

JISC

**UK PROGRESS TOWARDS OA: WORK BY JISC,
RESEARCH COUNCILS AND WELLCOME TRUST**

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GOING GREEN BUT ALSO SEARCHING FOR GOLD

- Most UK funding agencies are committed to “green” OA
- JISC is devoting large resources to repository development
- Deposits by authors in repositories are increasing, especially when there is a mandate

However, while fully-committed to institutional or subject repositories, the search for a viable “gold” OA model continues, because....

- Academic organizations would prefer to have the refereed published version of a journal article in their repository rather than a preprint
- The cost to the community of journals of good quality is still too high
- Authors do not like a two-stage process of sending an article to a publisher and then depositing in a repository

WHAT IS JISC AND WHAT DOES JISC DO?

- The JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) is a sub-committee of the Higher Education Funding Council for England and the higher and further education funding councils in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland
- JISC's activities support education and research by promoting innovation in new technologies and by the central support of ICT services.

JISC provides:

- A world-class network - JANET
- Access to electronic resources
- New environments for learning, teaching and research
- Guidance on institutional change

JISC SUPPORT FOR INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES (1)

- JISC funding of repository development began in 2002 with the FAIR Programme - 14 projects to improve access to institutional resources
www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme_fair.aspx
- Much larger Repositories and Preservation Programme now underway (70 projects approved to date) with funding of £14 million available until 2009 “to develop the Information Environment supporting digital repositories and preservation, including cross-searching facilities across repositories; funding for institutions to develop a critical mass of content, preservation solutions and advice for the development of repositories”
www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/programme_rep_pres.aspx
- What does an author do if the university does not have a repository? The interim repository service “The Depot” provides a place where authors can deposit their work <http://depot.edina.ac.uk/>

In the UK each university is independent, and takes its own decisions on repository development. OpenDOAR currently lists 78 UK institutional repositories. JISC provides support through the Repositories Support Project www.rsp.ac.uk

JISC SUPPORT FOR INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES (2)

However, the main problem is not in establishing repositories but in filling them, so JISC pays a lot of attention to advocacy....

- JISC provides leaflets and on-line information (e.g. “Open Access Briefing Paper” at www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/pub_openaccess_v2.aspx) and funds training and advocacy events (e.g. SHERPA Roadshows www.sherpa.ac.uk/guidance/roadshows.html)
- Universities and authors concerned that “self-archiving” might break copyright, so JISC funds the Copyright Knowledge Bank (part of ongoing JISC/SURF Partnering on Copyright), developing the SHERPA/RoMEO database as a tool for authors in retaining rights and for universities in developing repositories www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/ls/disresearch/poc/pages/knowledgebank.html
- JISC/SURF Licence to Publish provides a model text authors can use instead of copyright assignment <http://copyrighttoolbox.surf.nl/copyrighttoolbox/authors/licence/>

- In 2003 the JISC Journals Working Group committed GB£384K to a three-year programme of support for UK authors wishing to publish on gold OA
- The project evaluation report showed that the funding had been successful in raising awareness of gold OA amongst authors and in encouraging publishers to offer gold OA

However, the particular model adopted in this first initiative was not sustainable, because.....

- The administrative cost of tenders and contracts with a large number of publishers would be too high and a subsidy model for JISC to pay the publication charges could not scale up to the total number of UK authors
- JISC funding – like the funding of library subscriptions – insulates the research community from the cost of research dissemination

- JISC is now working with other organizations on models which fund gold OA publication charges as part of the research process and budget
- One principle is that the cost of any new model should be no more than and preferably less than the cost of the present research dissemination model (except possibly for some transition funding)
- On the present level of OA publication charges this appears feasible (although experience of the model will be required before firm costs of gold OA can be established) and competition between publishers for authors aware of the cost of publication will prevent costs escalating unreasonably
- Ease of administration is important and currently the main barrier to an efficient gold OA funding system is the lack of procedures within university administrations

UK RESEARCH COUNCILS' SUPPORT FOR GREEN OA

- “Research Councils UK’ updated position paper on access to research outputs”
June 2006
www.rcuk.ac.uk/cmsweb/downloads/rcuk/documents/2006statement.pdf
- This collective statement followed by policies adopted by each Research Council separately
- Six of the seven Research Councils require grant-holders to deposit publications in either institutional or subject repository
- Policies vary in wording on timing of deposit, on advice to authors on copyright retention, on version to be deposited, and on separation of metadata deposit from text and/or data deposit

Although the details vary from RC to RC, and these details may affect the level of deposit achieved in practice, the overall effect of the RCs’ policies is likely to be significant, and at present the RCs have stronger policies in place than most UK universities. (N.B. The UK has a “dual support” system for research funding).

UK RESEARCH COUNCILS AND GOLD OA

- RCUK view on gold OA: “It is for authors’ institutions to decide whether they are prepared to use funds for any page charges or other publishing fees. Such funds could be part of an institution’s indirect costs under the full economic costing regime.”
- The use of the full economic costing model for OA publication charges has been clarified in a Briefing Paper from the Research Information Network <http://www.rin.ac.uk/files/Briefing%20Note%201%20-%20Payment%20of%20Publication%20Fees.pdf>
- This model has the potential to be sustainable because it embeds the cost of disseminating research outputs within the total cost of the research process (e.g. unlike library budgets, as the volume and funding of research increase so does the volume and funding of research dissemination)
- Good administrative arrangements are needed within universities to make the model effective and easy to use for authors
- To date only two universities have set up an identified fund to pay OA publication charges but this is seen to be the model for the future

- UKPMC set up and funded by all major UK biomedical funding agencies, led by Wellcome Trust <http://ukpmc.ac.uk/>
- Service supplied by consortium of British Library, University of Manchester and European Bioinformatics Institute
- Based on the US PubMed Central, first of a new network of PMC international repositories, using US system as basis but UK-specific changes to be made (e.g. funder attribution)
- Content either through bulk deposit of content by publishers or through individual submission of final peer-reviewed version of article
- Wellcome Trust willing to pay publishers an OA fee in order to achieve a high level of deposit and avoid embargo period

UKPMC has very strong academic support and has avoided the political problems face by NIH in the US.

- JISC's Repositories Roadmap is looking towards a "high percentage of newly published scholarly outputs.... available on terms of open access" by 2010
- There is still much to be achieved, but the groundwork for the realisation of that vision is well underway
- One encouraging feature is that most UK academic organisations are now willing to support OA
- The challenge is to encourage and enable individual researchers to change their behaviour in research dissemination

(You can find further information about all of JISC's work through the main JISC web-site www.jisc.ac.uk .)

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!