

IREL Fact Sheet

IREL is the Irish Research eLibrary: a government funded electronic research library.

IREL's Collection

IREL provides access to online resources in Science, Technology and Medicine, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Resources are selected for inclusion following consultation with researchers and academic staff at participating institutions. IREL consists of a wide variety of resource types:

- E-journals: 48 collections and 29 single title subscriptions, giving users access to approximately 25,000 full-text journals
- 25 databases
- 17 e-books / reference collections

Funding

Funding for IREL has come from the HEA (Higher Education Authority), SFI (Science Foundation Ireland) and the IUA (Irish Universities Association). Between 2004 and 2011 over €50m has been invested in IREL. Discussions are currently under way with the relevant government departments and funding bodies to secure continued funding.

Accessing Resources

Staff and students of the seven participating universities have access to all IREL resources. Staff and students at RCSI and the Institutes of Technology have access to selected resources.

Access to resources is managed by each institution's library and they can be accessed by staff and students via their library's website.

IREL testimonials

"The IREL service has been a key element in transforming the landscape for scientific research in Ireland. In terms of value for money it is hard to think of a better investment" **Professor Ray O'Neill, Vice President for Research, NUI Maynooth**

"The availability of this reference tool is vital for our research, for writing reviews and papers and for the development of concepts for new research initiatives" **Professor Richard O'Kennedy, Dublin City University**

"This is absolutely essential. Without it we will be severely affected and research will suffer tremendously. I can't emphasise enough how important it is that this be continued even if it were to be at the expense of other things." **Prof Luke O'Neill, TCD (Biochemistry and Immunology)**

"IREL has transformed research support in Ireland. It provides access to primary and secondary source material that is now indispensable to research. It is essential that the service be maintained as a vital component of our national research infrastructure." **Prof Alan Titley, UCC (Modern Irish)**

For more information, see our website: <http://www.irelibrary.ie>