Open Journals System - Institutional Considerations

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OJS Forum – 31st July 2013
How does OJS fit in with the University of Edinburgh’s Open Access activities?
Scholarly Communications Team

• One-stop-shop support for academic authors, postgraduate students & admin staff:
  – Open Access advice, support, and administration
  – Copyright & versioning (meeting publisher requirements)
  – Funding for ‘gold’ APCs
  – Research funders open access policies
  – Bibliometrics
  – Open Access Journals (OJS)

• Suite of online resources:
  – [www.ed.ac.uk/is/open-access-research](http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/open-access-research)
Funding Open Access

• Funding available:
  – BIS transitional grant (£609K)
    • 2012-2013
  – RCUK year 1 block grant (£830K)
    • April 2013 – March 2014
  – RCUK year 2 block grant (£977K)
    • April 2014 – March 2015
Open Access

- Two streams of activity

**Green Project** – BIS transitional funding

**Gold Project** – Yearly block grants

January 2013  April 2013  December 2013
Green Project

• Freedom from BIS to use money in any appropriate fashion to advance amount of research published Open Access
  – Research Policy Group decided to spend BIS funding 100% on Green

• Funding allocated by College to employ temporary staff to upload papers from authors into PURE

• Team of 18 Publications Assistants attach appropriate copies of full-text papers to records in PURE
Gold Project

• RCUK Open Access Publication Fund:

  • For all RCUK-funded authors
  
  • Administered on a first-come, first-served basis
  
  • Support & advice for authors (can you go green?)
  
  • Monitoring and reporting for RCUK
Open Access

RCUK’s expectations = Our expectations...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2013/14</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
<th>2015/16</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>2017/18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Compliance</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>75%</td>
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(note that both Gold or Green routes are acceptable, but RCUK block grant must be spent on Gold APCs)
Open Access at Edinburgh

- Edinburgh Research Archive (ERA) launched in 2003
- Electronic Thesis deposit required from 2005
- Research Publications Policy enacted in 2010
- Institutional ‘Preference’ is for Green
- OK, so how does OJS fit in...?
Returning Control to Academics

- Offers an *alternative* means of publication, and of achieving Open Access

- OJS allows us to return the business of publishing to the academic community

- OJS allows students to become involved in the business of publishing

- Represents a low-cost, low-risk approach to publishing
What about costs...?

- Difficult to estimate the costs so far, but they might look like this...
  - 0.3 FTE Service Manager
  - 0.2 FTE Technical Support
  - Total Cost £25,000 FEC?

- Time spent organising peer review (customer time) not known

- Technical work will decrease as the project transitions to a service
In Context

• According to the Finch Report we can expect an average of £1,750
  – Subsequent reports also suggest that the costs for open access journals average between £1.5k and £2k, which is broadly in line with the average level of APCs paid by the Wellcome Trust in 2010, at just under £1.5k. (Finch, p61)

• University of Edinburgh regularly receives invoices from Elsevier for $5,000 (£3,287 at today’s rates)
  – At this price, 8 articles would come to £26,296...

• It is clear to see that OJS represents a value-for-money solution which gives control over publishing back to academic.
Any questions...or comments?

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