

University of Cambridge Open Access Project Board

Minutes – 22 October 2018

Meeting held at 11.00-12.30 on Monday 22 October 2018
The Syndicate Room, the Old Schools

Present:

- Professor Chris Abell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Chair)
- Professor Alan Blackwell, School of Technology (User Needs Committee representative)
- Dr Caroline Black, Publishing Director for STM Journals, Cambridge University Press (representing Dr Matthew Day)
- Dr Jessica Gardner, University Librarian and Director of Library Services
- Professor Lindsay Greer, Head of the School of Physical Sciences
- Dr Peter Hedges, Head of University Research Office
- Dr Danny Kingsley, Deputy Director, Cambridge University Libraries (Scholarly Communication and Research Services)
- Professor Ian Leslie, Director of Information Services
- Professor Peter Mandler, School of the Humanities and Social Sciences
- Professor Richard Prager, Head of the School of Technology
- Dr Owen Roberson, Head of Research Information
- Dr Fiorella Dell'Olio, Research Information Analyst (joint Secretary)
- Dr André Sartori, Open Access Research Assistant (joint Secretary)

Apologies:

- Professor David Cardwell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Strategy and Planning
- Professor John Danesh, School of Clinical Medicine
- Dr Matthew Day, Head of Open and Data Publishing, Cambridge University Press (represented by Dr Caroline Black)
- Professor Abby Fowden, Head of the School of Biological Sciences
- Professor Nicholas White, School of Arts and Humanities

Declarations of Interest: No new declarations were made.

1. Minutes of previous meeting (5 March 2018) – OAPB-90

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2018 were approved (OAPB-90). Actions from that meeting were complete or to be discussed during the meeting.

2. Matters arising – report on actions from previous meetings

- a) 22.11.17 Minutes Item 5. Consultation with training providers to explore options for data management training. Addressed in OAPB-92 and OAPB-94. Action complete.
- b) 5.3.2018 Minutes Item 3a. Consideration of financial situation of the RCUK block grant. Resulted in revision of Cambridge Open Access policy framework (OAPB-93). Action complete.
- c) 5.3.2018 Minutes Item 3b. Risks and contingency plans associated with possible removal of funder support for staffing costs and hybrid journals. Addressed in OAPB-93 and OAPB-94. Action complete.

3. Open Access Report – OAPB-91

Danny Kingsley highlighted the key points from the Open Access Report (OAPB-91):

- a) March saw an increase in Apollo submissions as a result of the REF assessment exercise.
- b) Fast Track has been successful in reducing average deposit processing time.
- c) Compliance reports: the aim is to make them available at School level by the end of 2018.
- d) Guidelines and policy for compliance via preprint servers is now available. However, several preprint servers, including BioRxiv, do not support accepted versions.
- e) 2017/18 COAF block grant exhausted; 2018/2019 award has been increased by 13% based on considerations of previous expenditure and comparisons with other institutions.
- f) Cambridge was the first institution to have OA block grant audited by UKRI.
- g) Training for administrators and librarians on helping researchers to comply with OA policies has been introduced and will continue in early 2019.

4. Research Data Management Report – OAPB-92

Peter Hedges highlighted the key points of the Research Data Management Report (OAPB-92):

- a) University has subscribed to the preservation part of the JISC Shared Service for 3 years at a cost of £27,000 + VAT per year.
- b) DSpace is not an optimal repository for datasets, so the infrastructure subgroup of ORWG is working on a long-term solution.
- c) Evaluation of RDMF was conducted and will feed into future roadmap of the facility.
- d) RDMF has been trialling the introduction of data management plans to first year PhD assessments.
- e) Current pricing models for datasets is under review.
- f) Ongoing CHEST funding has been secured for an equivalent of 3 FTE positions split across 4 RDMF staff members.

Discussion then focused on concerns that funders' Open Access mandates on datasets could conflict with commercial interests associated with the intellectual property of Cambridge academics, particularly software and datasets used for machine learning. Increased automation of Apollo's "Request a copy" service could contribute to a solution by allowing datasets to be obtained upon request, but not openly available.

Action: RDMF Manager to liaise with Alan Blackwell to explore issues associated with the intellectual property of datasets and software.

5. Revision of Cambridge Open Access policy framework – OAPB-93

Danny Kingsley summarised recent changes to the Cambridge Open Access policy framework (OAPB-93). The University's 2018/2019 Open Access block grant from the Research Councils has been confirmed as £1.3m, which is a considerable reduction compared to the previous grant period year. The University has thus adapted its funding guidelines for RCUK-funded authors and estimates that the introduced changes will be sufficient to avoid overspend. The final two years of the current UKRI block grant are being managed as annual grants. Any amount of the grant that is not spent by the end of March 2019 will be returned to UKRI, and the same will happen on 31 March 2020.

6. Summary of Open Access policy developments – OAPB-94

Danny Kingsley summarised recent Open Access policy developments (OAPB-94), including likely implications of Plan S for Cambridge researchers, plans for RDM training, and support for open access staff after March 2020.

Concerns were raised that Plan S ignores the variety of publication outputs in HASS subjects. Most humanities journals have only adopted the hybrid model to accommodate a relatively few number of papers from authors funded by UKRI and Wellcome. These journals are reliant on the value of subscriptions and it is doubtful that they could operate on a fully gold open access capacity.

Online training in research integrity, ethics and data management is being developed and options to record and report on completed training need to be considered in order to demonstrate compliance to funder requirements.

Action: Danny Kingsley to liaise with Rhys Morgan about online, interactive training.

A large number of OSC staff working on open access are supported by UKRI funds and there is no guarantee that funds will be forthcoming after 31 March 2020. A business case outlining the risks of not moving these staff onto Chest funding is being prepared for submission to the next planning round. The OAPB supports this initiative.

7. Progress of the Open Research Working Group – OAPB-95

Danny Kingsley updated the Board on the progress of the Open Research Working Group (OAPB-95). The ORWG has drafted a Position Statement that will be presented to RPC, along with a report on its activities, findings and nine recommendations that focus on three key areas: (1) the need for training and guidance on Open Research; (2) the need to maintain supporting infrastructure; (3) recognising and rewarding researchers' activities in Open Research. A new Open Research Steering Committee is proposed in one of the recommendations. The OAPB agrees that this new body should be representative of the University and that it should consider mechanisms to allow wider participation. The Board suggests that the ORWG recommendation proposing the new committee (R2) should be amended to address these concerns. The OAPB supports the ORWG recommendation that the University should sign DORA and implement consequential changes on HR practices (R4).

8. Items to be referred to Research Policy Committee

The Project Board was asked to confirm any items that it wishes to forward or report to the Research Policy Committee.

9. Any other Business

The OAPB was reminded that this might have been the last meeting pending on the consideration by the RPC in November 2018 of the ORWG recommendation to dissolve the OAPB and establish the Open Research Steering Committee.