



Bangor University Publications Policy

Introduction

This paper proposes the adoption of a Bangor University Publications Policy requiring deposit of copies of all published research outputs in the Institutional Repository and the recording of details of all outputs in the University's Publications database.

The principle drivers for this are:

- To ensure that researchers meet funders' requirements to make research outputs available freely through an open access route
- To move towards meeting the requirements set out in the report of the Finch Committee
- To help raise the profile of the results of research in the University since items deposited in repositories are more visible through internet searching
- To speed up the dissemination of outputs
- To benefit from the open access citation advantage – items in repositories report an increase in citations
- HEFCE has proposed that only articles that are available through open access will be eligible for submission in REF2020. The qualifying period for the next REF would be from 2014, hence the importance of having an institutional policy in place as soon as possible.

Policy Outline

The policy requires that all researchers should:

- Ensure that the bibliographic details of all research publications they produce are recorded in the University's Publications database
- Ensure that full text copies of all research outputs are deposited, copyright permissions allowing, into the University's Institutional Repository. These will include final accepted peer reviewed versions of journal articles and conference papers.
- Ensure that they are meeting the requirements of their external funders

Systems to support Policy

- Bangor University has a publications database and an institutional repository to support this policy.
- Bangor University has joined the JISC APC Pilot project which will manage gold open access article processing charges via an online administration platform. <http://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Jisc-APC-project/>
- It is proposed that a central publications fund be set up to support all publication costs across the University. Until this fund is set up, we currently have the RCUK block grant; non-RCUK funded outputs will not be covered and APCs in this case will be charged to the Schools. When the RCUK block grant is spent, other available funds will have to be sought via the Schools to support Gold OA, or RCUK-funded outputs will need to be deposited into the Institutional repository for the green OA route to comply with the RCUK policy.

- The University Library and Archives Service will provide advice and assistance to help researchers with the use of the repository. We are maintaining a database of all publishers open access agreements and we have also developed specific open access web pages which will be kept up to date. The SHERPA Fact website allows researchers to check if the journals in which they wish to publish their results comply with their funder's requirements for open access to research: <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/fact/>. We can also offer copyright advice and will provide advice and assistance to ensure compliance with publishers' policies in relation to publishers copyright and embargo periods. The SHERPA Romeo website provides details of the policies of different publishers with regard to copyright permissions: www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php

Background to Open Access

Open Access has become an alternative model for academic publishing. Making research more readily available offers numerous benefits to both the institution and individual researcher, amongst them increased readership, reduced duplication, more follow-on research and an increase in citations. Other benefits include the ability to capture a clearer record of an institution's research activity, the potential for a more efficient process for REF submission, and assisting collaboration and knowledge sharing between global research partners. Like traditional publishing, open access remains firmly rooted in the peer review system. While the overarching principle of OA is that information is free to the end user there are two main approaches to OA publishing:

- **Green open access**
 - The author self-archives a copy of their research in a repository, by inputting the metadata (author/title/journal etc.) and attaching the full text document. It is often the version accepted for publication but prior to any publisher formatting. Subject to any embargoes, the research is then freely available via the web, to anyone, regardless of location or affiliation
- **Gold open access**
 - The author pays an article processing charge (APC) to publish their research in an open access journal or in a journal that allows open access articles (a hybrid OA journal). No fee or subscription is required from the end user accessing the research.

Funder Requirements

Over the past decade or so, most research funders have begun to introduce policies requiring published outputs to be made available through an appropriate open access publications route. The precise requirements of each funder vary but most accept deposit in an institutional repository as partial or complete compliance.

RCUK's policy states that from 1st April 2013 any peer reviewed research papers resulting from their funding must be published in journals that allow immediate and unrestricted access to the publishers' final version of the paper via the journal's website and also allow immediate deposit in other repositories without restriction on re-use. This would be using a CC-BY licence. Or, where the above option is not available from the publisher the journal must permit the deposit of a version that includes all changes resulting from peer review, but not necessarily with publisher formatting, in other repositories without restrictions on non-commercial re-use and within a defined period. Research Councils will accept a delay of no more than six months between on-line publication and a research paper becoming Open Access, except in the case of research papers arising from research funded by the AHRC and the ESRC where the maximum embargo period is 12 months. RCUK has

provided transition funding for institutions to establish systems to enable them to comply and from 1st April 2013 a block grant will be made available which will fund 45% of the outputs in the first year with the percentage rising in subsequent years.

<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/media/news/2013news/Pages/130408.aspx>

The Wellcome Trust wrote to Vice Chancellors in June reminding institutions of the requirement on grant holders to deposit copies of their outputs in UK PubMed Central or a similar repository and that a failure to do so would have a negative impact on the success of future bids for grants. Penalties would be incurred by non-compliant institutions, such as final grant payments being withheld or publications not being eligible to support applications for further funding.

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/News/Media-office/Press-releases/2012/WTVM055745.htm>

The European Commission announced in July 2012 that all research funded through the European Union's Horizon 2020 programme from 2014 must be made open access, via either Green or Gold routes. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-12-790_en.htm?locale=en

Other funders such as government departments are preparing policy statements. The SHERPA Juliet website provides summaries of funding agencies' grant conditions on self-archiving of research publications and data. <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/>