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Open Research: From Thought to Deed

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Open Research: From Thought to Deed

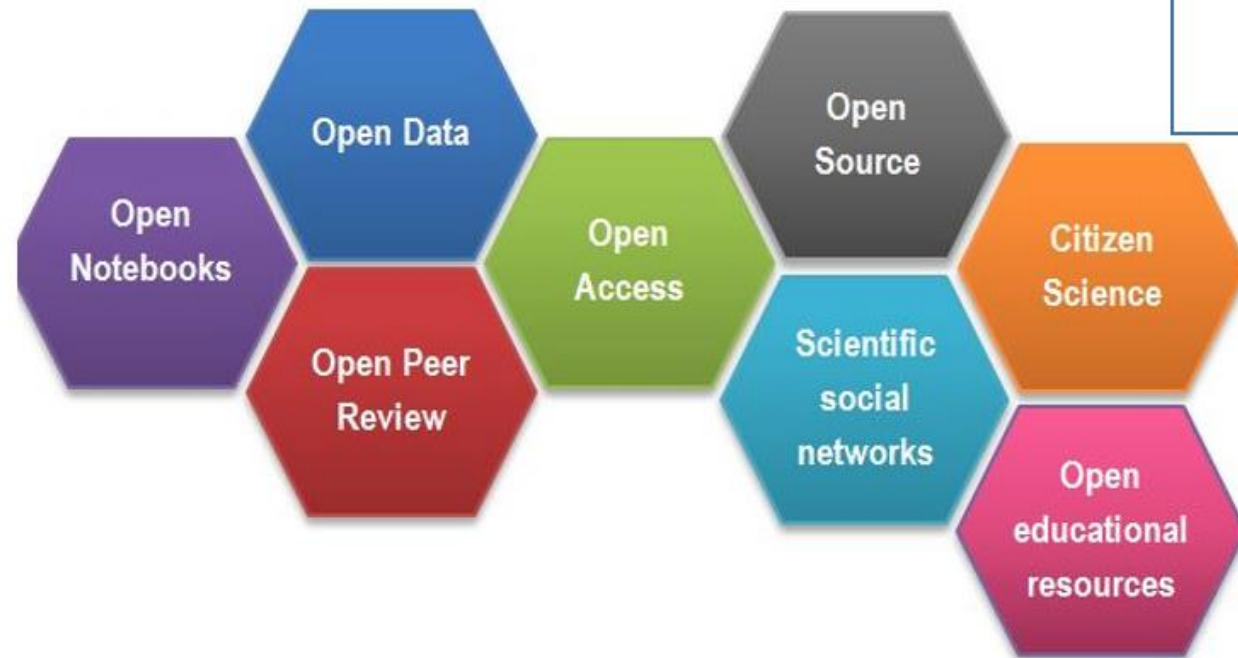
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Open Scholarship is the practice of research, education and knowledge exchange in such a way that others can **collaborate** and **contribute**, where **research publications, data, lab notes and other scholarly processes** and works are properly and ethically managed and evaluated and, unless restricted for justifiable reasons, are **freely available** to all levels of society under terms that enable **reuse, redistribution and reproduction of the work and its underlying data and methods**.

Adapted from [Foster's Open Science definition](#)

Qualitative Evaluation

Dora
Leiden
Transparency
Openness
Feedback



Open Access to
Publications

Open Access to
Data

Open scholarly
communication

What's in it for Research?

- Open platforms, tools and services
- Sharing and collaboration
- Swift communication of results
- Transparency/public engagement
- Open publications
- Open data



What's in it for the Researcher?

Favours
groups

Brings in
more people
to get credit

Hard on
early career
researchers

Still being
judged on
citations

Vocal
publisher
lobby

Changes
evaluation
structure

Best laid plans!

- Green route most logical
 - What has happened is APCs!
 - Publishers getting paid twice
- Pressure Plan S
 - Has it impacted really?
- Transformative agreements
 - Libraries still paying subs
- Gold journals by traditional publishers, pressure to pay expensive APCs
- More % of research funding going on publication



Cultural Change

- **What is the resistance of culture to change?**

In general, cultural stereotypes present great resistance to change and to their own redefinition. Culture, often appears fixed to the observer at any one point in time because cultural mutations occur incrementally. Cultural change is **a long-term process**.

Funders driving change

- Busy researchers need to change the way they think
- Busy researchers need to change the way they do things
- Busy researchers need to participate in own evaluation.

In the meantime

- Traditional metrics alive and well
 - Suits Sciences but not Engineering, Computing, Arts & Humanities
- Article Processing Charges and how to pay for them!
- Questions
 - Will established academics lead?
 - What is the reputational risk for early career researchers?
 - Will national/institutional metrics change?
 - Who will provide rewards and recognitions?

Cultural change: Step 1

Needs to happen at **national** level

- Sort of is, sort of is not

Evaluation needs to change

- Quantitative assessment always easier
- DORA Leiden...has it really been implemented?

Do researchers really want this?

Cultural Change: Step 2

- **Institutional level**
 - Policy
 - Rewards/Incentives
 - Recognition
 - Bursaries
 - Funding
 - Career progression
 - Early champions
 - Support for open research

Support

- Build an ecosystem
 - Library Support
 - Inter departmental support
 - New roles
- Recognition of extra work in open research
- Researchers cannot do it by themselves
- Educate and inform
- Help to manage data (critical)
- Coordinator on open research projects



TU Dublin

Very successful with Open access to publication

Arrow map/Increased visibility/Global Reach

1000 item first years, maintained since

11 millionth download

Why did it work so well?

Author dashboard very important (**feedback**)

Arrow profile required for research (**push factor**)

Great for institution, great for individual (**recognition**)

Good for material in other formats (**inclusive**)

Open access to publications policy 2010 (**institutional**)

TU Dublin Open Research Forum (**institutional**)

Library/Research Office support (**infrastructure**)

But Open Research?

- Passive resistance
- Now a university, reliance on citation profile
- Funders mandating openness
- Researchers don't know what to do
- Not keen on sharing data
 - Feeling will share data if asked for it, but not otherwise
 - Fear of what will happen their data
- How to protect/award early career researchers?

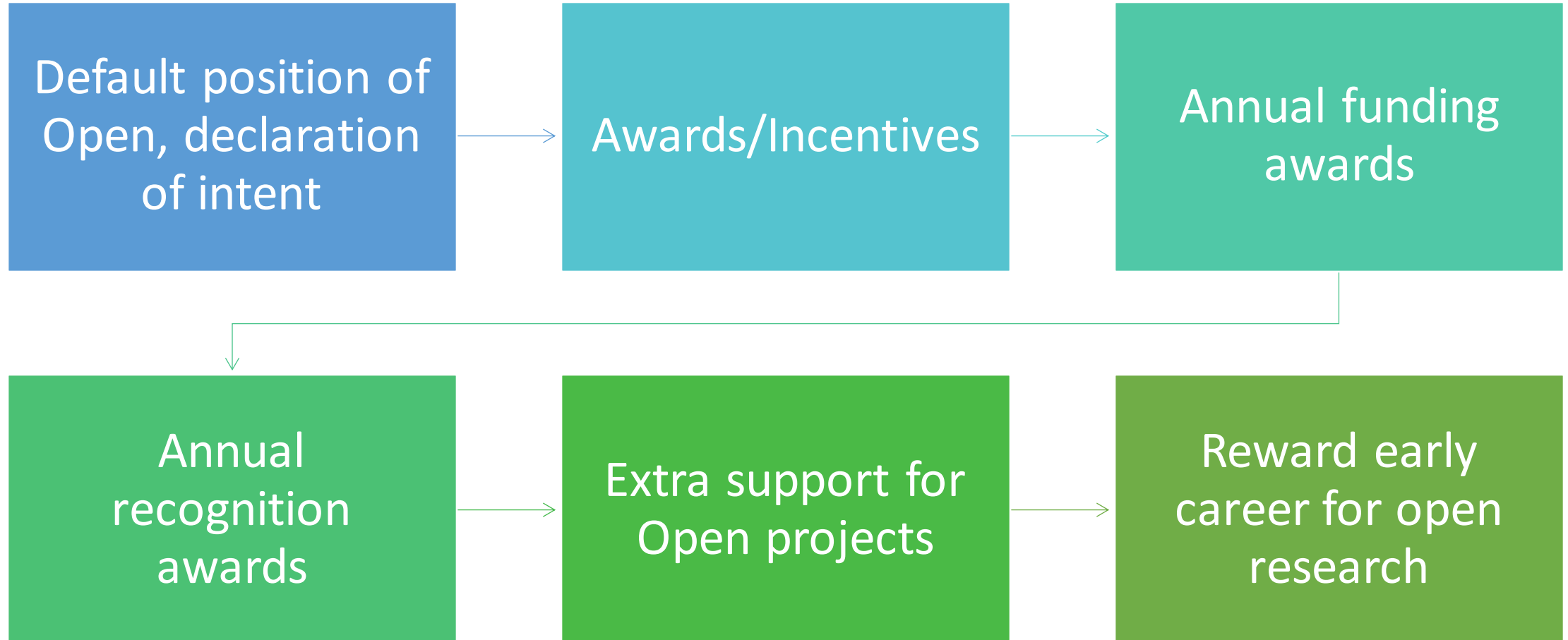
Hybrid approach

- University does not support APCs – pay out of funding
- Transformative agreements
- Orphan APC
- Inform about citations but also impact
- Impact generally becoming more important
- Awareness researchers need lots of support
- Evaluation heavily reliant on citations

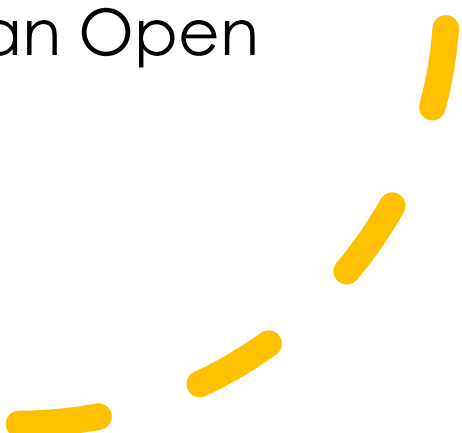
Start the process

- Open Research Support Unit (2021)
 - Open Research Manager, IR Manager, Open Scholarship Librarian
 - Coming data manager, data librarian, bibliometrics librarian, unit lead and admin
- Online presence with information and current awareness
- But more importantly investment in **PEOPLE who can help**
- So far ---help with dmps, publishing, open access statements in proposals, where to publish, open access journals
- Series of factsheets have proven popular

Plans



EU++ Alliance: Open Research

- 8 universities
 - To establish a practical common framework for open research
 - Common **understanding and policies** around Open Research
 - Promote **the green route** to Open Access
 - Adopt either **Leiden or DORA** to implement humane, fair, transparent and responsible evaluation of research
 - Equip both staff and students with the **skills** necessary to navigate an Open Research Environment
- 

What we found

- All reasonable on open access to publications
- European National Evaluations rely on citations/JIF
- Awareness levels different in each university
 - Some more receptive than others
- Passive resistance
- Landscape survey
 - General awareness of where we were
 - Helped set priorities
 - 2 deliverables concentrated the mind
 - Academic Press and Institutional Repository

Methodology

Foster Glossary of terms....common definitions

Open research statement

- Signed by all rectors/presidents
- Support but not necessarily implementation

Found it easier to use subgroup model

- Academic Press
- IR
- Research Information System
- Metrics

Little funding, existing personnel

Institutional Repository

OpenAire portal

- <https://eut.openaire.eu/>
- 7 out of 8 had own IR

Winning reason very good analytics

Can deposit directly

first tangible joint effort

Academic Press

- High Quality Press
- Agreed to move from print to open access press
- Agreement with vendor to use IR software (3 year project)
- Approval/peer review devolved to each institution
- Automatic publication of some EUt+ outputs
- Steering Group established
- Print on demand facility from 2 universities.
- Ready to go <https://univ-tech.eu/academic-press>

So

In both cases (TU Dublin and EUT+) going for common infrastructure

Shared expertise...2 way flow

Openness is on the agenda

Shared training programmes

Need to convince individuals

Need to provide more support

Now all that needs to happen is Cultural change!

- Need to keep moving towards changing research culture
- Push Pull factors
 - Rewards, recognition, incentives
 - Mandates, Policies and Enforcement
 - Embrace the realities of Open
 - More support ----Make it easier for researchers (critical)
 - Less lip service, more real investment internationally, nationally, institutionally.
- Support people: Funders, Research Office, Data Managers, Librarians, DMP managers, Proposal writers, Communication managers, legal experts, bibliometrics and altmetrics, senior management, governments and some new roles we have not thought of yet!

From thought to deed

- Level of real commitment
- Reluctance of established academics to jump
- Fears of early career researchers handicapping their careers
- National bodies and funders aspirational but could do more
 - He who pays the piper calls the tune
- Recognition open is good for research, society and taxpayer
- Need more push pull factors
 - Carrot and stick to move the thought to action
- Cannot keep asking researchers to do more and more admin work instead of research.
 - Needs infrastructure/investment to work

“It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.”

-Confucius





THANK YOU
FOR
YOUR
ATTENTION
ANY QUESTIONS?