Who Speaks for the University on Open Access?

Tony Simmonds
Research Support Team
University of Nottingham (UoN) Libraries
Overview

- Open access at University of Nottingham (UoN): past
- Open access at UoN: present
- UKRI consultation 2020
- Open futures at UoN
The past: breaking new ground

**Timeline of open access at UoN**

2001: pilot institutional repository (ePrints)

2003: Nottingham ePrints repository open

2004: SHERPA Romeo born

2005: OpenDOAR born (collaboration with Lund University)

2006: created central fund to pay APCs
2006: all authors “encouraged” by institution to self-archive

2009: adopted institutional open access policy mandate
What can you do?

Retain copyright

We would encourage you to keep copyright wherever possible. There are a number of things you can do:

- Actively support journals that have liberal copyright agreements
- Talk to your publisher if they have a restrictive agreement and negotiate an exception
- Amend the copyright agreement you sign to keep (at least) electronic distribution rights.
The present: distribution of roles

- **Library: Research Support Team**
  - Gold open access: approval / advice / reporting
  - REF: compliance
  - Open data: data management plans / policy / advice
  - Advocacy / awareness raising / information
  - Evaluating transformative agreements
  - Strategic planning *(initiating? Informing? deciding?)*

- **Library: Digital Libraries Team**
  - Manage / develop repositories (x3)
  - Metadata

- **Research Office**
  - Administer block grants (UKRI / Wellcome etc.)
The present: carrying the load

Available material

- 26,226 articles/conference papers
- 696 books/book chapters
- 1,519* Data deposits
- 8,157 E-Theses

(Data up to 25 September 2020)

Over 3 million outputs have been downloaded
The present: untangling compliance spaghetti

Arthur Smith https://unlockingresearch-blog.lib.cam.ac.uk/?p=161
Who speaks to Plan S?

- 2019: Library activities to raise awareness of Plan S principles
- September 2019: Plan S **Working** Group formed
  - 5x senior academic reps. of Faculties (including Associate PVC – Chair)
  - 4x library staff
  - 2x Research Office
  - 1x Finance
- October 2019: paper to UoN Research Committee (1 of 3)
UKRI review and consultation: the plan

- January 2020: paper to UoN Research Committee (2 of 3) – proposals:
  - Acknowledged inflow of read and publish deal proposals: Library to lead
  - Change name to Plan S **Steering** Group
  - 5x new Steering Group workstreams:
    - comms and culture change
    - financial modelling
    - Funding streams
    - UKSCL
    - Copyright and licensing

- February 2020: UKRI consultation opened; 3x roadshow events planned

  BUT THEN ...
UCU strike (February – March 2020)
COVID
UKRI review and consultation: the reality

- February 2020: email invitation for feedback from PVC for Research & Knowledge Exchange

- Webpage and online form to gather feedback

- 1x (online) briefing on consultation themes to inform academic community

- May 2020: Library Research Support Team analyse and collate feedback

- June 2020: paper to UoN Research Committee (3 of 3) – summary of consultation response from UoN
Difficulties / conflicts

- How to engage overloaded academics?

- What is most appropriate target for briefings / invitations to submit feedback?
  *Where does the authentic university voice lie?*
  - Individual academic colleagues?
  - Schools?
  - Faculties?

- How to reconcile voices that contrast or contradict?

- What voice for library staff in a university-wide consultation?
Open research

Open research, also known as open science, is a set of principles and practices whose aim is to make the outputs and process of research freely accessible and usable to promote greater public access.

Research outputs, data, protocols, software, lab notes and other processes are provided freely online, under terms that enable reuse, reproduction and redistribution, enabling collaborative working and
The future: keep following the funders
The future: the library voice

It will fall to the Library to speak with responsibility and confidence
Thank you for your attention