

ACADEMICIAN ANTANAS BURASČAS SUGGESTS OPEN ACCESS PUBLICATION FOR EVERYONE WHO SEEKS TO FIND PARTNERS FOR THEIR IDEAS

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The Institutional Repository of the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences is rapidly filled with content. We interviewed academician Antanas Buračas - one of the authors who responded to an invitation to deposit his works to the Institutional Repository.

Antanas Buračas was interviewed by Emilija Banionytė - director of the University library. The interview was translated by Rasa Dovidonytė, an information manager at Kaunas University of Technology.

What do you think about Open Access?

Antanas Buračas:

It is the future of all modern scientific research, because the open access repositories contain both finished research results and those which are under development. The date to establish priority becomes fixed, which is very important because the competition between authors of innovative discoveries. In addition, all processes are going extremely fast in the web of the global mind; if you haven't published your ideas today there is a chance that tomorrow you will find the same ideas published by others and even developed somewhere.

How did you find out about the Institutional Repository (IR) of the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences?

Antanas Buračas:

Over the past several years the information has been disseminated by the University library and by other Lithuanian information systems.

Why did you decide to make your books available via the Institutional Repository? What advantages and disadvantages of the IR you see?

Antanas Buračas:

My advice for everyone who seeks to find partners for their ideas is their presentation in the Institutional Repository. I think that copyright protection promised by LATGA (a collective copyright management association) is not a proper way sometimes to benefit at the expense of authors. There are few buyers of scientific books (even written in English), only major international book stores successfully disseminate these books (usually functioning online - *Amazon.com*, *eBay* etc.). New research results should be open and used for the prestige of the University. Previously, the main source of incomes for authors was honorarium; however, in science (except some cases of particular success), the author's or his school's prestige is more significant. A minor part of scientific works, such as the studies on *Aestians* written by professor Eugenijus Jovaiša, is a profound breakthrough in itself, it can ensure both things (popularity and demand) even in Lithuania with a small number of readers.

Is it complicated to put your works into the Institutional Repository? How would you suggest improving this procedure?

Antanas Buračas:

The procedure is rather simple, in case of difficulties University librarians effectively assist. By the way, the procedures to transfer into the Institutional Repositories are standardised in international practice. I was surprised that a complex 20 GB pdf book was uploaded to *ResearchGate* in just a moment.

Do you need help of the librarian, or you would prefer to deposit your works individually into the Institutional Repository?

Antanas Buračas:

I need the help of librarians sometimes since some of

my donated works are large volumes (20 or more GB), and they cannot be sent by e-mail. Over the last five years I have edited 5-6 such books, and in my opinion it was appropriate to donate these books for the readers of University library.

6. *Will you encourage your colleagues to make their works available via the Institutional Repository?*

Antanas Buračas:

Certainly, I always mention the advantages of this option - it is an intellectual donation.

Do you plan to make your newest books available via the Institutional Repository?

Antanas Buračas:

Yes; it appears that some international contracts with foreign publishers do not restrict from distributing of your publication for teaching or research purposes on the intranet. However, it is worth asking the publishing house whether they would agree with your decision; sometimes there are restrictions that prevent any publication of your research work elsewhere for three years. This is parallel to the restrictions applied to the publication of the results obtained in international research programs.

What do you think about embargo periods?

Antanas Buračas:

Embargo usually refers to international trade restriction, mostly due to political reasons. In the context of copyright after signing the contract on royalties, the author might be committed to not disseminating the published results, or sometimes the copyright may be transferred to the institution according to the contract conditions. In these cases there is no possibility for open access, as it is agreed in the contract not to disseminate results or not to publish the work.

Your other thoughts about Open Access, Institutional Repository, usage of information.

Antanas Buračas:

The open access is a fast developing infonet for fundamental research, and the usage of this system varies in different fields. I see how more and more representatives from HS and applied research project are joining this system. Moreover, the alternative academical open access systems functioning online rapidly progress. I already had a chance to add my works in *LinkedIn*, *Google+*, *ResearchGate* and other open access systems. These systems enable the convenient communication with partners chosen worldwide. Obviously, it is possible mostly if works are provided in international language. Researches in Lithuanian have their advantages as ensuring more in time closer communication in our ethnic circle. It is necessary to keep in mind that the open access systems are gateway to the collective mind creation online. These systems help create miracles. For instance, *Linux* developers successfully overcome such a global software giant as Microsoft with tens of thousands of programmers. Every day the open source project *Linux* is supplemented and specified much more than a very experienced programmer can write within a year. In such a way, majority of the most promising very large scientific projects are managed – such as the systems of genetic code decoding, creation of *Allen Brain Atlas*, and knowledge about *Sloan Digital Sky Survey* and *Galaxy Zoo Digital Sky* are accumulated. Only this information and photography database contains approximately 1/100 bn. of observed Universe which is formed of spiral constellations consisting of billions of stars. As a result, major enthusiasm of the world's population is required for discussion and investigation. This can be accomplished by open access, and not only by the recognized scientists but also by just starting young enthusiasts.



Professor **Antanas Buračas**, Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences, is author and co-author of books on multicriterial evaluation, intellectual resources, regional forecasting, metaeconomics, social infrastructure and others.



Emilija Banionytė The Director of Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences



Rasa Dovidonytė, Senior Information manager, the Library of Kaunas University of Technology