What’s the buzz in OA?

Presentation for CILIP – 17 May 2017
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Slides available: https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/264272
• You know about open access, right? In that case you know that this is a fast moving landscape. So, what’s been happening lately? How do you keep up?
• You have come to the right place!
How we will run the next 90 mins

- Rundown of who we are
- Overview of open access generally and the current policy landscape
- Run-down of five recent developments in this space
- Discussion in small groups
- Whole group discussion
Who are you?

• Go to http://www.menti.com
  – Use the Code 42 42 81
  – Use the Code 78 98 78
Transi'oning

April 2017 was the start of the last year of the five year RCUK Open Access Policy transition period - what is next given the proposed reconfiguration of the research councils?
Timeline

• 2012 – Finch report, UK Government accepts recommendations, RCUK announces extra funds to support OA
• March 2015 – a review of the implementation of the policy
• 31 March 2018 – end of the five year transition period
In 2016 we spent £2 million from RCUK and £900,000 from COAF.
Has it worked?

Why do research funders require open access to the research literature?

6. The four UK higher education funding bodies believe that research arising from our funding should be as widely and freely accessible as the available channels for dissemination allow. Open access to research enables the prompt and widespread dissemination of research findings. It benefits the efficiency of the research process and allows publicly funded research to drive economic growth. It delivers social benefits through increased public understanding of research.

(i) Free and open access to the outputs of publicly-funded research offers significant social and economic benefits as well as aiding the development of new research. The Government, in line with its overarching commitment to transparency and open data, is committed to ensuring that published research findings should be freely accessible. As bodies charged with investing public money in research, the Research Councils take very seriously their responsibilities in making the outputs from this research publicly available – not just to other researchers, but also to potential users in business, charitable and public sectors, and to the general tax-paying public.

We believe maximising the distribution of these publications – by providing free, online access – is the most effective way of ensuring that the research we fund can be accessed, read and built upon. In turn, this will foster a richer research culture.

Enabling free and unrestricted access to the published outputs of the research we fund allows that knowledge to be shared faster and accelerates the rate at which knowledge can be applied to improve health.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is committed to information sharing and transparency. We believe that published research resulting from our funding should be promptly and broadly disseminated. We have adopted an Open Access policy that enables the unrestricted access and reuse of all peer-reviewed published research funded, in whole or in part, by the foundation, including any underlying data sets.

The free, immediate, and unrestricted access to research will accelerate innovation, helping to reduce global inequity and empower the world’s poorest people to transform their own lives.

Slide created by Steven Hill, Head of Research Policy, HEFCE for presentation at Manchester University 1 March 2017
Things are changing

Sir Mark Walport will lead UK Research and Innovation

Science minister Jo Johnson has announced that Prof Sir Mark Walport will be Chief Executive Designate of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

In this role Sir Mark will lead the establishment of UKRI and ensure it plays a central role at the heart of the Industrial Strategy.

Subject to the passage of the Higher Education and Research Bill through parliament, UKRI will be established as a single, strategic body that will bring together the 7 Research Councils, Innovate UK and the research and knowledge exchange functions of the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

David Sweeney has been appointed as the Executive Chair Designate of Research England, Science Minister, Jo Johnson confirmed today.

The Higher Education and Research Bill, subject to Parliamentary approval, proposes to establish Research England as a Council of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), to undertake the England only research and knowledge exchange functions currently performed by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

During the transition to UKRI David will continue in his current role as Director of Research, Education and Knowledge Exchange within HEFCE alongside working as part of the shadow UKRI executive team to set up the
Plan B?

In December 2016, most UK universities signed a five year subscription deal with Elsevier. The open access side of the deal is still being finalised. Some countries have signed different deals, others have not signed at all. What does this mean for the UK and a possible "Plan B"?
Recent discussions about Big Deals

• When the Wolf Finally Arrives: Big Deal Cancellations in North American Libraries - Scholarly Kitchen 1 May 2017
  – https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2017/05/01/wolf-finally-arrives-big-deal-cancellations-north-american-libraries/

  – https://papyrus.bib.umontreal.ca/xmlui/handle/1866/18507
• We have dropped near all of our publisher-based packages over the course the past several years of serials cuts due to flat or reduced budgets. The rationale for doing so is that with our shrinking budget we've had to be very granular and focused in selecting what we subscribe to. We can't simply select "publishers" even if those publishers are concentrated in subject areas that are highly relevant to our curriculum and research emphases. When we looked closely at usage data we saw that many subscribed packages were not a good ROI and it made more sense to lower our absolute costs by focusing on the most needed titles.

• Surprisingly, our ILL requests have not increased even though we have made pretty substantial serials cuts for nine out of the last ten years. Some of the decline in ILL requests is probably due to the fact that we have lost faculty in areas with a lot of research activity, but I also think that our students and faculty have gotten used to finding articles elsewhere. Despite the fact that ILL service is pretty painless and quick for journal articles, I suspect that many are using personal connections, ResearchGate, (maybe even sci-hub), etc. or (hopefully) finding green OA versions in repositories.
Options?

• We retain access to the material we have previously subscribed to – but in what form?
• What needs to happen to access this material?
• Implications of Inter-Library Loans
New (legal) tools to help

• Unpaywall – download into your own device and then access free versions of works

• Open Access Button – can be installed in catalogues, or users can go to the site
  – [https://openaccessbutton.org/](https://openaccessbutton.org/)
The UK Scholarly Communications Licence

UK Scholarly Communications Licence

The UK Scholarly Communications Licence (UKSCL) is due to be launched soon and will be active in the first-mover universities in September 2017. What does this mean and what are the latest issues being raised with the UKSCL?
What is it about?

• The Problem:
  – Authors sign away most of their rights to publishers
  – Policies are confusing and conflicting
  – Restriction of academic reuse of their own material
  – Universities have no rights to their own outputs
  – Risk of non compliance for REF and other funders
  – Authors cannot use their own material expect in ways the publishers decree.

• The Answer:
  – One license to rule them all!
  – A single licence enabling authors to reuse their work and meet OA requirements in one go
The Benefits

- Automatically meet your funder's open access requirements and be REF eligible in a single action
- Freedom to reuse your works as you wish including sharing on platforms such as academia.edu or ResearchGate
- Keep your right to publish in the journal of your choice
- Your research will reach the reader quicker
  Greater impact, More citations
- No need to check SHERPA RoMEO for publisher embargoes
- Reducing the need to pay to publish

The text and design in this work has been inspired by contributions within the UK-SCL community:

Rumsey, S (2016) UK-SCL simplification of processes [PowerPoint slides]
Kingsley, D (2016, pers. comm. 28 October)

Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC-BY 4.0)
Rolling out soon

Workflow

- Consortium informs publishers
- Author signs copyright transfer form on acceptance
- Author deposits at (institutional) repository
- Manuscript made available (CC BY ND) on/shortly after publication

Steps 2-4 happen already (but with embargo restrictions / different licensing)
Step 1 only required once

https://www.slideshare.net/heatherdawson/the-uk-scholarly-communications-licence-supporting-academics-with-open-access
Executive Summary of Business for Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>UK Scholarly Communications Licence</th>
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| Author| Dr Ian Carter  
       | (T) 01273 877718  
       | (E) i.carter@sussex.ac.uk |
| Type  | Policy |
| Date  | 17/10/16 |
| Strategic context | Publication of high-quality research outputs is a key strategic objective. Doing so whilst making their content publicly available is important, and meeting our funders’ policy requirements is essential. |
| Summary | The UK Scholarly Communications Licence is a means by which the University and its authors can meet funders’ requirements for open access to their scholarly articles. It is effected through policy rather than by actions for each article. It is an implementation of the approach first introduced in the US by Harvard in 2008. |
| Resource implications | The way in which the Library teams support the OA process will change, and may create some resource implications. |
| Consultation | This paper has been made available in advance to HoS and DRKEs for comments and questions. It has also been provided to the relevant trade unions for information. |
| Effective date of introduction | Changes to policy to be effective from 1 January 2017. |
| Recommendation | The Committee is invited to RECEIVE the report and RECOMMEND the policy changes for approval. |

Research Integrity

Submissions to the UK Government enquiry into Research Integrity have just closed. What relevance does Research Integrity have to open access? And what does this mean for libraries?
It is all connected

https://figshare.com/articles/Open_Science_Taxonomy/1508606
Scientists are very rarely rewarded for being right, they are rewarded for publishing in certain journals and for getting grants.
Conducted replications of 100 experimental and correlational studies published in three psychology journals using high-powered designs and original materials when available.

- Replication effects = half the magnitude of original effects (substantial decline)
- 97% of original studies had significant results
- 36% of replications had significant results

https://osf.io/ezcuj/
IS THERE A REPRODUCIBILITY CRISIS?

- 52% Yes, a significant crisis
- 38% Yes, a slight crisis
- 3% No, there is no crisis
- 7% Don’t know

1,576 researchers surveyed

Nature, 533, 452–454 (26 May 2016) doi:10.1038/533452a
http://www.nature.com/news/1-500-scientists-lift-the-lid-on-reproducibility-1.19970
Interest at highest level

• Research Integrity Enquiry
  – UK Government Science and Technology Committee - Submissions closed 10 March 2017

• My submission:
Overview

– There are concerns about how to maintain integrity in research, because of fears that the ‘publish or perish’ culture leads to poor or questionable research practices.

– Compromised research integrity can put public health at risk and waste resources, undermine public trust in science and damage reputations. High profile cases of deliberate misconduct are rare.

– Various mechanisms exist to promote good practice in research, including: institutional guidelines; a sector-wide concordat; regulatory bodies for some disciplines; peer review; and a variety of legal actions.

– There are differing views over whether these mechanisms are sufficient, or if another form of oversight, such as regulation, might be preferable.

Wellcome activities

The Wellcome Trust will be invoking their ‘publisher white list’ as of April 2017, at the same time they have launched the Wellcome Open Research platform, which has also recently been adopted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. What does this direct challenge to publishers’ dominance mean for libraries?
Publisher ‘whitelist’

- Publisher requirements
  - Publishers who wish to provide open access publishing services through peer-reviewed journals based on APCs for Wellcome grant holders must commit to providing a service which meets our requirements.
  - [https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/publisher-requirements](https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/publisher-requirements)

- List of Publishers
  - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iKsQN2l4S45SdWox4wuPPW8sQpS9B7h1TK1ThJUOGYo/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iKsQN2l4S45SdWox4wuPPW8sQpS9B7h1TK1ThJUOGYo/edit)

- Email sent to researchers:
  - Handout … “you will be personally liable to pay the APC”
Wellcome Open Research

Benefits for Researchers
- Enables authors, not editors, to decide what they wish to publish.
- Authors select their own referees and control the process.
- All types of research can be published rapidly: traditional narratives, data sets, null results, protocols, case reports, incremental findings and more.

Benefits for Research
- Aims to shift the way research and researchers are evaluated.
- Moves away from journal-based measures towards direct assessment of individual outputs.
- Supports research assessment based on the intrinsic value of the research, not the venue of publication.

Benefits for Society
- Reduces the barrier to collaborative research through data sharing, transparency and attribution.
- Reduces research waste and helps to remove the bias in our understanding of research.
- Enables others to build upon new ideas right away, wherever and whoever they are.

https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/
Immediate & Transparent Publishing

F1000Research is an Open Research publishing platform offering immediate publication of articles and other research outputs with no editorial bias. All articles benefit from transparent peer review and the inclusion of all source data.
Gates Foundation announces open-access publishing venture

Global health charity is latest funder to start its own publishing ‘channel’ — and the European Commission is considering its own service.

Declan Butler

23 March 2017 | Corrected: 24 March 2017

One of the world's wealthiest charities, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle, Washington, is set to launch its own open-access publishing venture later this year. The initiative, Gates Open Research, was announced on 23 March and will be modelled on a service begun last year by the London-based biomedical charity, the Wellcome Trust. Like that effort, the Gates Foundation's platform is intended to accelerate the publication of articles and data from research funded by the charity.

https://www.nature.com/news/gates-foundation-announces-open-access-publishing-venture-1.21700
Now over to you... Discussion!

- In your groups discuss the topic on the sheet of paper. Address the questions.
- The topics will move around.
- You have five minutes per topic
- We will join together at the end to discuss this as a group
• What do you think of this idea?
• What might be some of the implications?
• What would need to happen to implement something like this at your institution?
Research Integrity

• Have you heard about the reproducibility crisis?
• What might be some of the implications?
• What are some practical steps that could be done at your institution to address this?
• Whose responsibility is it to address this?
Wellcome Open Research

• Did you know about the publisher white list?
• Are there any implications?
• What do you think about Wellcome Open Research?
• What benefits can you see from this initiative?
Plan B

• What are some of the implications for a library if subscriptions were suspended?
• What ideas would you have to address this?
• How would people access literature?
• How does this make you feel?
Transiting

• What do you think about the RCUK policy?
• What does ‘success’ look like?
• What is the funding support for open access in your institution?
• Does this have implications for your university’s ability to meet funder requirements?
Thanks!

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