

University of Cambridge
Open Access Project Board

Minutes – 13 November 2014

Meeting held at 08.30-09.30 on Thursday 13th November 2014
in the Syndicate Room, The Old Schools

Present: Professor Lynn Gladden (Chair), Professor Steve Young, Professor Richard Prager, Professor Peter Jones, Dr Peter Hedges, Mrs Anne Jarvis, Mr John Norman, Dr Gill Rands (Secretary) and Dr Ralph Ecclestone (item 3).

Apologies: Professor Martin Daunton, Professor Andy Parker.

Declaration of Interest: No new declarations were made.

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising – OAPB-29

1.1 The draft minutes of the meeting held on 5 June 2014 were approved (OAPB-29).

1.2 Peter Hedges and John Norman had met with representatives from PRAO, HR, UIS and RSO on 13 August 2014 and agreed steps to explore options to encourage the coordinated uptake/collection/verification of ORCIDiDs through the open access, HR and Symplectic systems. John Norman was in touch with colleagues at Imperial College who were about to launch an institutional roll-out of ORCIDiDs; their experience would be instructive.

1.3 **Action:** Peter Hedges, liaising with John Norman and Danny Kingsley, to bring to the next meeting a proposal for an institutional roll-out of ORCIDiDs, in light of the experience at Imperial and further consultation with internal stakeholders.

2. Open access to research publications – OAPB-30

2.1 John Norman introduced the project report (OAPB-30) and highlighted that the collection of HEFCE-compliant manuscripts during the first six months of the pilot phase was showing a steady upward trajectory. The potential for greater automation and integration with Symplectic Elements was being investigated.

2.2 Significant issues that had been noted from Departmental meetings included:

- a) The need to develop manuscript-collection workflows that could harness existing resources such as arXiv and other pre-print repositories.
- b) The need to avoid duplication of effort where multiple Cambridge authors were each required to deposit a copy of their jointly authored paper.
- c) The perceived irrationality of the requirement to deposit a manuscript even when there would be Gold access to the publisher's version of record at publication.

The project team had started to evaluate possible solutions to the first two issues; the third would continue to be challenged as a matter of HEFCE policy.

2.3 The Board's guidance was sought on whether to maintain the current policy of declining APC payment requests when an RCUK-compliant 'green' option was available, even though the RCUK publication fund was not exhausted. The Board agreed that whilst the University's policy of preference for green open access should continue to be promoted, authors should be allowed to choose a payment option in such a case. This guidance would be trialled by

the project team and reviewed in due course in light of pressure on the RCUK Publication Fund.

2.4 John Norman also sought the Board's advice regarding an innovative 'APC offsetting' proposal from the Royal Society of Chemistry, which had the potential to offer very significant administrative benefits to the University: notably, notification by the publisher of author acceptances, and direct provision by the publisher of the appropriate HEFCE-compliant manuscript PDF and licence. The Board agreed that negotiations should be entered into with the Royal Society of Chemistry.

3. Audit requirements for open access in the post-2014 REF – OAPB-31

3.1 On 31 October 2014, HEFCE had published the information and audit requirements for open access in the post-2014 REF (OAPB-31). John Norman and Ralph Ecclestone (REF Project Manager) commented that the requirements focused on auditing institutions' processes and practices rather than detailed evidence in relation to, for example, the manuscript acceptance date.

4. Open data implementation project – OAPB-32

4.1 Peter Hedges and John Norman introduced plans for the open data implementation project (OAPB-32), based on the principles identified by the Board at its last meeting. The project would establish, and begin population of, a register of open research data. It would be jointly managed by the Head of the University Research Office and the newly appointed Head of Scholarly Communications at the University Library, Dr Danny Kingsley.

4.2 The project would be led by a project manager (Research Data Facilitator) who would be in post shortly and would work closely with colleagues in the Research Strategy and Operations Offices, the University Library and Faculties/Departments. The project would focus initially on EPSRC-funded disciplines.

4.3 It was agreed that it was important to continue to engage with EPSRC and other funders about their expectations and audit requirements for open data, and to work closely with peer institutions to define what the universities themselves considered to be appropriate delivery targets.

5. Remit of the Open Access Project Board – OAPB-33

5.1 Peter Hedges introduced OAPB-33, which had been written to prompt a preliminary discussion about the ongoing requirements for governance of Open Access issues within the University and the Terms of Reference of the Board.

5.2 The Board had been established in January 2013 and its primary aims, which related to the RCUK policy on access to research publications, had largely been achieved. However, significant new developments, including HEFCE's requirements, had emerged over the past two years. It remained important to monitor the University's compliance with such requirements, to ensure the continued fitness of the University's policies and procedures, and to assess the continuing financial risks in relation to open access publications. In addition, there was an increasing need to provide formal oversight of the University's compliance with open data expectations.

5.3 It was agreed that:

1. The Board should extend its work into a new phase, with new Terms of Reference that formally encompassed open access to research data.
2. The Board should continue to report to the Research Policy Committee and thence to the General Board.

3. The Board's membership should be expanded to include the Head of Scholarly Communication, the Director of UIS and the REF Manager; and the inclusion of the Open Access Project Manager (John Norman) and the academic user representative (Andy Parker) as members should be formalised.

5.4 It was decided that the Board would agree new Terms of Reference by email circulation, including input from the Head of Scholarly Communication, and seek approval of these from the Research Policy Committee. The newly constituted Board would meet at around the end of the Lent Term, when the Open Data project manager would be in a position to present their initial work to the Board.

5.5 **Action:** Peter Hedges to provide draft new Terms of Reference for input by email from the current Board and the Head of Scholarly Communication in the New Year.

6. AOB

6.1 No other business was raised.