JISC OA pathfinder projects: enabling Open Access good practice
Streamlining Open Access at Heriot-Watt

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My role

• Research Support Librarian since 2012
• Part of Academic and Learner Services division of Information Services (Library, IT and Audio Visual)
• Previously a Subject Librarian
• 2012 new research support role created – mainly to support the development of the Pure current research information system
• 4 Subject Librarians support teaching, learning and research
Responsibilities

2012
- Support for newly purchased Pure current research information system (publications)
- Advocacy/training relating to Pure
- “Bibliometrics”

...2014
- Support for Open Access publishing
- Support for Open Journal Systems OA journal
- Involved in Research Data Management service development

Research support team in IS – 1.8FTE
Other parts of the IS team

- Subject Librarians – previously supported all staff, post-graduate (research and taught) and under-graduate students on their School(s). - 4 staff
- Some concern that a Research Support Librarian would undermine the relationship with research students and staff
- In fact, roles can be clearly delineated. Having a Research Support Librarian can give a contact point – referred on to SL if appropriate.
Heriot-Watt Institutional Repositories


- Current research information system – Pure. Managed by RES (Research Office) – used to manage the 2014 REF return.
Pure workflow

Academic can devolve this to admin staff

Master data managed by Library and RES

Ethos is that the individual academic is responsible for their own research outputs and data. View is not shared by all!

31,833 research outputs / 1,235 with documents
1,549 activities
1 dataset
Supporting academics – Open Access

• Information Services (Library) – agreed role
  – Advisory and central coordination role
  – Investigate publisher agreements and bulk deals on behalf of the University
  – Ensure Open Access publications are added to Pure
  – Write Policies and Procedures
  – Advocacy
  – Support Research Admin staff in Schools
  – Reporting
Role of Schools / Research Office

Schools
• First point of contact for researcher
• Manage School’s devolved RCUK Gold APC fund
• Advocacy in Schools

Research and Enterprise Services
• Report to RCUK on behalf of University
Advantages
• Close links to academics via School staff
• Buy-in from Directors of Research
• Share the load

Disadvantages
• More difficult for Library to provide support as not doing the coal-face work – paying APCs, wrestling with invoices
• Relative responsibilities have to be negotiated
• Not all Schools have research admin staff
Proposed OA APC workflow: administration and management of the RCUK Open Access Publication Fund devolved to individual Schools (for authors and administrators) – proposed interim arrangement

1. Author Ready to Publish
   - Choose journal

2. Check SHERPA FACT for journal compliance with RCUK policy
   - Is compliant
     - Green self-archiving option available?
       - Yes
         - Publish as normal in your journal
         - Let you research admin know the details of the paper
         - Research Administrator enters details in spreadsheet
         - Go ahead given to author and he/she publishes – invoice paid by the School using OA budget code
         - Author submits a copy of the paper to Pure, respecting embargo periods
       - No
         - Funds available
           - Research admin checks with Library for memberships, if Gold is the best option/other options
           - Author can choose a different journal, contact DoR for permission to publish in that journal. Can still be RCUK compliant if no funds to pay fee
           - Funds not available
             - Author can choose a different journal, contact DoR for permission to publish in that journal. Can still be RCUK compliant if no funds to pay fee

3. Not compliant
   - Look elsewhere to publish or check with DoR if can publish in non-compliant journal
Open Access for the next REF

Post-2014 REF Open Access Policy

• Policy applies to journal articles and conference proceedings with an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN)
• To be eligible for REF, final peer-reviewed manuscripts must have been deposited in an institutional or subject repository on acceptance for publication
• HEFCE understands that not all REF outputs may be able to meet requirements and so limited exceptions will be permitted
How do we implement this policy?

• **Heriot-Watt Research Publications Policy**
  Mandates deposit of Author Accepted Manuscript of articles and conference proceedings in Pure as soon as possible after acceptance

• Raise awareness of policy throughout university and develop methods to measure compliance with policy - with Schools

• Issues - publisher’s policies differ, differences in terminology between publishers e.g. author final version, post-print, accepted manuscript

• Schools are main point of contact - coordinating effort. Website / intranet
Who do I work with?

- Research and Knowledge Exchange Services
  - Heritage and Governance
  - Planning Directorate
  - Centre for Academic Leadership & Development

- Research Administrators / Directors of Research in Schools / Research and Knowledge Exchange Board

- Research Support (IS)

- Pure / other user groups eg UKCoRR
JISC Open Access Good Practice Project

• Reduce the burden on HEIs in implementing funders’ requirements through enabling universities, working with others within and beyond the sector, to develop improvements in:
  – IT tools, standards and services
  – Related workflows and organisational arrangements for OA implementation

• [http://openaccess.jiscinvolve.org/wp/](http://openaccess.jiscinvolve.org/wp/)

• Runs until 2016
LOCH
Lessons in Open Access Compliance for Higher Education

• LOCH project – opportunity to partner with more “experienced” universities – Edinburgh and St Andrews
• Be part of an initiative to address identified key issues and to disseminate good practice across the institution:
  – Clear message to staff for the next REF – HEFCE Open Access Policy – via web templates and printed materials
  – Streamlining current processes
  – Preparing Pure for OA in REF
• Differences in Open Access Support Structure - lessons shared
Progress so far:

- Mini Pathfinder meeting with three Schools looking at the implications of the HEFCE policy and how we can streamline processes
- Write this up with resource implications for Schools / Professional Services
- New workflow options
- Identify dissemination routes – posters!
- interesting to see what others do - aways looking for new approaches and tools.
- Methodology can help collaboration - something to hang work on

- Worries - project overload, making simple issues too complex
Cost of Open Access

- Achieving compliance with Research Council UK’s open access Policy cost at least £9.2m in 2013/14 – with a further £11m or more spent on article processing charges (APCs).

- The time spent on increasing open access to research within UK research organisations in 2013/14 is equivalent to more than 110 full-time equivalent staff members.

- The burden of compliance falls disproportionally on smaller institutions, who receive minimal grant funding.

- The cost of meeting the deposit requirements for the UK’s post-2014 Research Excellence Framework is estimated at £4-5m.

- Making an article open access through payment of an APC (the ‘gold’ route) takes 2 hours or more, at a cost of £81.

- Making an article open access through self-archiving in an institutional repository (the ‘green’ route) takes just over 45 minutes, at a cost of £33.


JISC Open Access Good Practice Project

- Improvements in knowledge-sharing

  - Good practice blog
    - e.g. CIAO – Collaborative Institutional Assessment of Open access is a benchmarking tool for assessing institutional readiness for Open Access (OA) compliance (Oxford Brookes)

- Joint development of systems (in collaboration with third party vendors)

  - eg RIOXX - basic metadata profile that enables repositories to meet many of the information requirements of RCUK and the REF

- Greater sharing of policies and procedures

  - standard set of terms and expressions

- Automation of compliance reporting processes

  - via JISC Monitor
Power Hours

• Offer sessions on:
  • Open Access Publishing, What is my H-index?, Social media
  • Power Bytes - SciFinder
  • Researcher training is coordinated by Academic and Learner Development
    • how to work with them - eg literature searching - established
    • Research Data Management - possible options
  • Invited session in Schools on OA
• Room for coordination of researcher support
What I learned in supporting academics...fast

• Academics don’t like being “presented” to
• They prefer working things out for themselves but if they can’t, they will email or phone
• They are not keen on context, explanations – “What do I need to do now?”
• If their Director of Research asks them to do something, they will do it
• They aren’t all the same
• They can really help - feedback