



Open Repository Theseus

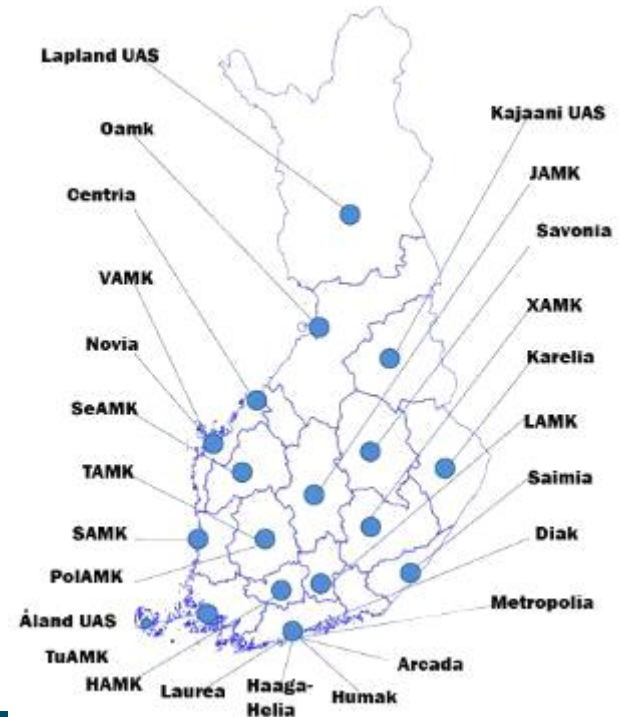
Success Story of
25 Finnish Universities
of Applied Sciences

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Theseus – the biggest* Finnish repository with 25 member universities

- Theseus is an open repository for all the Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS)
- Easy to search for research of all 25 UASs from one interface benefits students, lecturers, researchers, and anyone interested in Finnish UASs
- Nearly 120 000 deposits

*biggest in the amount of full text

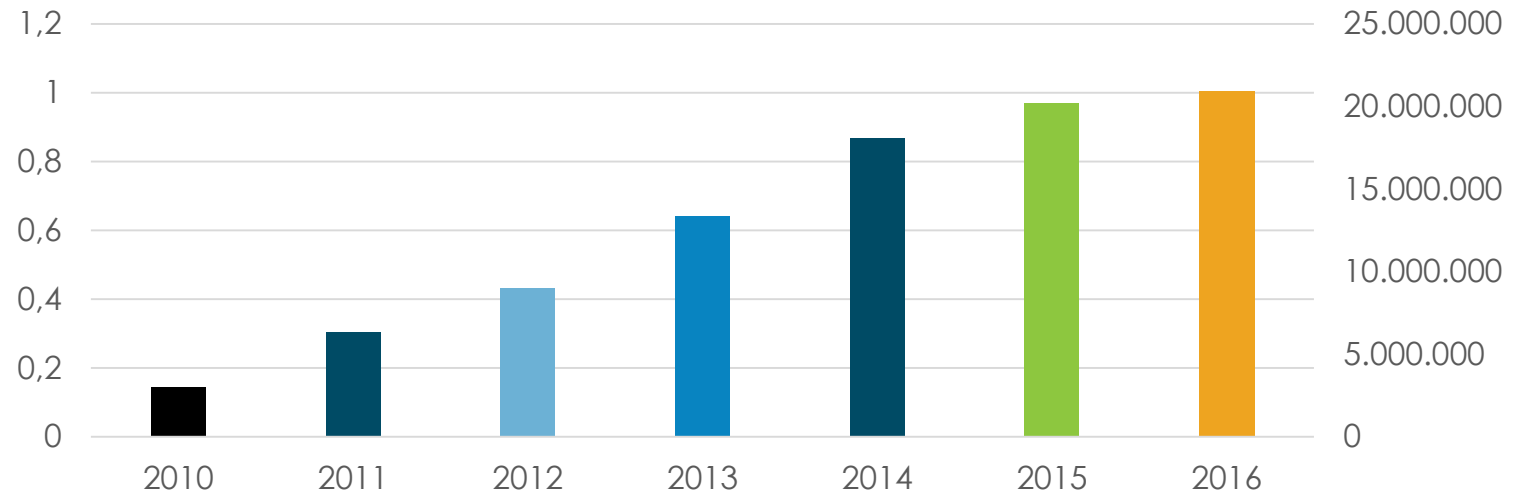


Theseus in a nutshell

- Theseus started as a national UAS Open Access project in co-operation with National Library of Finland in 2008
- DSpace was chosen as the software
- Creative Commons licenses added to Theseus upload process from the very beginning
- The service was launched in 2009 as an Open Access platform for all UASes in Finland
- Content:
 - Bachelor and master's theses
 - Open Access monographs published by Finnish UASes
 - Self-archived research and academic articles

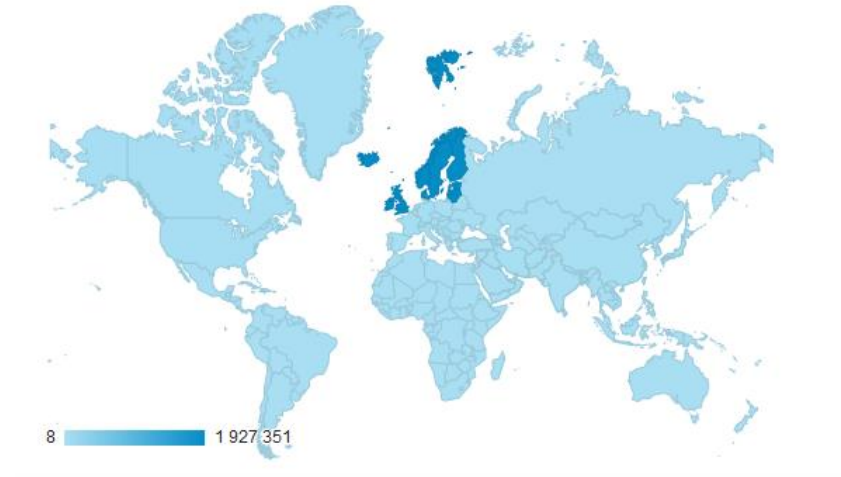
Statistics

Number of Downloads



Users and sessions of the year 2016

- 1 265 090 users
- 2 046 115 sessions
 - 1 877 522 from Finland
 - 22 033 from Sweden
 - 16 751 from USA
 - 13 718 from UK
 - 7 272 from Russia



What's behind the success?

- Same policies and one user interface for all 25 UASs
- Quality of process guaranteed with common instructions for students and staff as well as for libraries
- Self-uploading of theses reduces work from staff point of view
- One sign-in system Shibboleth and an option to choose Creative Commons licenses helps to curate the user rights
- Efficiency and reduced costs created by one Theseus office – a UAS user support and co-operation group together with the National Library of Finland
- Google optimization increases visibility on the Internet

Theseus office

- One user support and coordination office for the whole repository
- Cost-efficient:
 - Two UAS information Specialist working 25% for Theseus
 - Technical support from National Library
 - Every UAS library has a contact person to coordinate the work
- The office answers to various questions on process, self-archiving, Creative Commons licences and technical support
- The office coordinates the development work together with National Library and UAS library management
- Advices UASes with Open Access process

Challenges and further developments

1. Self-archiving as a permanent process in every UAS
 - Rectors' Conference of Finnish UASs gave the OA mandate in 2009
 - The mandate obligates researches to deposit their research papers into Theseus
 - Still, many UASes haven't started the self-archiving process
→ How to make the change?
2. Expand Theseus office model into other fields of Open Science:
 - Data management of R&D projects
 - Open learning and teaching
3. Develop open repository into a wider information platform of member UAS's R&D work containing theses, publications, current press releases, blogs and data mining projects
→ For the time being we are applying for funding

Questions for discussion

- Do you have such joint open repositories of several institutions /universities in your home country?
- What would be your suggestion for us on how to get self-archiving process working in every UAS?