Transition to Open Access: international coordination

International Meeting on Open Access
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Early days - the 3 Bs

- Initial statements in support of Open Access have gathered international support
  - Budapest Open Access Initiative (2002)
  - Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities (2003)
- Initiatives mainly taken forward by not-for-profit organisations, new OA publishers, and a few advocates from the researchers, universities and libraries communities
Globalisation of research

• The practical implementation of the transition to OA has reflected research funding structures – and mainly taken place at national and regional level
  - Some exceptions, such as PubMed Central
• However, one-quarter of the world’s science and engineering publications now featuring authors from more than one country \(^1\)
• The need for research to be coordinated internationally, for example to tackle Grand Challenges, is now acknowledged
Global Collaboration is needed

“Open Access is such an important issue. Only in a global collaboration could we come to really reliable, practical, sustainable, solutions”.¹

Matthias Kleiner
DFG-President 2012

“We therefore urge research organisations to work together internationally and intensively to formulate a viable, coordinated and transparent strategy to enable a transition to a system where OA publishing is the norm.“

Mission Statement at the Berlin 11 Open Access Conference (2013)
Science Europe

• Brings together Research Funding and Research Performing organisations from across Europe

• Roadmap Key Priorities include:
  – Open Access to Research Publications
  – Access to Research Data

(SE Roadmap Dec 2013)

• Working Group on Open Access
  - Principles for the Transition to Open Access to Research Publications (April 2013)
  - New two-year work plan in development
• Member Organisations share the view that:
  − Publication and dissemination of results are an integral part of the research process
  − Gold and green approaches may be supported
  − Embargos should be 6 or 12 (HSS) months
  − Stress that the hybrid model, as currently defined, is not a viable pathway to Open Access. Any model for transition to Open Access supported by Science Europe Member Organisations must prevent ‘double dipping’ and increase cost transparency
• Member Organisations share the view that:
  - Expect publishers to apply institutional-, regional-, or country-based reductions in journal subscriptions, in line with increases in author- or institution-pays contributions
  - Recognise that some redirection and reorganisation of current budgets will be necessary
• Some potential concerns:
  − If an entire nation’s articles were free, other nations may demand proportionate decreases in subscription charges
  − Research-intensive countries pay much less in subscription charges than they would pay in APCs for all the articles they produce
  − Move towards APCs might undermine researchers who have no institutional affiliation and hence no access to a fund to support publication
Global Research Council

• First established in 2012 to share research best practice and encourage common principles
• Largest-ever gathering of research agencies
• 2nd Annual Meeting in Berlin May 2013
  - Action Plan towards Open Access to Publication was agreed
• 3rd Annual Meeting in Beijing May 2014
  - OA on the agenda again. Members currently surveyed on the current approach to OA implementation, identify good practice and establish global landscape
Conclusion

• The Open Access debate has been international since the early days
• There are growing reasons why we need international co-operation
• Some organisations are providing a lead
• But it will require political will to deliver a joined-up international approach
• Budapest Open Access Initiative & 10 years on
• Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities and follow up conferences and 2013 Mission Statement
• Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing
• PMC International
• ArXiv
• Science Europe Roadmap
• Science Europe Position Statement on OA
• Global Research Council Action Plan towards OA to Publications
• WHO OA Policy 2014
• World Bank OA policy 2012
• UNESCO OA policy
• ALLEA 2013