Knowledge Exchange and its view on Open Access

Berlin 5 Open Access – From Practice to Impact
Padua, September 2007

Who is Knowledge Exchange (KE)?

Denmark's Electronic Research Library
(Denmark)

German Research Foundation (DFG)
(Germany)

Joint Information Systems Committee
(United Kingdom)

SURF Foundation
(Netherlands)

KE Mission and Approach

Mission

to develop closer working relationships between the partner organisations in order to increase the return on national investment in ICT infrastructure, services and projects in higher education and research.

Approach

By sharing knowledge, exploring differences, collaborating and promoting international dialogue, the Knowledge Exchange seeks to:

- **add genuine value** to the activities of the partners, which requires infrastructure and services developed in collaboration organisations by fostering closer working relationships between those organisations at all levels

- **support the European agenda** by promoting better access to information resources in higher education and research

- **create the optimal virtual environment** for Higher Education and Research Community who need to choose from a wide array of possible technologies and approaches

How does KE work?

Structural exchange …

- Partner Reps meet frequently to exchange developments within the four organisations

- Continuous process of spotting opportunities, brokering between demand and supply from within the organisations

- Procure overviews on topics of mutual interest: state-of-affair reports comparing level of development, ambitions and issues to be solved

- Analyse and synthesize findings and propose next steps to proceed

- Strategic management meet regularly and formulate shared vision

… to support improved decisions

- Organise expert workshops (invite specialists outside Knowledge Exchange) or conduct further research that will lead to recommendations for the partner organisations – the core business of Knowledge Exchange!

- Each partner individually decides to follow the recommendation or not, embark in joint or separate action

Activities in years one and two

- **Partner perspectives**
  - Strategic vision
  - Sustainability

- **Issues of national priority**
  - National licences
  - Institutional repositories
  - Open Access

- **Other Issues**
  - ePortfolios

- **Emerging Issues**
  - Trust Federations (Shibboleth)
  - Virtual Research Environments

- **Continuous brokerage**
  - on emerging projects
  - to identify experts
  - to provide prior knowledge
  - alerts to conferences & events
  - international partnerships

A strategic vision

Berlin, October 2006

To make a layer of scholarly and scientific content openly available on the Internet

- Building an integrated repository infrastructure

- Exploring new developments in the future of publishing

- Facilitating integrated management services within education and research institutions

- Supporting the European digital libraries agenda

Knowledge Exchange Vision

- **Building an integrated repository infrastructure**

  *A robust interoperable network of repositories will form the **backbone for science** and scholarship in the 21st century. Repositories can store and make available a diverse range of scientific and scholarly output, **facilitating the Open Access** agenda of making research and teaching materials freely available.*

  *In an **interoperable network**, repositories enable **powerful new forms of collaboration and communication** among researchers as well as between teachers and students.*

- **Exploring new developments in the future of publishing**
  *Enabling access to research means creating a **new environment for publishing** in which the diverse range of products of science and scholarship are openly available. This means **working with publishers to find new licensing models and platforms for the output of research**.*

  *It also means **working with researchers and funding agencies to support the Open Access agenda and the transition from text to data publication**.*

Institutional Repositories

Goals

- emphasis to ensure interoperability -- **Towards a common vision of repository infrastructure.**

- Focus on solving genuine problems not currently being tackled elsewhere -- **'not talks, but tasks'.**

- Involve **DRIVER** (EU).

Activities

- **Workshop of experts** (from eight European countries, January 2006, in Utrecht) focusing on usage statistics, research paper metadata, exchanging research information, author identification, OAI, and eTheses.

- **Outcome**: 6 reports including **recommendations** for future actions (available on the KE Website)

- Recommendations have been **reviewed by IR experts of partner organisations** and KE Group and will be discussed to **prioritise recommendations for funding** and advise partners on next steps.

Institutional Repositories

Currently under Considertation:

- **Promoting CRIS – OAR Interoperability**

  To increase the operational interoperability of metadata used in CRIS (Current Research Information Systems) and OAR (Open Access Repository) systems by definition of a metadata exchange format and a common vocabulary that can be used by both platforms.

- **Compound Objects in Electronic Theses and Dissertation**

  Address the practical interoperability challenges that arise from storing and sharing compound (that is, multi-file) electronic theses or dissertations (ETDs) via an institutional repository. These include the lack of:

  - a commonly agreed data model for compound ETDs

  - clarity over how best to ensure compound ETDs can be legally stored and shared

  - understanding of the ways in which preservation could best be managed for compound ETDs

  - guidance or identified good practice in authoring compound ETDs

National Licences

Goals

- **Create a framework for multi-national licensing**
- Exchange **best practices** and explore opportunities for improvements for the four partners

Activities

- **Workshop of Experts (**February 2007 in Copenhagen) focusing on: getting content, providing access, statistics and evaluation, access and administration technology.
- Outcome: 4 reports including **recommendations** for future actions (will be available in the coming weeks on the KE Website)
- A joint **international tender** to move the multi-national licensing agenda forward while minimising many of the risks involved.
    - **invitations to publishers (February 2007) led to 30 potential participants**
    - **closed second round of bidding resulted in 9 proposals currently being evaluated by the partner organizations**
- A **benchmarking project** on licensing methods (and prices)
- Establish **Working Groups** to take forward recommendations from Conference

Open Access

Goals:

- articulate **common voice** on policy and other initiatives

Activities

- **Joint petition on Open Access** together with SPARC Europe, signed by over 26,000 individuals and 1200 institutions; presented to Potocnik in Brussels, 15/16 February 2007

- **Meeting of national OA experts** (May 2007, Bristol) to discuss possible joint KE work in the future

- **Exchange best practice** approaches to Open Access

Petition for guaranteed public access to publicly-funded research results

Petition for guaranteed public access to publicly-funded research results

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Petition for guaranteed public access to publicly-funded research results

You may sign this petition to register your support for free and open access to European research and for the recommendations proposed in the EU's 'Study on the Economic and Technical Evolution of the Scientific Publication Markets of Europe'.

Dear Commissioner,

Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely and readily available to society.
Berlin Declaration, October 2003

In January 2006 the European Commission published the Study on the Economic and Technical Evolution of the Scientific Publication Markets of Europe. The Study resulted from a detailed analysis of the current scholarly journal publication market, together with extensive consultation with all the major stakeholders within the scholarly communication process (researchers, funders, publishers, librarians, research policymakers, etc.). The Study noted that 'dissemination and access to research results is a pillar in the development of the European Research Area' and it made a number of balanced and reasonable recommendations to improve the visibility and usefulness of European research outputs.

Now, a year after publication of the Study, we urge the EC to endorse the recommendations in full. In particular, we encourage you to adopt the first recommendation as a matter of urgency:

RECOMMENDATION A1. GUARANTEE PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLICLY-FUNDED RESEARCH RESULTS SHORTLY AFTER PUBLICATION

Research funding agencies have a central role in determining researchers' publishing practices. Following the lead of the NIH and other institutions, they should promote and support the archiving of publications in open repositories, after a (possibly domain-specific) time period to be discussed with publishers. This archiving could become a condition for funding.

The following actions could be taken at the European level: (i) Establish a European policy mandating that published articles arising from EC-funded research to be available after a given time period in open access archives, and (ii) Explore with Member States and with European research and academic associations whether and how such policies and open repositories could be implemented.

We would recommend that, in accordance with the recent recommendations from the European Research Advisory Board and the statement of the European Research Council on Open Access, any potential 'embargo' on free access should be set at no more than six months following publication.

Research must be widely disseminated and read to be useful. Adopting Recommendation A1 will immediately ensure the widest possible readership for EC-funded research, increasing the potential benefits resulting from the research, and promoting European scholarship both within Europe and beyond. Evidence is accumulating to indicate that research that is openly accessible is read more and used more and that open access to research findings would bring economic advantage across the European Research Area. The Commission has a unique opportunity to place Europe at the forefront of the dissemination of research outputs and we encourage you to adopt the Study recommendations for the benefit of European research.

Sign this Petition

10893 signatories since January 17th, 2007.

http://www.ee-petition.eu/index.php?p=index (1 of 2) [29.01.07 01:27:55]

Open Access

Current Topics & Approaches under consideration

- **License to Publish** – promote awareness of authors' rights

- Focus on the **economics of Open Access,** coordinate studies, share results

- **Make existing services better**, more sustainable, more international (e.g., Sherpa / Romeo database on information on publishers)

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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► **further information:**

http://www.knowledge-exchange.info

http://www.deff.dk
http://www.surf.nl
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