

Open Access Initiatives in Croatia

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 - CROSBİ, institutional OA repositories, discipline based archives, referral centre for OAI software
 - “*golden road*” - relevance and current status
 - HRČAK (Hamster) project

Scientific landscape in Croatia (1)

- less than 0.1 percent of world population
- 9000 HE teaching staff/researchers
- six universities with 85 faculties, art academies, colleges of higher education, university departments and university studies
- five polytechnics and six independent public higher education colleges
- 27 scientific institutes

Scientific landscape in Croatia (2)

- 150 academic and research libraries
- 230 scholarly and professional journals
 - COLLEGIUM ANTROPOLOGICUM (CC)
 - CROATIAN MEDICAL JOURNAL (CC)
 - CROATICA CHEMICA ACTA (CC)
 - DRUSTVENA ISTRAZIVANJA (CC)
 - FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY (CC)
 - INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE AESTHETICS AND SOCIOLOGY OF MUSIC (CC)
 - STROJARSTVO (CC)

ISI Thomson SCI and SCiex

- CHEMICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL ENGINEERING QUARTERLY
- MATHEMATICAL INEQUALITIES & APPLICATIONS
- METALURGIJA
- NEUROLOGIA CROATICA
- PERIODICUM BIOLOGORUM
- TEKSTIL
- VETERINARSKI ARHIV

Science in Croatia

- financed through 2000 scientific research projects governed by three-year contracts
- 15000 publications (in Croatian and international journals, books, conference proceedings etc.) annually according Croatian Scientific Bibliography (CROSBI)

Access to information?

- since 1992 online library catalogues (OPAC)
- since 1994 e-journals
- since 1995 access to major databases (profit and non-profit) for whole academic community
- since 2000 participation in the EZB project with 8800 free e-journals available
- since 2002 access to major e-journals collections (ScienceDirect, WileyInterScience, SpringerLink, Kluwer, Blackwell, OUP, CUP etc.)
- since 2004 e-book collections

Two main directions

1. Organisation of information resources for scientists to support their research and their teaching activities
2. Organisation of information about Croatian science

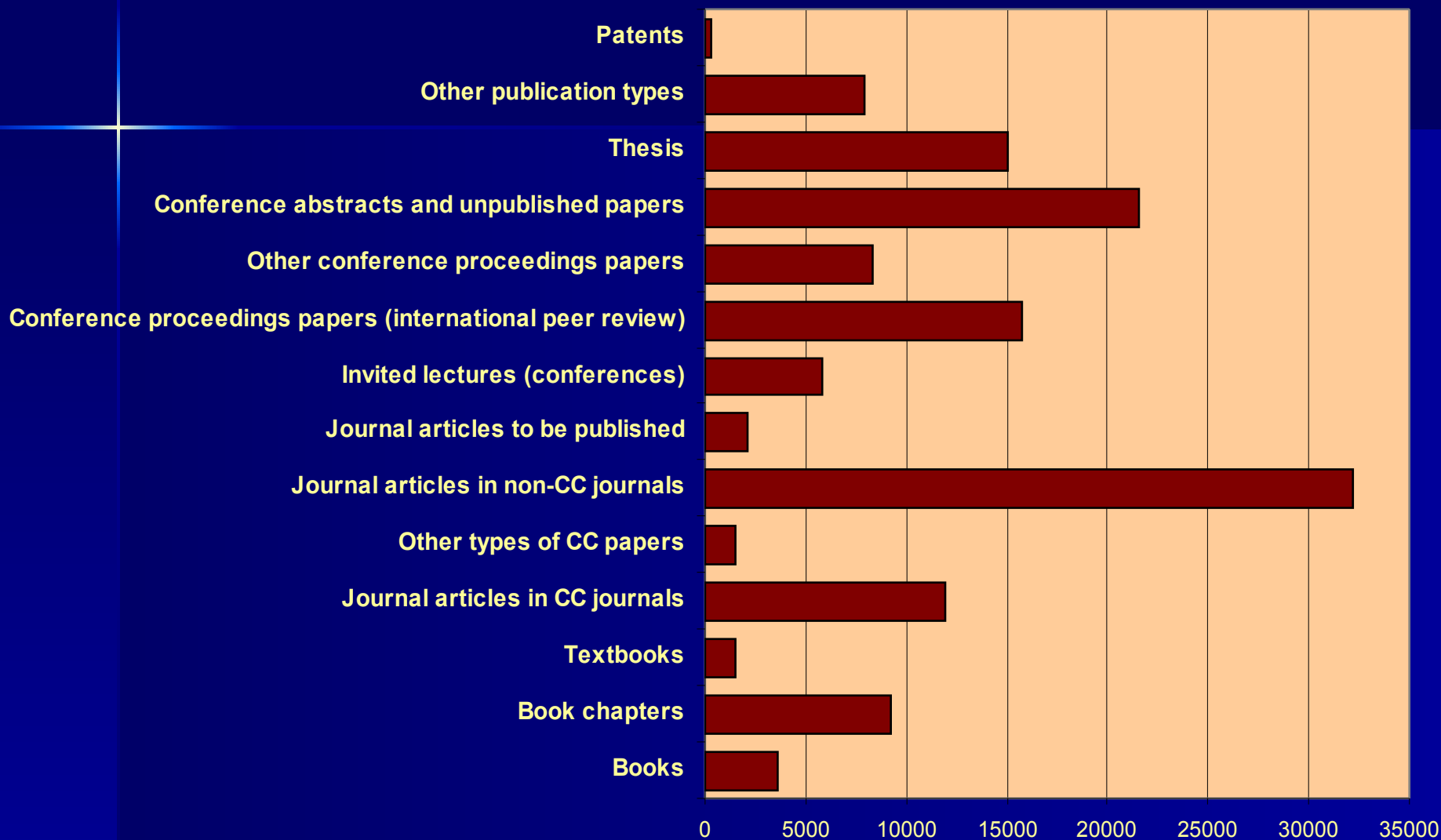
Organisation of information resources

- union catalogues
- well organized library web sites
- thematic portals
- e-journals portal EJOl

Organisation of information about Croatian science

- CROSBİ
- Who's Who in Science in Croatia
- Open Acces in Croatia
- HRČAK

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT ACCORDING CROSBIB BIBLIOGRAPHY (136845 TOTAL)



Croatian scientific output

- for scientists belonging to scientific periphery
 - it is harder to publish in prestigious international journals
- scientific achievements are evaluated according to the qualification criteria set up by the Scientific Field Councils
- for promotion: quantity (No of papers published in CC journals) is more important than quality (No of citations for particular paper) - presence in prestigious journal is more important than the impact of paper

When have we heard of OA?

- physicists and xxx.lanl.gov
- 1998 and CROSBIB – contacts with OAI leaders
- 2002 BOAI was released
- today - the word of OA is well spread among librarians, but not so well among researchers
- so far, none of Croatian institutions has signed BOAI or Berlin Declaration

Current status of OA

- in developing countries, OA is still out of focus, especially for research funders (=government) - there are other burning issues!
- librarians are in the favour of OA (because of affordability problems), but they alone do not have power to impose OA solutions to researchers

How are things changing?

- HIDD - working group for OA (information specialists/librarians and scientists) - trying to promote OA in Croatia
- strategy for making all Croatian scientific production openly accessible - making it more visible in the world!

Strategy for OA in Croatia

- network of institutional repositories + ensuring metadata exchange with Croatian and international metadata providers (= green road)
- single access point to all Croatian e-journals + converting as many journals to *gold* journals as possible (= *golden road*)

Green road: OAI repositories & CROSBI

- no institutional repositories in Croatia
- in some disciplines - self-archiving in international subject-based archives (arXiv, E-LIS)
- possibility of self-archiving in CROSBI
- Open Archives Referral Centre - <http://referalni.iss.hr/OpenArchives>

HIDD WG plans to:

- initiate the network of institutional repositories
 - co-operation of institutions, libraries, government and CARNet will be needed
- add OAI functionality to CROSBI
- foster the exchange and reuse of metadata
 - CROSBI, inst. repositories, HRČAK, libraries' OPACs, other information service providers

Golden road: HRČAK

- discussions on OA often stress “*author-pays*” and neglect “*subsidised*” model of OA journals
 - in Croatia “*subsidised*” model has special importance
- majority of scientific and professional journals in Croatia are subsidised by the Government
 - mostly non-profit journals whose publishers are learned societies
 - a number of them cannot even afford an online edition



- for such small journals (if they are in English) - being OA can contribute a lot to their success
- **HRČAK** (project of SRCe & HIDD WG, should end by the end of 2005)
 - providing a tool for easy online publishing of OA journal
 - providing a single access point for searching and browsing
 - OAI compliance (ensuring greater visibility in the world)
 - such arrangement can be beneficial and acceptable for both - journals and users

Meta-project: general framework

- promotion of the OAI (lectures, workshops, pamphlets, posters...)
- support for institutional repositories
- CROSBİ toward OA
- metadata harvesting and access portal (search)

The OAI value for smaller countries

- there are 1036687 journal articles published in 2004 and indexed in Current Contents database
- (332007 from USA)
- From Croatia -**1471** have at least one author from Croatia (plus 10% !) – 0.14%
- there are **15899** records in CROSB I published in 2005 – it's important to make them more visible!

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