



SCIENCE EUROPE

Shaping the future of research



Discussion of Research Gaps OAP

A view from Research Funding and Performing Organisations

Dr Eva Hoogland
Science Europe

Nottingham, 3 February 2014

Science Europe - Introduction

- ▶ 52 member organisations from 27 countries
- ▶ Research funding and research performing organisations
- ▶ Together represent approx. €30 billion per annum

▶ Austria	FWF	Latvia	LZP
▶ Belgium	FWO, F.R.S.-FNRS	Lithuania	LMT
▶ Bulgaria	BAS		
▶ Czech Republic	HRZZ		FNR
▶ Denmark	DSF, DFF, DG	Netherlands	NWO
▶ Estonia	ETF	Norway	RCN
▶ Finland	AKA		
▶ Spain	CSIC	Poland	NCN
▶ France	ANR, CNRS, CEA, IFREMER, INRA, INSERM, IRD	Portugal	FCT
▶ Germany	DFG, HGF, MPG, WGL	Slovakia	APVV, SAV
▶ Hungary	EPSRC, MTA, OTKA	Slovenia	ARSS
▶ Iceland	Rannís	Sweden	FAS, FORMAS, VR
▶ Ireland	HRB, IRC, SFI	Switzerland	SNSF
▶ Italy	CNR, INFN	United Kingdom	AHRC, BBSRC,
			ESRC, MRC, NERC, STFC

Science Europe - Introduction

- ▶ Founded: October 2011
- ▶ Location: Brussels
- ▶ Currently in start-up phase (number of staff: 16).
- ▶ Builds on
 - ▶ European Heads of Research Councils (EuroHORCS)
 - ▶ Policy and foresight functions of the European Science Foundation (ESF)
- ▶ Policy organisation – no funding schemes



Role of Science Europe

- ▶ To promote the collective interests of members
- ▶ To support collaboration amongst member organisations
- ▶ To foster European research and strengthen the European Research Area (ERA)
- ▶ To engage strategically with the European Commission (as collaborator and constructive critic)
- ▶ To be informed by direct representation of all scientific communities in reflections on policies, priorities and strategies
- ▶ To provide a strong voice for science in Europe



Science Europe – Organisational structure

Science Europe

Policy Affairs

Member organisations collaborate, on e.g.:

- Cross-border collaboration
- Research Careers
- Research Infrastructures
- **OA to Publications**
- OA to Research Data
- & more

Research Affairs

6 Scientific Committees (independent scientists):

- **Humanities**;
- Social Sciences
- Life, Environmental & Geo Sciences
- Medical Sciences
- Physical, Chemical & Mathematical Sciences
- Engineering Sciences

Science Europe Position Statement on Open Access

- ▶ Science Europe members have agreed on a common set of ‘Principles’ that should guide the transition to Open Access to research publications, including:
 - Move from reader-pays to other business models
 - Support both Gold and Green OA
 - Quality of publications needs to be ensured
 - Recognise repositories as key research infrastructures
 - Publication costs need to be transparent

www.scienceeurope/downloads



Research Gaps – a Science Europe perspective

► Holistic view needed.

'One of the biggest conundrums surrounding the OAP debate, which often seems not to be highlighted sufficiently by most literature, is the logical connection between scholarly authors' incentive to creation, academic reputation and prestige, scientific journals' impact factor, and the academic road to tenure and promotion. The analysis of the interaction between these variables seems a very relevant line of research that may prove critical for strengthening or weakening any arguments discussing the sustainability and broader adoption of OAP models.' (p. 12-13)



Research Gaps – a Science Europe perspective

- ▶ **Immediate needs: the Economics of OAP and Business models (Gap III)**
 - ▶ Review of the value of the APC business model. (III.3.3.1)
 - ▶ Alternative models? (III.3.3.1)
 - ▶ Regulatory mechanisms for APCs “*to avoid a recursive recurrence of rising costs from the ‘serial crisis’ to the ‘APCs crisis’*” (p. 14) (III.3.3.2)
 - ▶ **Key in the long-term: OA Mandate Policies - Compliance and Enforcing Mechanisms**



Gap IV.1. Compliance and Enforcing Mechanisms

- ▶ SE members have little experiences in going beyond encouragement.
- ▶ *“The advantages of OA mandate policies will be better understood only when a comprehensive picture of their history and current practice is provided in systematic studies; hence those systematic studies would be a welcome addition to the literature.” (p. 15)*
- ▶ *“Literature should carefully examine procedures which assure compliance with OA mandates and produce a set of proposals for defining which enforcing mechanisms – if at all and to which extent – should be put in place to force incompliant academic researchers to meet the OA mandates.” (p. 15)*
- ▶ *“This discussion should be inserted into the broader re-engineering of academic procedures and norms to evaluate academic performances and manage academic careers.” (p. 15)*

Humanities Opinion Paper on Open Access

- ▶ Open Access is not as well embedded in the Humanities as it is in other disciplines. This is partly due to distinct scientific practices, like:
 - the crucial role of the book
 - publications in languages other than English
 - copyright costs for reproductions of visual images
- ▶ The paper '**OA Opportunities for the Humanities**', encourages colleagues in the Humanities to engage with OA whilst urging Science Europe members to tackle the final, remaining obstacles.



Research Gaps – perspective SC Humanities

- ▶ **OA book publishing as next challenge and frontier to OAP.**
 - ▶ Need to review business models for academic books. (III.3.4.)
 - ▶ Review differences between academic output - for some types of publications, the economic incentive may be important for academic authors. (II.1)
 - ▶ Rationale for OA book publishing and Mandate policies (IV.3)
'Dispossessing an unwilling author, although academic, from the highest fruits of their 'genius' – such as those embedded in a book, which tends to become a comprehensive representation of the whole authorial persona, which can hardly be confined to the results of work carried out in fulfilment of a research grant – may potentially turn upside down 300 years of Lockean theory of copyright. Any such policy decision must be supported by a very careful investigation and should have strong theoretical justifications.' p. 16



Further Information

Dr Eva Hoogland
Senior Scientific Officer
Science Europe

eva.hoogland@scienceeurope.org

www.scienceeurope.org