Open Access Realities: Policy into practice

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A university viewpoint

- Research strategy
- Why OA is important
- Practical implications
- Post-Finch experience
- Green and gold roads
- Achievements and ambitions
OA in context: The Transparency Agenda

- Long run trend towards opening up government
    - ‘active’ legislation
    - recent case law on teaching and research materials
      - Exemptions
  - Protection of Freedoms Act (2012)
    - Data must be machine readable
  - Open Data White Paper (2012)
  - Public Sector Transparency Board
  - ODI
Transparency and universities

- Research Sector Transparency Board
  - Chaired by David Willetts
    - Two University leads (Lynn Gledhill, Adam Tickell)
    - Chief Scientist, Chief Statistician, DG Knowledge and Innovation at BIS, Chair of ODI, HEFCE, RCUK
  - Responsibility for Transparency in Research Sector, with focus on
    - Open Data
    - Open Access
    - Data Security
Transparency and universities

- Research data
  - Funder requirements
  - Particular challenges for some types of data
  - Freedom of Information

- Research publications
  - In UK, mandatory open access publication for all publicly funded research

- The challenge of transparency ...
  - Costs
  - Compliance
  - Commercial confidentiality
... and the potential gain

- Enhanced visibility for our research
  - Research more likely to be read (and cited)
- Enhanced public engagement
  - Core to the University’s mission
- Enhanced scientific capacity
  - The benefits of open data
Practical support for OA

- Co-ordinated via Library Services
- Skills gained as consumers adapted to help the producers (ie our authors)
- Existing services and contact networks
- Copyright and licensing experience
- Working with publishers and agents
- Metadata standards
- IR – CRIS – research portal
- Handling APCs
- Investigating innovative publishing models
The institutional repository

- Slow take-up of green OA typical of most HEIs
  1600 peer-reviewed items to date
- Successful eTheses projects
  3400 theses, plus another 2500 via EThOS
- Interest in using IR to “publish” grey literature
  1000 working papers, images, datasets and other
- Well-established standards for discovery
- Administrative and technical support
Caveats

- Includes some hybrid gold articles in “green mirror”
- Q1 self-archiving includes “REF effect”
How the CRIS supports OA

- Relevant to both Green and Gold
- Links info about all research activities, incl. projects, publications and datasets
- Metadata includes DOIs, urls, links to external OA sources (eg arXiv, PubMed Central)
- Raise visibility of all peer-reviewed work
- Full-text documents: archive and green mirror
- Include publications info in University webpages
- OAI exposure for search engines and resource discovery systems
- IT support for key business system
Research publication:

Framing quality improvement tools and techniques in healthcare: The case of Improvement Leaders' Guides

Authors:

Miller, Ross

Publication overview:

Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to present a study of how quality improvement tools and techniques are framed within healthcare settings.

Design/methodology/approach – The paper employs an interpretive approach to understand how quality improvement tools and techniques are mobilised and legitimised. It does so using a case study of the NHS Modernisation Agency Improvement Leaders’ Guides in England.

Findings – Improvement Leaders’ Guides were framed within a service improvement approach encouraging the use of quality improvement tools and techniques within healthcare settings. Their use formed part of enacting tools and techniques across different contexts. Whilst this enactment was believed to support the mobilisation of tools and techniques, the experience also illustrated the challenges in distributing such approaches.

Originality/value – The paper provides an important contribution in furthering our understanding of framing the "social act" of quality improvement. Given the ongoing emphasis on quality improvement in health systems and the persistent challenges involved, it also provides important information for healthcare leaders globally in seeking to develop, implement or modify similar tools and distribute leadership within health and social care settings.
Gold OA

- Article processing charges (APCs) shift cost away from reader and pay publishers for service
- Steady build up of demand
- Analyse where our authors prefer to publish
- APC discounts negotiated with some publishers
- Cost doesn’t dictate where authors publish: impact and reputation remain paramount
Paying an APC
Surprises

☐ Fewer authors using external OA repositories than anticipated
☐ Access problem not readily recognised
☐ Sticks and carrots
☐ Publishers reacted well by offering more OA options (hybrid journals)
☐ But… changing policies on embargoes and CC
☐ Delays caused by practical difficulties in paying APCs
☐ “Predatory” publishers
Our ambitions

- All publications recorded in the CRIS
- Recognition of the advantages of OA
- Portal/repository meeting needs of researchers
- Good evidence of impact
- Interoperability
  - Resource discovery systems
  - Funder reporting systems
  - Libre OA
  - Datasets
  - Preservation
- Exceed OA targets of funders
Global OA: hopes and fears

- Wide access to high-quality research
- Overall cost savings
- Less time spent overcoming access barriers
- But who will guarantee continuity and preservation?
- Ongoing platform development
- New technical standards
- Revisit the economics of producing and hosting journals and books
Conclusion

- Broad agreement about the destination
- Uncertainty over how we get there
- All players are learning as they go along
- Innovation in publishing is overdue
- Emphasis on quality remains paramount
- Co-operation is essential
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