Open Access: A Series Editor’s Perspective

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Why Open Access?

‘The core of the policy is that journal articles and conference proceedings must be available in an open-access form to be eligible for the next REF. In practice, this means that these outputs must be uploaded to an institutional or subject repository.’

(http://www.hefce.ac.uk/rsrch/oa/)

- Institutional/Subject Repositories
- Academia.edu (for-profit)
- Humanities Commons
- Personal Websites
- Open Access Publishers
Advantages

• Prepare for Open Access requirements

• Relatively quick lead-time

• Structures (peer-review, etc., already in place)

• Flexible (publishing beyond/between the article and the monograph)
Questions & Challenges

- Prestige (especially for ECRs)
- Editorial processes
- Interface with traditional academic structures (libraries, promotions & tenure committees...)

Our Route to Open Access

• Speaking to publishers
• Establishing ‘fit’
• Recruiting editorial board
• Preparing first volumes
• Creating series identity – page design & covers
Practicalities: MS to book

- Sample (introduction + sample chapter)
- Preliminary reading by series editors
- Peer review
- Agreement + contract (via OHP)
- Submission of MS
- Editorial and proofing
- MS to OHP for publication (PDF + Print-on-Demand)
- Don’t forget Deposit Libraries!