MANAGING OPEN ACCESS CHARGES

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Director, Research Consulting
1. A bit about me…

2. OA at the University of Nottingham

3. Managing OA charges:
   - Efficiently
   - Effectively
   - Economically
A BIT ABOUT ME…

English graduate

Chartered Accountant

Research Manager

Consultant
• Institutional Open Access Policy adopted in 2006

• Central Open Access Fund put in place at the same time

• Ongoing advocacy for open access

• Hosts the Centre for Research Communications – SHERPA FACT
1. Efficiency
It is quick and easy for academic and administrative staff to arrange payment of an APC, and articles are made OA as soon as a payment is made (if not before!).

2. Effectiveness
Research is made open access through the most appropriate route, in accordance with institutional and funder policies.

3. Economy
As many articles are made OA immediately as possible, within the funds available, and without compromising academics' freedom to choose where they publish.
Survey of UK HE library directors in June 2011 – 52 Responses

“Do you have an institutionally-coordinated approach to payment of per-article OA fees (such as a central fund)?”

- “Yes”: 7 institutions (13%)
- No correlation between institution type and OA fund
- No clear pattern of responsibility in the institution for funds
1. ACHIEVING EFFICIENCY

It is quick and easy for academic and administrative staff to arrange payment of an APC, and articles are made OA as soon as a payment is made (if not before!).

- Put in place clear and simple workflows within the institution for payment of APCs.

- Have a single point of contact to handle queries.

- Take advantage of prepayment arrangements and (perhaps) intermediaries to streamline processes.
• Payments made to >75 publishers over last 6 years…

• But >50% of 12/13 spend is with 3 publishers, and >80% with 9 publishers

• UoN strategy - put in place prepayment accounts with the largest publishers, and use an intermediary for the rest.
1. ACHIEVING EFFICIENCY

PAYMENT MODELS

- Intermediaries?
- Membership/discount scheme
- Deposit account
- Fixed price agreement
- Single invoice
- Intermediaries?
2. ACHIEVING EFFECTIVENESS

Research is made open access through the most appropriate route, in accordance with institutional and funder policies.

- Develop clear policies for payment of APCs, and make sure these are communicated these to staff.

- Watch out for bogus journals and predatory publishers.

- Put in place good accounting and reporting arrangements to track progress
- How many APCs are we paying?
- Which publishers are we paying them to?
- What is it costing us?
- Which funders do they relate to?
- What licenses are being applied?
- Are we going to run out of money?
COLLECTION OF METADATA

Capture data in standardised form

Intermediary

Reporting

Collect any missing data eg funders, licenses

(If not obtained via pre-approval process)

Authors

Management reporting

Accounting transactions

Reporting to funders
3. ACHIEVING ECONOMY

As many articles are made OA immediately as possible, within the funds available, and without compromising academics’ freedom to choose where they publish.

- Use what data you have to model different scenarios.
- Take advantage of discount/deposit/prepayment arrangements.
- Consider new/alternative publishing models.
- Monitor expenditure on APCs in light of subscription expenditure.
- Consider carefully whether/how access to funding might need to be rationed.
3. ACHIEVING ECONOMY

NORMAL DISTRIBUTION OF APCS - UNI OF NOTTINGHAM 2012/13

Average = £1,359 (€1,627, $2,205)

Min = £173 (€200, $260)

Max = £3,000 (€3,525, $4,560)
MANAGING OPEN ACCESS CHARGES

For more information…

A helpsheet for institutions on Managing the Transition to Open Access is freely available to download at www.researchconsulting.co.uk

Managing the Transition to Open Access

A Helpsheet for UK Higher Education Institutions

This helpsheet is designed to assist UK Higher Education institutions in managing the transition to open access publishing. It consists of a series of questions that individuals with responsibility for the management and administration of open access may find it helpful to consider. These have been grouped into the following areas:

- Governance
QUESTIONS?

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