

**Development of a research information management system for higher education institutions in Tanzania: a case study of university of Dar es Salaam**

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Research findings and other scholarly works from higher education institutions in Tanzania are poorly captured, preserved, managed, assessed, monitored and let alone accessed giving rise to low visibility. Several local journals hosted by the higher education institutions are paper based publishing, and there is no a full-scale online dissemination and sharing of the intellectual outputs. The high cost of publishing and distribution is hampering the circulation both within and outside the institution. The consequences are that many important scientific and technological findings are not being developed further beyond the laboratories and fieldworks. This study is an attempt to bridge that gap. It is focused on research and development of a research information management system (RIMS) to capture, preserve and manage research outputs and other scholarly works from different sources of a higher education institution in Tanzania; generate reports to aid an assessment of academic staff publications and provide visibility and controlled access to research findings, thesis and dissertation, and other scholarly works. The software engineering approach is based on object oriented methods and techniques that were modelled visually in unified modelling language (UML) with 3-tier client/server architecture for the application server and relational database model or the database server. The final result is the implementation of a prototype using Perl scripting language, XML, CSS, and MySQL on Linux Operating system with an apache web server.