

# Are we nearly there yet? Cambridge's journey on the road to Open Research

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- Over 70 academic faculties and departments
- Over 140 research centres and institutes
- Central services versus local services
- Plethora of committees
- Academic freedom is very important

## 2014: Open Access Service

## 2015: Office of Scholarly Communication

Head  
2 OA  
1 RDM  
1 repos



## 2016: Moving towards open research

Open Research Discussions with Cambridge Researchers  
Wellcome Trust Open Research Pilot  
Increased open research training



# 2017: Review of OSC

## Recommendation 1.

The General Board should commission a Working Party to **clarify the University's needs and expectations in relation to Open Research**. It should be constituted by key stakeholders and those who are active and informed on Open Research issues. Its work should include agreement on the University's public stance on Open Research. The Working Party should also consider and propose solutions for infrastructure needs relating to Open Research, including increased automation of Open Research processes.

<https://osc.cam.ac.uk/open-research/joining-scholarly-communication-discussion/open-research-working-group/summary-2017>

## B: Open Research survey

- 474 individual responses
- 14 group responses
- Captured existing practices and perceptions of open research
- Used to inform our open research position

Academic consultation is seen as very important.

One key message to emerge was **academic freedom** should be considered in the development of an open research position statement.

# 2019: Open Research Position Statement

- Definitions
- Expectations of researchers
- University's support for open research

## The University's Open Research Position Statement

Open Research Working Group - Position statement on Open Research: Approved by Research Policy Committee at its meeting on 22 November 2018 and by the General Board of the Faculties on 16 January 2019.

### Purpose of the Statement

*This Statement summarises the University's approach to Open Research. Informed by external frameworks including the [Concordat on Open Research Data](#), it sets out key principles for the conduct and support of Open Research at the University of Cambridge.*

*Owned by the Open Access Project Board[1], it is supported by more detailed Policy Frameworks for [Open Access](#) and [Research Data Management](#).*

*This Statement will be reviewed and refreshed at least every two years or after major policy changes.*

### 1. Open Research at the University of Cambridge

1.1 Open Research aims to open access to research outputs (e.g. to protocols, results, publications, data, software and tools) to increase inclusivity and collaboration, unlock access to knowledge, improve transparency and reproducibility of research and underpin research integrity.

1.2 The University promotes and supports Open Research, to improve discoverability and maximise access to knowledge in accordance with our mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

<https://osc.cam.ac.uk/open-research/open-research-position-statement>



# 6,000 and counting: Cambridge Vice-Chancellor joins Stephen Hawking in making his PhD 'Open Access'

Cambridge also becomes first UK university to publish position statement on Open Research

By Stuart Roberts

<https://www.cam.ac.uk/6000thThesis>

# 2019: Open Research Steering Committee

- Academic, library, research support and CUP representatives
- Areas of focus:
  - Infrastructure
  - Training
  - Reward
  - Plan S

## Open Research Steering Committee

The Open Research Steering Committee (ORSC) was established by the General Board in January 2019 to replace the [Open Access Project Board](#), following a recommendation by the [Open Research Working Group](#).

### Membership of the Open Research Steering Committee

*Last updated October 2019*

Professor Chris Abell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research (Chair)  
Dr Vasily Belokurov, Reader in Astrophysics, School of Physical Sciences  
Dr Mark Carrigan, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Faculty of Education  
Dr Marta Costa, Senior Research Associate, Department of Zoology  
Professor John Dennis, Head of School of Technology, School of Technology  
Dr Jessica Gardner, University Librarian and Director of Library Services  
Dr Emma Gilby, Senior Lecturer, School of Arts and Humanities  
Dr Peter Hedges, Head of the University Research Office  
Dr Sara Hennessy, Reader in Teacher Development and Pedagogical Innovation, School of the Humanities and Social Sciences  
Mrs Mandy Hill, Director of Academic Publishing, Cambridge University Press  
Professor Ian Leslie, Director of University Information Services  
Professor David Owen, Professor of Structural and Molecular Biology, Clinical School  
Professor Steve Russell, Professor of Genome Biology, School of Biological Sciences  
Mrs Niamh Tumelty, Head of Research Services and STEMM Libraries  
Dr André Sartori, Open Access Adviser, University Library (Secretary)

### Terms of Reference

*Last updated November 2018*

1. To promote and keep under review all matters relating to Open Research at the University, including effective implementation of the University's policies on Open

<https://osc.cam.ac.uk/open-research/open-research-steering-committee>

# Infrastructure

- Landscape review
  - What systems are people using
  - Where do they fit in the research lifecycle?
- Research notebook guidelines
- Preprints
  - Could/should we provide a preprint server for our researchers?

# Training

- Pilot sessions with the Faculty of Education
- Learning Exercise
- Embedding training
- Working more closely with other trainers
- Development of online training



# ward

- Cambridge signed DORA this year
  - Not strictly about open research
- Group convened to look at how to implement DORA
- Membership of group reflects academic nature of issue
- Consultation with academic community around:
  - Appropriate indicators for evaluation in their discipline
  - Proposed policies/procedures developed

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Transparent Pricing Working Group

Regular meetings

Communication plans

Journal agreements

Related matters

<https://www.informationpower.co.uk/press-release-transparent-comms-of-oa-services-and-prices/>

# we nearly there?

We've made a good start!

We're trying to implement holistic initiatives

How long it takes to complete the current work will depend on many factors

- Third party timelines and requirements
- Academic engagement
- New developments