Minutes  Meeting of Open Access Advisory Group

Date: 15th January 2019

Present: Chair: John Derrick (JD)
Steven Pinfield (SP), Carmen O’Dell (CO), Deborah McClean (DM), Dorothy Kerr (DK), Sherif El-Khamisy (SE), Ruth Mallalieu (RM), Alasdair Rae (AR), Will Furnass (WF), Anne Horn (AH), Eleni Vasilaki (EV), Andrew Narracott (AN)

Secretary: Gavin Boyce (GB)


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<th>Action by</th>
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<td>1. Minutes of the meeting held 20th September 2018</td>
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<td>The group accepted these as a correct record.</td>
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<td><strong>Matters arising</strong></td>
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<td>2a: In accordance with the decision made by OAAG (20.9.18) it was decided that from 19th December 2018 new requests for payment of APCs for RCUK funded outputs would only be accepted for fully OA journals (i.e. where publication is dependent on the payment of an APC). This was communicated directly to OAAG members and faculty research reps in December and the web page has been updated (<a href="https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/library/openaccess/rcuk">https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/library/openaccess/rcuk</a>). An update on the current UKRI grant situation is provided under 2c in this meeting.</td>
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<td>2b. CO reported that an improved, streamlined process for picking up zero month embargo publications has been implemented as a result of the REF stock take exercise. It was noted that whilst this improvement should pick up more of these publications there is no way of guaranteeing a 100% success rate and should therefore not be seen as an alternative to author notification.</td>
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<td>2c: Anne Horn provided a briefing to RSG on Plan S in December. Anne will be reporting back to OAAG on the actions resulting under 2a in this meeting.</td>
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2. Open Access Policy and Implementation

a) Report back from RSG on Plan S
AH provided a verbal report on a briefing note she had been asked to provide to the RSG (December 2018). The result of the discussion at RSG was that RSG would lead a University wide project to respond appropriately to the implementation guidance for Plan S. It was noted that the University’s recent signatory to DORA might prove to be useful in this respect but OAAG members acknowledged that RSG is the appropriate body to drive such a project and that Plan S should remain on the agenda of future meetings in order to receive information rather than make decisions. A copy of the RSG briefing note supplied by the Library should be included in the minutes for information. RSG will decide whether TUOS should input into the Plan S consultation (deadline 1st February 2019).

b) Update from Paywall Event
RM provided an update from the recent Paywall screening and panel debate (11.12.18). The event was well received by participants but there was considerable interest from researchers at an early stage of their careers (PGRs & ECRs) in further advice and guidance on this matter. It was acknowledged that these groups are potentially more significantly affected by the changes in the research publication environment with implications for recruitment and profile. RM noted that there was a desire for more information from these researchers. AH noted that there was a need for greater awareness of Author’s Rights amongst all academic groups. It was agreed that this should be fed into the ongoing discussion around training provision for PGRs and ECRs. RM agreed to take this forward with Charlotte Williams.

c) UKRI Grant Update
CO reported that from 19th December 2018 new requests for payment of APCs for RCUK funded outputs were only being accepted for fully OA journals (not hybrid). To date this had run smoothly with no problems or complaints. The intention is to carry on with the current procedure until the next grant period (1st April 2019). It was uncertain whether we would be notified by UKRI of our grant allocation by the time of the next meeting (26th March 2019).
d) Wellcome Policy Update
CO gave an update on the Wellcome policy and the changes that have been announced in response to Plan S. These changes have the potential to affect current Wellcome grant holders. An email has been drafted and sent out (December 2018) by Research Services to all existing Wellcome grant holders in order to raise awareness of this matter and the Library web pages have been appropriately updated. The committee agreed that an announcement on the Wellcome changes should also be released through the office of the VP for Research and Innovation in order to ensure effective communication.

II Research Data Management

e) Sustainable RDM Service Review
GB gave an update on the RDM service provided by the Library (see paper). The committee noted the increase in use of the Library service. The Library is currently engaged in recruiting additional staff (at G6) to ensure adequate service for researchers for both enquiry and deposit. A proposal to replace the previous G8 will also be going forward in Q1 of this year.

The committee considered the poor response to the 2018 Survey of Research Practices and decided that re-running the survey would be unlikely to garner any further engagement from researchers. It was agreed that the Library should consider alternative means by which to gather the appropriate data for presentation and agreement at the next meeting. This might involve meetings with FRICs, interviews with DDRIs or simply redesigning the survey for completion by DDRIs on behalf of their departments.

g) White Rose Repositories Online update (GB)
GB gave an update on the work being undertaken to ensure that the University’s repository (WRRO – shared with York and Leeds) remains fit for purpose up to and beyond the next REF and in accordance with the requirements of external funders (e.g. Plan S)

3. AOB

a) Discussion on the drivers and rationale for change
AR asked what the main driver for change in TUOS was, whether we are engaging with Open Access because we have to/should or just want to. This distinction was welcomed by the committee and it was suggested that it would benefit from a longer discussion at a subsequent meeting. AR agreed to draft a short paper for an item on the next agenda. A further item for that agenda should be a discussion on what we wish to achieve in the next 12 months (as OAAG) and DORA.

4. Time and date of next meeting.
Tuesday 26th March 2019, 11am to 12:30pm
The Diamond, Meeting Room 1