

## OpenUCT at the ADSC5 Conference

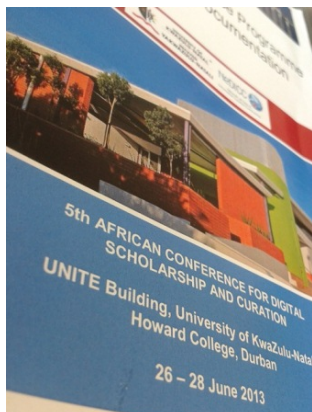
---

The 5th African Conference for Digital Scholarship & Curation 2013 (ADSC5) took place at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, on 26 – 28 June 2013. The conference was a landmark occasion for the region, as it brought together participants from scholarly communication, libraries, academic computing and information technology sectors with a focus on data management, curation and integration in the publication process.

Approximately 100 people attended the conference, including representatives from many South African higher education institutions, including the University of Cape Town (UCT), University of South Africa (UNISA), UKZN, University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) and University of Pretoria (UP). The conference brought together a diverse collection of people with varying interests or stakes in the research data infrastructure environment and the conference programme reflected the diversity of the attendees.

The first day of the conference focused on opportunities and skills development. Feedback sessions from various Data Intensive Research Initiatives South Africa (DIRISA) working groups looking at the past present and future opportunities in South Africa in terms of research data infrastructure highlighted further investment in infrastructure, citing the [large-scale Square Kilometer Array \(SKA\) initiative](#) as an example of the region's competitive potential in the global scientific arena. The second day included a look at data management, curation and digital scholarship. These sessions showed how varied the perspectives, problems and skill sets are in digital scholarship and curation for institutions across the region, with focus areas ranging from technology and interoperability to metadata and mobile services.

The open data environment is a growing area of interest in the region and the OpenUCT Initiative is currently a participant in the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and World Wide Web Foundation [Open Data in Developing Countries \(ODDC\) research initiative](#). A recurring theme throughout ADSC5 was an acceptance of a move towards openness in the data environment and a focus on promoting access and discovery through interoperability and sound metadata practice – a very encouraging view of the evolving regional e-infrastructure landscape.



---

OpenUCT Project Manager Michelle Willmers won the ADSC5 Best Paper Award (you can view her slides [here](#)); and OpenUCT Scholarly Content Officer Sarah Goodier received the Commended Poster award in the ePoster category (you can view the ePoster [here](#) and a print version of the poster exploring the topic in a little more detail [here](#)).

### Blog Posts



### Add comment

Your name

Subject

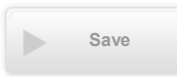
Comment \*

Text format

[More information about text formats](#)

Web page addresses and e-mail addresses turn into links automatically.

Allowed HTML tags: <a> <em> <strong> <cite> <blockquote> <code> <ul> <ol> <li> <dl> <dt> <dd>  
Lines and paragraphs break automatically.

 A search bar consisting of a text input field with the placeholder text "Search..." and a search icon (a magnifying glass) on the right side.

- 
- [Home](#)
  - [About Us](#)
  - [Output](#)
  - [Events](#)
  - [Blog](#)
  - [Support](#)
  - [Contact Us](#)

This site and its contents are licensed in terms of a [Creative Commons Attribution Share Alike](#) license, unless specified otherwise - Open UCT 2012.  
A [Drupal Website](#) by 2Stroke Interactive