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On Memory, Visibility, Impact, And Preservation

MICISAN, Institutional Repository is a modern, centralized platform that contains CISAN publications in four digital collections: Books; Notebooks; *Norteamérica, Revista Académica*; and *Voices of Mexico*. The collections' topics span issues like the economy, trade, security, energy, migration, human rights, science and technology, foreign policy, the environment, as well as social and cultural studies, outstanding among which are social inequality, health, gender, cinema, and literature. Also included in the repository is the CISAN History Collection, made up of founding and commemorative documents and center directors' annual reports.

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These collections make up the CISAN's institutional memory. Creating it required gathering, digitalizing, and making a detailed description of each document, all of which, under international standards makes it inter-operational with other national and international platforms. That is, it has automatic intercommunication that strengthens the visibility and impact of research results. Due to its degree of disaggregation in chapters and articles, and minimal units of theoretical-methodological content, today, MiCISAN has 5 072 information resources.

The CISAN is one of the UNAM's youngest institutions, but that has not prevented it from occupying some of the top spots in compliance with institutional norms. Our university has paid special attention to the different kinds and states of open access; therefore, we have incorpo-

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rated into the All-UNAM-Online Program and the UNAM Open Data Portal and have also participated in the National Council for Science and Technology (Conacyt) 2016 Call for the Creation of Institutional Repositories.

Today, MiCISAN is present on the UNAM's HUMANINDEX, Libros UNAM OA, BIBLAT, and CLASE platforms, as well as in the National Repository.

Internationally, MiCISAN has pioneered automatic intercommunication with Europe's OpenAIRE, BASE, and CORE, considered some of the world's most robust consultation sources for academic products.

I should also underline that our incorporation into OpenAIRE is very important because it is the definitive proof that the metadata has been scrupulously managed, since OpenAIRE is the institution that dictates the guidelines for guaranteeing interoperability, and our country joined the agreement in 2014. I should also point out that MiCISAN is the UNAM's first repository and the fourth nationwide to be part of this great platform.

Like all repositories, MiCISAN is designed so that search engines and other systems can recover its contents; one example of this is the incorporation of Google Scholar.

In addition to gathering and correlating texts on a single subject with similar texts, harvesting repositories also offer statistical services and allow ordinary users to find works from very diverse locations. They also let them situate little- or completely unexplored terrains, creating research opportunities; this is why they tend to become a fundamental element in open scientific communication.

Besides being a universal display window for CISAN publications, our repository is useful for foreign researchers interested in issues involving Mexico and its relations with North America. MiCISAN allows for free access to content in order to share academic and cultural information. This strengthens users' knowledge, not only for carrying out their academic activities, but also for understanding the world we live in much more fully and creating new proposals for positively changing society.

For all of the above, MiCISAN has been considered a model repository in the UNAM and has a promising future in data mining and constructing ontologies. Its suc-

cess lies in its being a long-cherished project by a passionate documentarian, who has specialized in curating special digital collections. Allow me to share a little background.

I came on board at the CISAN as the manager of commercialization and distribution of publications and was given the task of emptying its overflowing publications warehouses. The first step was to put things in order, do inventories, and establish price policies. It was necessary to create a small data base to visualize all the publications' topics and authors. This made it possible to prepare promotional packets at very accessible prices, organized around a crosscutting theme or by a single author. We also donated collections to libraries and public institutions in Mexico and abroad so they could be consulted there. We reached our goal and always kept in mind the connection between the author and the reader, to ensure that the message arrived at its destination, was read, and, in the best of cases, was cited, to ensure high impact, the driving force behind academia. Parallel to all of this, we completed and strengthened the Historic Publications Archive, which holds three physical copies of each of our books, notebooks, and issues of magazines and journals. Here, we thought of using one of those three copies for digitalizing the materials that required it. Meanwhile, the data base grew and led to the CISAN's incorporation in the UNAM Open Data Portal and, later, to the creation of MiCISAN. Taking the United States, Mexico, and Canada: An International and Regional Dimension, 2015-2016 ongoing professional development diploma course allowed me to familiarize myself with the CISAN's authors and publications. This has been fundamental for weighing the importance of a valuable collection that deserves to be disseminated, to make it known to those interested in a little studied, vitally important region, and to preserve it as a valuable cultural heritage.

Most repositories are closely linked to libraries; MiCISAN is linked to the Publications Department, where we have formed an interdisciplinary group that has a direct positive effect on the visibility and impact of research results. All of this is why, as a specialist in information, joining the CISAN has been very fortunate for me. ■■■