Policies that underpin Scholarly Publishing - The implications of NRF’s Open Access Statement
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NRF OA Statement reflection:

• Global Research Council
  – Funding agencies – important role in initiating & shaping OA transition
  
  – Success of Gold/Green Route depends on the understanding/readiness of the research community
Statement

The NRF recognises the importance of Open Access to science and research while at the same time appreciating that Open Access will continue to evolve in response to societal needs, achieving overarching policy harmonisation and new innovative publishing business models.

From 01 March 2015, authors of research papers generated from research either fully or partially funded by NRF, when submitting and publishing in academic journals, should deposit their final peer-reviewed manuscripts that have been accepted by the journals, to the administering Institution Repository with an embargo period of no more than 12 months. Earlier Open Access may be provided should this be allowed by the publisher. If the paper is published in an Open Access journal or the publisher allows the deposit of the published version in PDF format, such version should be deposited into the administering Institutional Repository and Open Access should be provided as soon as possible.

In addition, the data supporting the publication should be deposited in an accredited Open Access repository, with the provision of a Digital Object Identifier for future citation and referencing.

Source:  http://ir.nrf.ac.za/handle/10907/103
Principles of a transition???

• How the transition to OA can be initiated?

• How the evolving OA environment can be sustained after the transition phase?
Transition to OA requires actions from stakeholders:

NRF Recognised Institutions
Universities
Research Libraries
Scholarly Associations
Publishing Houses
What a Funding Agency is expected to do!

• By recommending/requiring OA to publicly funded research results
  – Ensure investment has optimal impact on science and society
  – Requires thorough monitoring of funded publications and related costs
  – Ensure research data whether already in existence/yet to be produced is accessible

  • research data “factual records used as primary sources for scientific research...commonly accepted in scientific community necessary to validate research findings. A research data set constitutes a systematic, partial representation of the subject being investigated”
Elements of transition to OA

• Funders expected to pickup suggestions (action plans) which it can implement in accordance with its general working principles
What Funding Agencies can do!

- Develop open access statement/policies
- Address copyright
- Explain reasons to have research results made openly available.
- Important guidance for all grantees.
- Funding guidelines modified in a manner that prevents researchers to transfer copyright exclusively to a publisher.
- Provide legal basis for deposit of research articles in an OA repository.

National Research Foundation

Republic of South Africa

Department of Science and Technology
What Funding Agencies can do!

• Cover publication fees

• Contribute to central publication funds

• Within a grant proposal, allow grantees to apply for an earmarked budget to cover publication fees etc.

• Publication fees not given to researchers directly but to university as contribution to a central OA publication fund.
What Funding Agencies can do!

• Reimburse publication costs after grant expiry

• Be clear on numbers and statistics

• Decision on whether to apply for reimbursement of OA publications charges after grant period is expired?

• A clear picture on how much budget is spent for OA publication fees.
What Funding Agencies can do!

- Define re-use rights
- Support open access journals run by academia
- agree on specific criteria that need to be fulfilled for the reimbursement of article fees! – re-use of OA articles as defined by CC-BY licenses.
- ONLY then researchers' will be able to exploit full potential of digital publications, including text and data mining.
- Consider options to support OA journals sustained by institutional/organisational funding
What Funding Agencies can do!

• Share costs with fellow agencies

• Much research is carried out in international teams whose work is funded by a variety of agencies.
Research performers/Univ.
Management & Libraries involvement

• Define open access policies
• Nominate contact persons for OA
• Operate OA repositories
• Enable universities to calculate
• Enable Univ. to build publication budgets
• Correlate subscription licenses with OA
Researchers, Scholarly Associations, Students involvement

• Raise awareness and support knowledge and acceptance of OA

• Make authors think about costs and quality

• Define payment schemes for authors unable to pay

• Educate students on scholarly publishing
Open Access has arrived and open science is coming!

Expanding Public Access to the Results of Federally Funded Research

Argentina, Mexico and Peru have open access laws

Scientific data: open access to research results will boost Europe's innovation capacity

We recognise that effective global scientific research and public understanding of science and commercial innovation by enterprises is supported by free and rapid public access to published, publicly funded research. The generation, sharing and exploitation of scientific knowledge are integral to the creation of wealth and the enhancement of our quality of life. We recognise that G8 nations have an important opportunity and responsibility to promote policies that increase access to the results of publicly funded research results to spur scientific discovery, enable better international collaboration and coordination of research, enhance the engagement of society and help support economic prosperity.

i. We endorse the principle that increasing access to the peer-reviewed, published results of publicly funded published research will accelerate research, drive innovation, and benefit the economy.

ii. We recognise the importance of peer review and the valuable role played by publishers, including Learned Societies. Increasing free access to peer-reviewed, published research results will require sustainable solutions.
Publisher involvement

- Be clear on conditions of self-archiving - Sherpa/RoMEO
- Define expected services
- Facilitate dealing with the practicalities of billing for OA
- Enable the transition
- Initiate earmarked funding programmes – i.e. existing journal subscriptions are switched into OA journals
- Revisit the hybrid model
There are also very big inequalities in scientific publishing!

Gold Open Access APCs threaten to further marginalize developing countries

From: The World of Scientific Output According to Thomson’s ISI Science Citation Index (2007)
Publisher involvement

• Engage publishing community to achieve sustainable models of open access publishing
Government /Industry/Public involvement

• Consider national copyright regulations

• OA polices that support commercial re-use of research results

• Contribution to dissemination costs

• Conversations with Public regarding benefits of OA to society as a whole!
What NRF OA Statement is about!

• Not intended to place restrictions on type of publications to place on IR

• Will not routinely check compliance with Cis – institution responsible (DA’s)

• Material published in respect of NRF funded research activity be included in IR, non-inclusion provided in Final Grant Report by Cis.
Content types in Global repositories
What NRF OA Statement is about!

• Not intended to apply to research data gathered for the purpose of commercialisation of research outcomes, or
• To research data that are the property of a private sector entity
• Compatibility of technical & procedural standards – relevant international data & documentation standards (interdisciplinary access to & use of research data).
Thank you