sydney
University of Western Australia
University of Western Sydney
University of Wollongong
Victoria University of Technology

Completion times



Research deposit policies

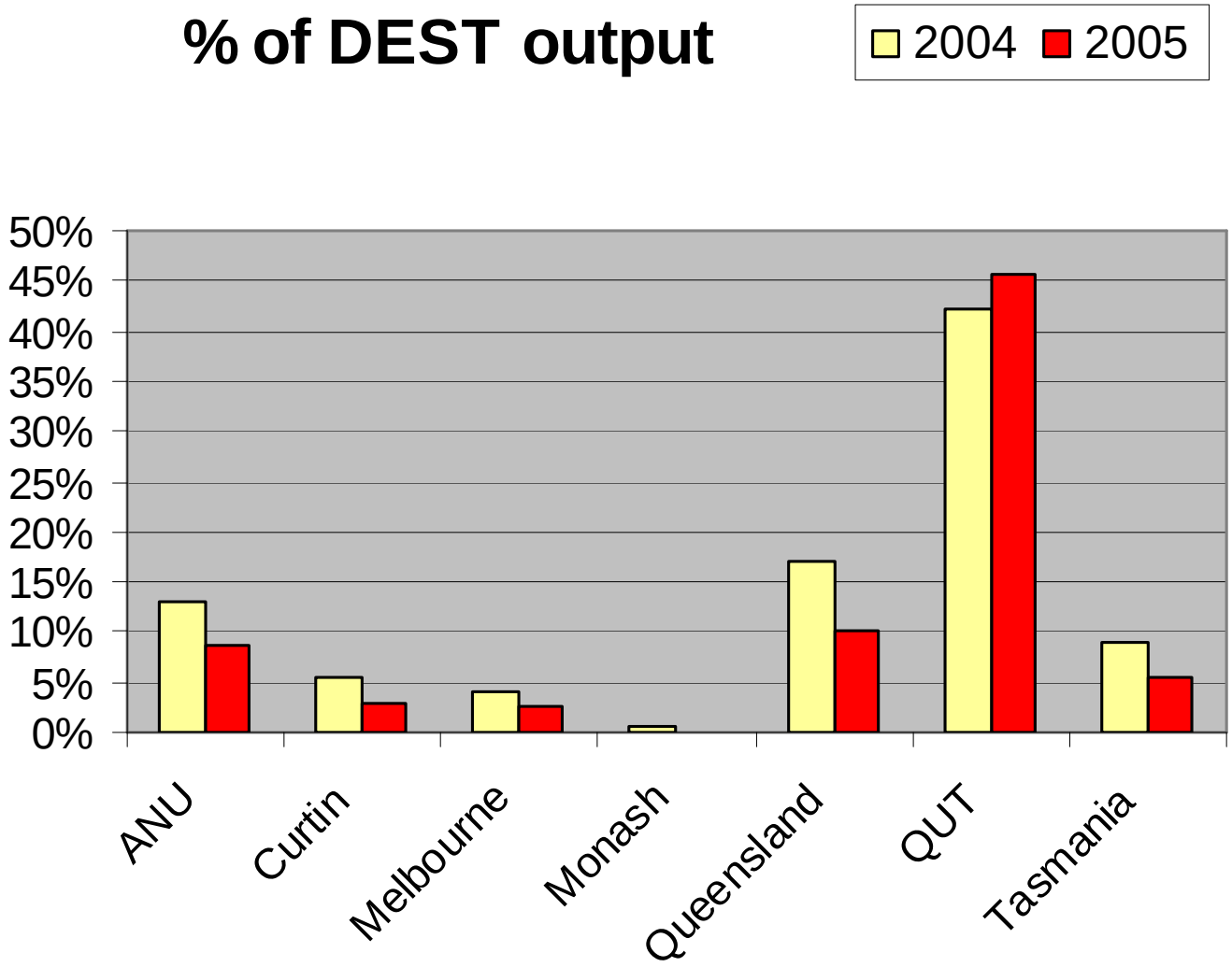
Queensland University of Technology (**QUT**) has a mandatory deposit policy, which has been in place since 2004.

All other Australian universities presently rely on persuasion.

As a result all the repositories are relatively empty, except for QUT.

The RQF may change this, as may funder policies…

Queensland University of Technology
Brisbane Australia


% of DEST output
2004
2005
50%
45%
40%
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
ANU
Curtin
Melbourne
Monash
Queensland
QUT
Tasmania

QUT - % output by category

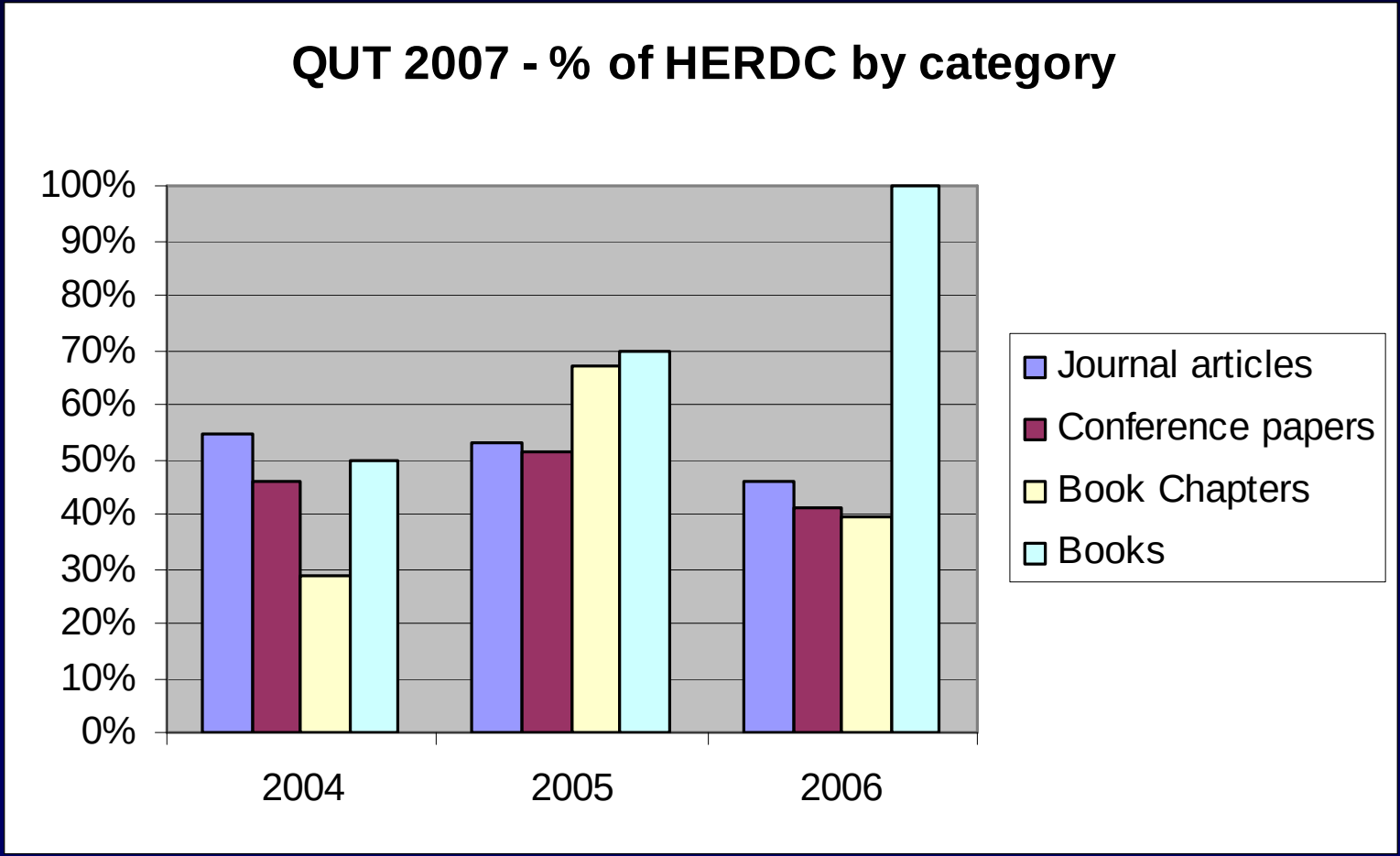
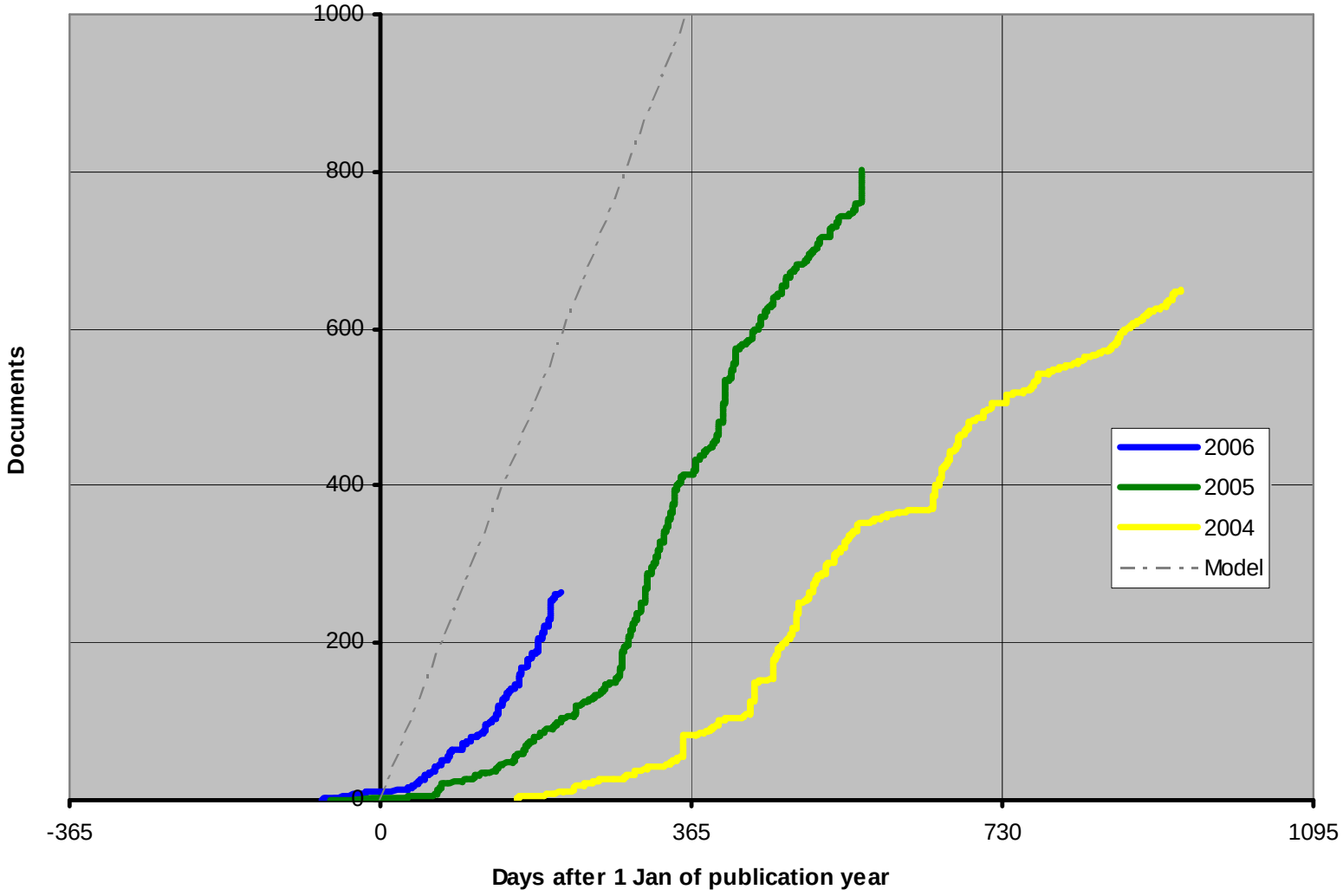


Figure 2 - QUT deposit rates



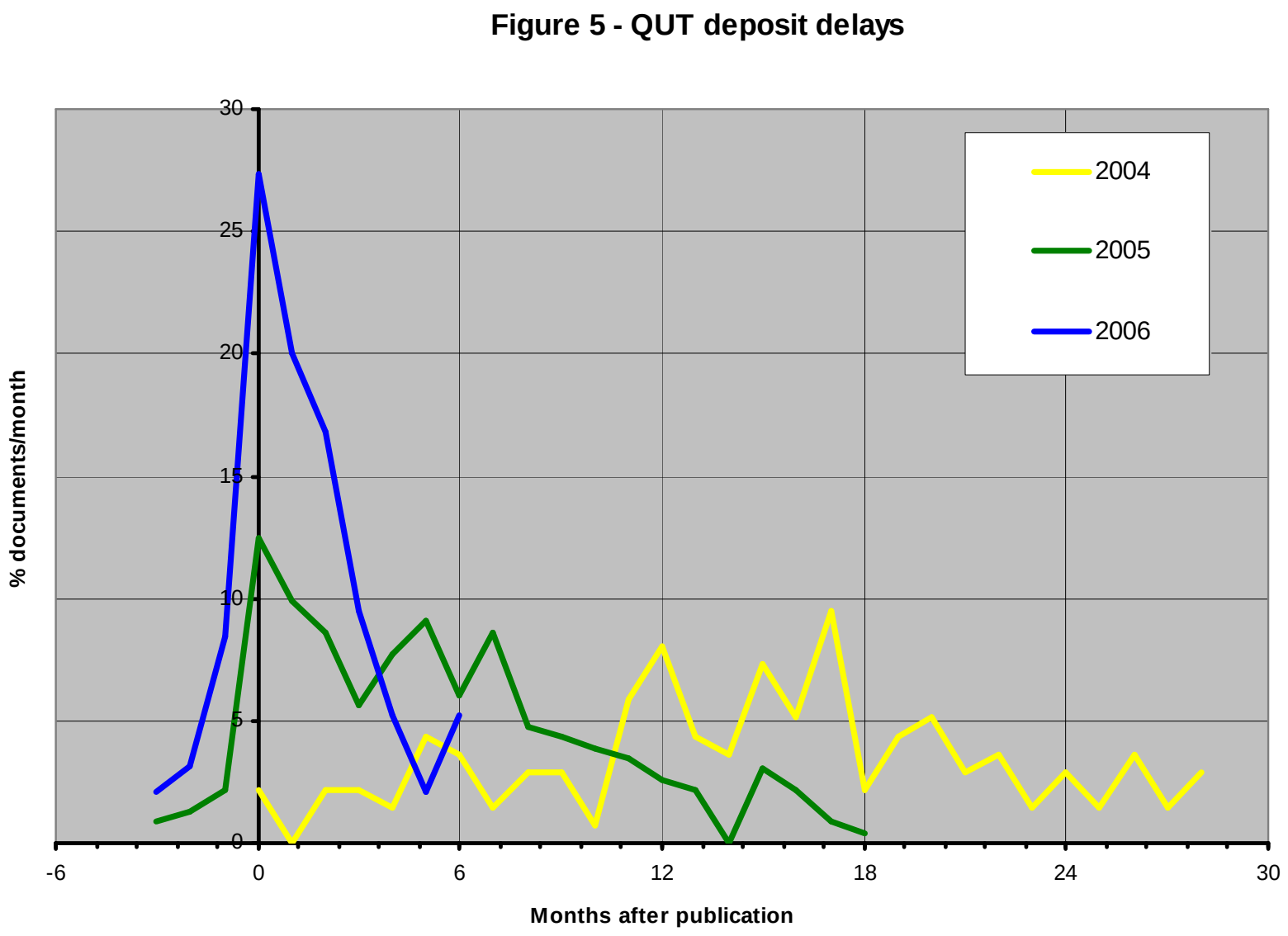


Figure 5 - QUT deposit delays
% documents/month
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
-6
0
6
12
18
24
30
Months after publication
2004
2005
2006

Funder policies

The ARC and NH&MRC (research councils) have been inching towards a policy of *requiring* deposit. What they have stated so far is that for all new grants, researchers should provide open access to publications, but if not the researchers must explain why not in their reports.

The Productivity Commission has produced two strong reports which recommend a 100% mandatory deposit policy.

Contacts & useful links

This presentation with live links available at http://eprints.utas.edu.au/1031

Author: Arthur.Sale@utas.edu.au

The AuseAccess wiki: http://leven.comp.utas.edu.au/AuseAccess/

AuseSearch (federated search on all existing Australian & NZ repositories) http://www.utas.edu.au/copyright/eprints/search.html

Current information

See the AuseAccess wiki:

http://leven.comp.utas.edu.au/AuseAccess/pmwiki.php?n=Activity.AustralianRepositories

Selected publications re repositories:

http://eprints.utas.edu.au/perl/search/advanced?_action_search=Search&creators=Sale&abstract=repository&ispublished=pub&refereed=EITHER&_order=byyear

Secondary issues not discussed

- ANU EPress as e-publishing example http://www.apsr.edu.au/adaptable/kanellopoulos.pdf
- EJournals (UTS and Swinburne) http://www.apsr.edu.au/adaptable/lawton.ppt
- EResearch http://www.eresearch.edu.au/

The End

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