

## Open Research Steering Committee

Minutes for Wednesday 3 July 2019, 15:00–16:30

Sir Geoffrey Keynes Room, University Library

**Present:** Chris Abell (Chair), Jessica Gardner, Emma Gilby, Peter Hedges, Mandy Hill, David Owen, Niamh Tumelty, André Sartori (Secretary).

**In attendance:** Lauren Cadwallader, Patricia Killiard, Arthur Smith.

**Apologies:** Vasily Belokurov, Mark Carrigan, Marta Costa, John Dennis, Sara Hennessy, Ian Leslie, Steve Russell.

### 1 Minutes of previous meeting (2 May 2019) — ORSC-9

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 2 Matters arising: Report on actions from previous meetings

Matters arising that were not complete or discussed during the remainder of the meeting:

- a) *Data about article processing charge payments across the University (item 7)*: A planning meeting for this work will take place on 10 July 2019, including representation from the Finance, Open Access and Journal Coordination Scheme teams.

### 3 Updated ORSC Terms of Reference — ORSC-10

The updated Terms of Reference of the Committee were approved.

### 4 Plan S update — ORSC-11

Arthur Smith and Jessica Gardner highlighted key points of the this report:

- a) cOAlition S members will implement Plan S principles in their policies by 1 January 2021, one year later than original start date.
- b) Flexibility on open licences has been expanded to allow authors to request from their funders approval for the use of the CC BY-ND licence.
- c) Technical requirements for repositories have been scaled back, but a requirement for a maximum response time of one business day for support requests has been introduced.
- d) Funding for transformative agreements will end on 31 December 2024. It is anticipated that block grants for open access will cease at this point.
- e) Monographs will not be covered by cOAlition S member policies by January 2021. They will be the subject of a “separate and due process”.
- f) cOAlition S will define a set of services for publishers to cost out.

- g) Wellcome Trust is taking a community-minded approach and compromising on some of their past requirements to promote cohesion and alignment of cOAlition S policies.
- h) A project manager will be appointed later this year to coordinate the University's work around Plan S and Open Research activities, including development and implementation of the Communication Framework for Plan S.
- i) Webpage addressing FAQs about Plan S will be made available to the University community via the Open Access website.

ORSC members were invited to comment. It was noted that the most significant point of the revised implementation guidelines is the postponement of the start date. This is welcome not only because it gives the University additional time for preparations, but also because it avoids overlap with work leading to the REF2021 submission. The Committee noted that communication in this area is critical and highlighted the importance of (1) establishing the governance of work around Plan S, particularly links between the ORSC and the Journal Coordination Scheme, (2) devising principles that the University will use when signing up to new agreements with publishers, and (3) considering the financial sustainability of deals and the green route to Plan S compliance.

**Action:** Paper on governance of work related to Plan S will be discussed during the next meeting of the Committee.

## 5 DORA update — ORSC-12

Jessica Gardner updated the Committee on progress establishing the DORA Working Group, which Steve Russell has agreed to chair. A draft of the Working Group Terms of Reference and a paper scoping the landscape concerning responsible use of bibliometrics were briefly summarised. Committee members were invited to comment and noted that work on the implementation of DORA is timely because Wellcome Trust has indicated they will cease to fund institutions that do not take steps to assess research on its own merits. It was also noted that the signature of DORA can now proceed and will happen in a matter of days.

## 6 Open Research Infrastructure Map

Peter Hedges updated the Committee on the activities of the Open Research Infrastructure Sub-Group. Agustina Martinez Garcia has been leading the development of an Infrastructure road map to support the University's Open Research agenda. As this work is progressing well, the Infrastructure Sub-Group has decided not to hold further meetings until the map is completed. Agustina is looking into infrastructure to support the entire research life-cycle and will bring the infrastructure map to the Michaelmas term meeting of this Committee.

**Action:** Open Research Infrastructure Map will be discussed during the

next meeting of the Committee.

**7 Minutes of the Research Notebook Working Group (RNWG) — ORSC-13**

Lauren Cadwallader highlighted the key points of the minutes of the meeting of the RNWG held on 3 June:

- a) RNWG is planning a targeted survey to understand current products and uses across the University, followed by more detailed work with some respondents.
- b) Members of the RNWG agree that their goal is to define principles and recommend best practices in the use of Research Notebooks, rather than making recommendations on particular products.

**8 Research Data Management Policy Framework (RDMPF) — ORSC-14**

Lauren Cadwallader sought feedback from the Committee on the text of the revised RDMPF. The document had not been updated since 2015 and major revision, carried out in consultation with the Research Data Management Project Group and the Data Champions, was necessary to bring it in alignment with funder expectations and best practices on research data management. Members of the ORSC provided Lauren with advice and feedback on several points of the document. The Committee decided that revision of the RDMPF should be a recurrent item on the agenda of its Michaelmas Term meeting.

**Action:** Lauren Cadwallader to further revise the Research Data Management Policy Framework in light of feedback received and send it to the Secretary for early circulation.

**Action:** Secretary to circulate revised version of RDMPF as soon as possible and well in advance of the Michaelmas Term meeting of the Committee.

**Action:** Research Data Management Policy Framework to be discussed and revised during Michaelmas Term meetings of the Committee.

**9 Open Research Training at the Faculty of Education: Evaluation of a Pilot Project — ORSC-15**

Lauren Cadwallader summarised work of the Open Research Training Task Group (ORTTG) and the results of the pilot project at the Faculty of Education. The ORTTG had their first meeting and their main goal is to draw a coherent strategy for Open Research training across the University. Preliminary views and advice on the key points and recommendations presented in this report (ORSC-15) were sought from the Committee. Members of the ORSC agreed with the principles and conclusions of the pilot but noted that the main challenge is to scale the training programme up to cover the whole University. Tailoring is desirable but costly, so customising sessions at School level might be a realistic compromise. It was suggested that training on Open Research be coordinated with training on Research Integrity.

**Action:** ORTTG to coordinate training on Open Research and Research Integrity.

**10 Items to be referred to the Research Policy Committee**

The following papers will be forwarded to the RPC:

- a) A copy of these minutes.
- b) Terms of Reference of the Open Research Steering Committee.

**11 Any Other Business**

David Owen suggested it would be helpful to have a list of abbreviations and acronyms related to Open Research and other Committee business available for consultation.

**Action:** Secretary to assemble a list of relevant acronyms and abbreviations.

*Open Research Steering Committee Secretary:*

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