Preparing when you can’t plan

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The Ohio State University Libraries
10.11.13
Expanding Public Access to the Results of Federally Funded Research

Posted by Michael Stiebans on February 22, 2013 at 12:04 PM EDT

The Obama Administration is committed to the proposition that citizens deserve easy access to the results of scientific research their tax dollars have paid for. That’s why, in a policy memorandum released today, OSTP Director John Holdren has directed Federal agencies with more than $100M in R&D expenditures to develop plans to make the published results of federally funded research freely available to the public within one year of publication and requiring researchers to better account for and manage the digital data resulting from federally funded scientific research. OSTP has been looking into this issue for some time, collecting broad public input on multiple occasions and convening an interagency working group to develop a policy. The final policy reflects substantial inputs from scientists and scientific organizations, publishers, members of Congress, and other members of the public—over 65 thousand of whom recently signed a We the People petition asking for expanded public access to the results of taxpayer-funded research.

To see the new policy memorandum, please visit: http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/post_public_access_memo_2013.pdf

To see Dr. Holdren’s response to the We the People petition, please visit: https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/response/increasing-public-access-results-scientific-research

See: http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/02/22/expanding-public-access-results-federally-funded-research
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Situational Assessment

- Leadership
- Current Services
- Campus stakeholders
- External stakeholders

Charge:

• Scan the environment broadly
• Scan the environment on campus and within the Libraries
• Communicate to key stakeholders within the Libraries
• Make recommendations to the Libraries’ Executive Committee for strategic action or investments.
• Develop action agendas for the Libraries – eventually/sequentially

Full charge available at: http://library.osu.edu/staff/administration-reports/PublicAccessTF.pdf
Advisory Task Force

Members:

- AD for Collections, Technical Services & Scholarly Communication
- AD for Information Technology
- Head, Digital Content Services
- Digital Repository Librarian
- Library Publishing Librarian
- Head, Copyright Resources Center
- Head, Research Services
- Head, Digital Initiatives
- 2 Research & Education Librarians from the sciences
- 1 Librarian from Health Sciences Library
Focus First: Publications
ATF SWOT ANALYSIS: Strengths

• Strong IR (infrastructure, staff, content)
• Existing services – copyright, engaged librarians, faculty relations, research services
• Knowledgeable staff – Metadata and OA Policies
• Practice with Library Faculty OA Resolution
• Everyone dealing with the new requirements – we can use, point to other’s work
• Existing relationships – Consortia, NIH, publisher (purchasing), campus Office of Research – Deans, OCIO, KB partners, Responsible Research Office
Cohort/cluster hire info at: http://library.osu.edu/about/jobs/faculty-cohort/

Research Commons Task Force report at: http://go.osu.edu/ResearchCommonsReport
ATF SWOT ANALYSIS: Weaknesses

• Readiness gaps:
  • Gaps in OA/PA outreach
  • We don’t have history supporting author fees
  • Our own staff
  • Need to build campus administrative support
  • Need to identify local champions

• Scale – local scale and scale of funding landscape
  • We don’t know who to reach – who are the researchers?
  • Architectures may need development to allow compliance

• Some publisher relationships are through OhioLINK – inflexible purchasing arrangements result
ATF SWOT ANALYSIS: Opportunities

- Create new resources to support deposit/develop IR
- New chance to promote existing services: repository, copyright, research services
- Connect with those who are embracing OA/PA
- New Vice Provost title in-house – chance to leverage and/or define
- Build relationships with faculty
- Build relationships with other units: IRB/sponsored programs, OCIO, Office of Research, Colleges and Departments, OSUL-HSL
- New/enhanced consortia relationships
ATF SWOT ANALYSIS: Threats

- Lost funding through non-compliance
- Resource shortages
- Institutional fragmentation/decentralization – thousand flowers, people go their own way
- Policies/requirements could get very complex – too many policies/repositories
- Others assume the role we want: publishers, individual departments, other U’s, subject repositories, Agencies, scholarly societies.
- Getting too far ahead of the “known”
What are we accomplishing?
Situational Assessment
What’s next?