

## About the Unitec Research Bank

Unitec's Research Bank is the digital repository in which research carried out at Unitec is stored and made available to the world.

The purpose of the Research Bank is to make Unitec research as widely available as possible, by providing free access to it over the Internet, and making it easily found by Internet search engines.

This repository was developed using [DSpace](#), an open source software platform, as part of a Library Consortium of New Zealand ([LCoNZ](#)) project. The contents of the repository are listed on the National Library of New Zealand's [Kiwi Research Information Service](#) (KRIS).

The Research Bank is administered by Unitec Library.

### What are the benefits of the Research Bank?

Digital repositories like the Research Bank have become universal features of contemporary tertiary institutions. Every university in New Zealand has a repository, as well as several other ITPs. The benefits of having a repository include the following:

- The Research Bank makes Unitec research freely available around the world.
- Collecting all Unitec's research in one place makes clear the full range of the work carried out at Unitec.
- Unitec's status as a research institution is thereby enhanced, making it more attractive to prospective staff and students.
- Research that is easier to find is more widely read, increasing its impact and citation rates (published research shows that open-access papers have substantially higher citation rates than papers only accessible through subscription services<sup>1</sup>).
- Proposed enhancements to the Research Bank will allow staff members to have their research collected on their own personal pages, together with notes of their research interests and anything else they wish to include.
- Researchers can easily forward links to their work to interested parties.

### What kind of research is collected in the Research Bank?

The Research Bank collects all types of research and will accept it in any format, including images, video, audio and software, as well as written documents. The research includes

- books
- chapters in books
- conference papers (and oral presentations)

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<sup>1</sup> See the studies collected in OpCit, the Open Citations Project, "The effect of open access and downloads ('hits') on citation impact: A bibliography of studies" (2010). Retrieved from <http://opcit.eprints.org/oacitation-biblio.html>

- journal articles
- reports
- theses (masters and doctoral)
- working papers
- datasets

### **Who can use the Research Bank?**

The Research Bank is an open-access resource that is available to everyone.

Where material has been embargoed for some reason the Research Bank record may consist only of the bibliographic reference, without the full text of the research. However, we aim to avoid doing this if at all possible since it is contrary to the purpose of the Research Bank's existence.

Where it is not possible to clear copyright for a published item, a link will be provided to the work in a subscription database, and it will only be available to people with access to that database.

### **How do I find material in the Research Bank?**

There is a search box on every page of the Research Bank that you can search using keywords. There is an Advanced Search page for more complex searching.

You can also browse the Research Bank by academic study area.

Items in the Research Bank are easily found by Internet searches for the title or author.

### **How do I submit research?**

The Research Bank aims to make the submission process as painless as possible for researchers.

Authors of theses submit digital copies of their work to the Postgraduate Centre along with the printed version. It is then added to the Research Bank without any further action required on their part.

Academic staff can email their work to the Research Bank at [researchbank@unitec.ac.nz](mailto:researchbank@unitec.ac.nz). Research Bank administrators will do all the work of checking copyright, adding metadata and uploading.

The Research Bank may also approach researchers to request copies of reported research outputs.

Staff who wish to do so can also submit work directly to the Research Bank using the [submission form](#).

## Copyright clearance

While theses, conference papers, posters and working papers are normally acceptable in their final format, copyright is often an issue when it comes to making journal articles openly accessible via the web. In the vast majority of cases, copyright over an article is transferred to the journal publisher. Despite this, most journal publishers **do allow** authors to make their work open-access, albeit with some restrictions on the format of the paper you use.

Usually, publishers do not allow authors to post the final, published version of a paper on the Internet. However, the majority of large publishers *do allow* you to use your *final draft* version of the paper, which should be identical in *content* to the published version, although the formatting may be quite different. In almost all cases where the use of the final draft *is* permitted, the publisher also insists on the inclusion of a set phrase that identifies the definitive version of the paper as their own, together with a link to their authorised version.

An explanation of how the preprint, postprint and published formats fit into the publishing process can be found in the [Versions Toolkit](#) document that is linked in the sidebar.

Research Bank administrators will ensure that submissions are copyright cleared before uploading them to the website. Where necessary authors will be contacted in order to obtain the research in an acceptable format.

## How do I know how much my research is being read?

Full details on the number of times each work has been consulted can be found on the Research Bank [statistics page](#).