Open Science in Wallonia-Brussels Federation (FWB)

Achievements

Strategic perspectives

Dr Marc Vanholsbeeck
Directorate of Scientific Research
DGENORS
Ministry of Wallonia-Brussels Federation
What are we talking about?

• Open Access (Open Science) as a « boundary object » (Moore 2017)

• In FWB:
  – Institutional Repositories
  – Green Open Access Mandates
  – Open Research Data (ORD)
Institutional Repositories
Repositories (1)

- 2008 : ORBi at Université de Liège
- Since 2008 : All FWB universities have or share a repository
- Under development: meta-portal harvesting all OA repositories (at F.R.S.-FNRS)
Repositories (2)

Mean number of citations for a randomized sample of 2009 ULg references on Scopus (n=351; data 2011)

- References on ORBi: 5,915
- References NOT on ORBi: 2,957

Mean number of citations for ALL 2007-2011 ULg references on WoS (n=7673; data January 2012)

- References on ORBi: 7,046
- References NOT on ORBi: 3,455

Original Graphic: Paul Thirion, Université de Liège
Repositories (3)

- RéFéR OA « Grey Literature » repository of the Ministry of the FWB (2017) ([www.recherches.cfwb.be](http://www.recherches.cfwb.be))
  - Research sponsored or produced by the Ministry in its areas of expertise
  - OAI-PMH protocol for interoperability
  - Already more than 600 research projects (and 689 documents) openly accessible
  - Future collaborations with public organizations
Open Access Mandates

Carrots just didn't get me going anymore, so I switched to chocolate instead...
Mandates (1)

• Université de Liège mandate (2007-2014)
  • ID/OA (Immediate Deposit Optional Access)
  • Deposit of the full text for each scientific article published since 2002
  • Open access according to publishers’ policies
  • “Stick and Carrots”
    – Publication lists from ORBi for all nomination, promotion or credit allocation
    – Better visibility and accessibility
Mandates (2)

- F.R.S.-FNRS mandate (2013)
  - Inspired by the ULiège mandate
  - Deposit of the full text for each scientific article published since 2008
  - Publication lists (postprints) from university OA repositories for evaluating and awarding research credits
  - APCs up to 500 Euros
Mandates (3)

• Decree on Open Access of 3 May 2018
  – Concerns
    • all research that is (even partially) publicly funded
    • all articles published from 14 September 2018
  – Postprints to be immediately deposited
  – Embargo periods of 12 (STEM) or 6 (SSH) months before open access
Mandates (4)

The decree:

- Promotes the dissemination of research results;
- Allows each student and researcher, all over the world and especially in the most disadvantaged regions, unhindered access to research;
- Reinforces the potential of research to produce impact, at scientific and societal level;
- Increases the visibility of researchers and their work.
Mandate (5)

- **Art. 7.** Any person, committee or scientific commission of the French speaking Community [Wallonia-Brussels Federation] responsible for evaluating individual or collective files within the framework of nomination, promotion, allocation of research credits, takes into account, for the evaluation of the publications of the researchers and under pain of nullity, **the lists generated from the institutional digital repositories [...] to the exclusion of any other list.**
Strategic perspectives
Strategic perspectives (1)

- Promoting and implementing Open Research Data in the EOSC perspective
- Developing Open Science friendly research assessment processes
Strategic perspectives (2)

• Considering the science production-dissemination-evaluation ecosystem in its whole
  • Diversity of research outputs (including open educational material and impact-driven research outputs)
  • Repositories at the center
Perspectives stratégiques (3)

- Launch of an Open Science Workgroup for updating and implementing an Open Science Roadmap in Wallonia-Brussels Federation