Supporting researchers in HE – champions and collaborators with a common goal

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CISPC
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University of Huddersfield

• Young Men’s Mental Improvement Society (1841)
• Huddersfield Polytechnic (1970)
• University of Huddersfield (1992)
• 19,300 students
• 5100 Researchers
• 900 academic staff
• 1000 support staff
• 7 schools
School Structure

- Applied Sciences
- Art Design & Architecture
- Business
- Computing & Engineering
- Education
- Human and Health Sciences
- Music, Humanities & Media
Aims

2025 Strategy
An inspiring, innovative University of international renown

Values
We will work as a team to provide an excellent service to all of the communities we support.
Key aims of research agenda

• Increase our international recognitions via the volume and quality of research outputs
• Increase our research and knowledge exchange income
• Become a focus for productivity improvement, impact and enterprise
Key Performance Indicators

Innovative
- All academic staff publishing at 2-star level or above (75% at 3-star or above), institutional average of 10 citations per output.
- Research income: £30m pa, knowledge exchange and innovation income £5m pa.
- Formal links with 5000 unique businesses and end users, and 15% of all research outputs created with research end users.

International
- Top 300 Times and QS World University Rankings.
- 140 strategic research collaborations with Top 300 Times or QS Institutions and 60% of publications with international collaborators.
- Top 25% in UKIQR for "integration" measures (and top 10% overall).

People First
- 35% of academic staff to have international experience.
- University to be in the QoWL sector upper quartile measure for engagement and satisfaction.
- University to be in the QoWL sector upper quartile measure for good management practice.

2025 Strategy
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Financial Sustainability
- Minimum 9% of total income as cash generation for sustainability and investment.
- Remain in the upper quartile amongst all UK HEIs in the HESA Security Index.
- All Schools and Services to deliver a 3% annual underspend against their devolved revenue budgets.

Growth and Efficiency
- 5% pa growth in overall taught-student fee income or consequent efficiency savings.
- Upper quartile for estate condition and functionality.
- Reduced cost per transaction and improved user satisfaction in key University processes.

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50+ Research Centres & Institutes

- CeReNeM: Centre for Research in New Music
- Fashion Thinking Research Centre
- Institute of Railway Research (IRR)
- Secure Societies Institute
- Institute of Skin Integrity and Infection Prevention
- Centre for Engineering Materials (CEM)
- Global Disaster Resilience Centre
- Huddersfield Centre for Research in Education and Society (HudCRES)
- https://research.hud.ac.uk/
Library

• Advice and guidance on Green and Gold OA
• Payments of APCs
• Outreach and advocacy
• Reporting to JISC
• Manage Eprints repository for theses and outputs prior to 2014
  • https://hud.libguides.com/openaccess

Research Office / Schools

• Manage Pure & post 2014 outputs
• Check compliancy
• Research Data Management
• Reporting to UKRI
• All 7 schools have a research administration team to support staff
  • https://pure.hud.ac.uk/
Supporting Open Access

Open Access: Introduction
A guide to Open Access at the University of Huddersfield

With effect from the 1 December 2017, Pure is the repository where University researchers are required to deposit their research outputs. In order to comply with the REF 2021 Open Access policy, you must deposit your author accepted manuscript within 3 months of the date of acceptance for all Journal Articles and Conference proceedings.

New staff research outputs should be added to Pure, not to Eprints.

What is Open Access?

Open Access (OA) refers to material that is free to all readers at the point of use. There are two routes into Open Access - gold or green (see below).

Your route to Open Access publication

Plan 5
Plan 5 is an initiative for Open Access publishing that was launched in September 2018. The plan is supported by COAR, Plan S, an international consortium of research funders. Plan 5 requires that, from 2020, scientific publications that result from research funded by public grants must be published in compliant Open Access journals or
Welcome to University of Huddersfield Research Portal

We invite you to search the University of Huddersfield Research Portal for details of the research activity conducted at the university. You can search by academic name, organisational structure, including School, Department, research institute and centre. This portal enables you to understand the research expertise at the university and visualise the connections we have internally and with the outside world.

Additional information about research at the University of Huddersfield can be viewed via university’s website.

Collaborations and top research areas from the last five years

Click dots and arrows to bring up details.
Survey – Autumn 2018

- Curious to see how other institutions were supporting their researchers
- Informal benchmarking
- Identify areas of good practice
50 respondents (32 Library/18 RO)
Survey questions

• Who manages your Open Access issues?
• Who administers and pays for APCs?
• Who validates research outputs i.e. Checks metadata for REF compliance in your CRIS or Institutional Repository?
• Who looks after RDM?
• Who reports to JISC /UKRI?
• Who is responsible for outreach/training for academics/support staff in relation to any of the above?
• How many staff are responsible for the above?
Who manages Open Access?

- 72% of Libraries provide advice on & management of Open Access issues/queries
- One fifth of respondents had joint responsibility
- Just 10% of Research Offices had sole ownership
- Libraries benefit from good oversight and intervention from their Research Office
- Open Access working groups are common
Library - policy decisions are made with the RO and via the University Research Committee

Library – although we work closely with the Research Office regarding REF compliance

The Research Office are 'OA lead' and manage the CRIS, but library manage the repository

Library, but it only covers publications and excludes anything related to APCs
Who administers (& pays for) APCs?

- Wide variety of budgeting arrangements exist here
- 60% managed mainly by the Library
- Where joint management exists often the Library that paid for APCs whilst the Research Office held the budget
Quotes about APC management

- University policy is to follow the Green route, but in exceptional cases application may be made to the director of a School and it comes out of the School budget.
- The departments actually do the invoice paying but the Library controls the allocation of funding.
- The budget belongs to the Head of Research but APCs are paid for and administered by the Library.
- Research Office allocates funds and the Library deals with procuring/renewing and signing e-resources licences that include offsetting clauses.
- Nobody, as we don’t have any budget 😞.
Who validates research outputs?

- Who checks metadata for REF compliance in CRIS or Institutional repository?
- In 75% of cases the library is responsible
- Validation has moved from Library to Research Office at UoH
- Wherever this validation takes place, close collaboration is key to comply with the next REF’s OA compliancy mandates
Quotes about validation & checking

- The Library, though professional services staff in the departments will also be doing checks.

- We (library) process/review them, check for compliance, set and release from embargo. For REF validation it falls to the individual Departments OA contact. The CRIS is managed by Research Services, the IR by us.

- Library through our Eprints repository but Research Office manages the REF quality review of outputs process.

- This is split between REF assisted deposit and Library. Exceptions also involve Research Office.
Many library & research services provide specialist support, advice and training for RDM

Wide variety of support

Growth area and not fully embedded in some places

RDM managers sit in both departments
Library with support from Archives and IT services

The Open Research team includes an RDM manager

The Library are the experts and lead on this institutionally but our Research Office team are trained in the basics and good at knowing when to refer things on to us

Currently RDM is a project, managed by Research Services with a Library-based Project Officer. Responsibility for going forward into business as usual is TBA

This is a sore point .... every researcher does their own thing

Nobody...

Under discussion.....
Who is responsible for reporting?

- A real split on this one, perhaps because one department holds the budget and the other collates the figures?
- Different reporting bodies & shifting goalposts for reporting data by the likes of JISC and UKRI
- Research Office for financial accounting & REF with input from library on compliance rates
Library for Jisc, APCs, block grant and Research Office for REF reporting

Research office - we think...

Various parts of the university including Research & Enterprise

Library (but we run any reports past the Research Office before submission)
Outreach, training & advocacy
Collaborate with Researcher Environment Team to develop training materials for PGRs & staff
• Provide a blended approach to researcher training via online and f2f material
• Training delivered collaboratively
• Library research support activities inc. Game of Open Access; Open Access Escape Room
• Review & evaluate how best to engage with research staff
• What else do they need support on – Plan S?
Our CRIS is managed through the Research Office and hence training for this, which encompasses OA, is organised by them (but we deliver it)

The Open Research team is responsible, but we work with the Faculty Engagement Librarians and Research Development program (PhD training programme) so we have multiple channels of communication with the academics

Joint responsibility- we take whatever opportunities we can!

Partly Innovation and Enterprise, partly Subject Librarians

Joint responsibility- we take whatever opportunities we can!
Staffing observations

- Research intensive universities have more staff in the majority of cases
- Teaching intensive universities have smaller teams or it is often an add-on to an existing role
- More ‘Offices of Scholarly Communications’ e.g. Cambridge, Kent, Brunel, Imperial that span both library and research departments
- More functional teams within libraries to support research, T&L, academic engagement e.g. Manchester, York
Staffing resource

- About 17 people (8 OA, 2 RDM, 2 repository, 1 training, 1 outreach, 1 project manager, 1 research, 1 manager). Then there are another 4 in the Research Information Office and several more in the REF team. Not everyone is full time though!
- It is equivalent to 1.5 FTE (3 people), though we are soon to go out for 1.0FTE for a fixed term person to work on the REF
- 5 open access support assistants (likely to increase because of the rise of deposits for ref); 1 OA manager; 1 RDM manager; 1 RDM support assistant
- In my view 1.6 FTE specialist staff really isn't enough for an institution our size, but I'm sure everyone thinks that about the resource they have!
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- We're very much a shoe-string operation and no posts are dedicated to it, it's all fitted in around existing roles
- Mostly 2: 1 library, 1 Research office. Other support occasionally
Observations

• All stakeholders can & do work well together
• Regular meetings to share information and form cross institutional bonds
• Combined outreach / training sessions
• Clear and consistent message
• Signpost where appropriate
• Review how best to engage with staff / UX
• RDM needs embedding further
Communication, cooperation, collaboration

- Communicate – via cross institutional meetings; OA working groups
- Share best practice & exchange ideas
- Trust in each other’s strengths
- Collaborate – training support & advice – PGR events
- Value realisation
Further reading


Questions