OPEN RESEARCH STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes for Friday 7 May 2021, 11:00–12:30
MS Teams meeting

Present: Steve Russell (Chair), Holger Babinsky, Mark Carrigan, Jessica Gardner, Emma Gilby, Peter Hedges, Mandy Hill, Patricia Killiard, Ian Leslie, David Owen, Benjamin Steventon, Niamh Tumelty, Debbie Hansen (Secretary).

In attendance: Rupert Gatti.

Apologies: Marta Costa, Sara Hennessy.

1 Welcome to new members
The Chair welcomed the new members of the Committee: Holger Babinsky (representing the School of Technology) and Ben Steventon (representing the School of Biological Sciences). He also welcomed Rupert Gatti: the guest speaker presenting under agenda item 4.

2 Minutes of previous meeting (3 February 2021) – ORSC-51
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (subject to the addition of a meeting attendee).

3 Matters arising: Report on actions from previous meetings – ORSC-52
Matters arising that were not complete or discussed during the remainder of the meeting:
1. Item 5 of 3 February 2021 meeting (Rights retention strategy): This is ongoing, to be brought back to the Committee for further discussion if required following the announcement of the expected new Open Access Policy from UKRI.

Mandy Hill from Cambridge University Press (CUP) presented a CUP perspective on the future of scholarly communication. The discussion covered many topics such as services provided by preprint servers and publishing platforms, management of peer review, the value to the quality of publishing that journals bring, different publishing approaches and preferences by different disciplines, funder mandates for openness, evaluating research quality and sustainability. The importance of having open conversations and engagement between the different stakeholders in this space was noted. Mandy Hill left the meeting.

Rupert Gatti, an economist from Trinity College and co-founder of Open Book Publishers talked to the group about end-to-end research information services now being provided by companies such as Elsevier and Digital Science, of which publishing forms a part. The discussion following touched on many topics and the opportunities for leadership in the scholarly communication space, working with research councils and consultation and engagement with our academic community were highlighted.
5 *Open research work plan – ORSC-52
This was a starred item not for discussion during the meeting. Any comments can be added to the MS Teams channel or email Steve and Niamh.

6 *Proposal for an Open Research Virtual Event November 2021 – ORSC-54
This was a starred item not for discussion during the meeting. There was strong encouragement for this event from the Chair and the need for engagement within our community was stressed. Any comments can be added to the MS Teams channel or email Beatrice Gini (see ORSC-54 cover sheet).

7. *Minutes of the Open Research Operational Group meeting, 10 March 2021 – ORSC-55
This was a starred item not for discussion during the meeting. Members are encouraged to note the content.

8 Items to be referred to the Research Policy Committee
The following papers will be forwarded to the RPC:
1. A copy of these minutes.

9 AOB
None

Next Meeting: Thursday 29 July 2021 14:00-15:30

Open Research Steering Committee Secretary:
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