

SPARC Europe

Creating change in scholarly communication

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SPARC Europe Board

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SPARC
—Europe—

SPARC Europe

Advocating change in
scholarly communications
for the benefit of
researchers and society

SPARC Europe

- Established in 2002
- Sister organisations: SPARC (US), SPARC Japan
- Legally and politically independent organisations but work in close collaboration
- Members: research libraries
- Mission: to create change for the better in scholarly communication

Past initiatives

- Promotion of, and education about, Open Access
- Research-based expert papers
- Funding for key infrastructural initiatives (e.g. SHERPA Services and to set up DOAJ)
- Co-sponsoring of advocacy drives (e.g. the petition to the European Commission in 2007, co-sponsored with JISC, DEFF and DFG)

A Seat at the Table



Current areas of focus

- Developing strategic partnerships with other organisations whose activities address OA and who share our aims
- Lobbying in Brussels and across the Union on the H2020 policy
- Involvement with other related issues (Open Data, copyright) at EU level (not national level)
- Aim for involvement in European projects:
 - Partner on two successful bids for projects starting in 2014: details to be announced shortly

Some new strategic aims laid out in 2012

- Begin work at national level in European countries, where needed
- Contribute to development and improvement of European OA-services
- Involve member institutions in our work:
 - Where they want to be involved!
 - Increases our expertise, and expands their areas of operation and interest
 - Creates greater value from our resources and gets the job done better

Programme areas 2013-15

- Advocacy and policy support
- Infrastructure support
- Information and engagement
- Business models
- Continue to build organisational strength

Advocacy and policy support

- European level:
 - H2020 policy formulation: our work is almost completed on that: policy comes into force 1 January 2014
 - Involved considerable lobbying work to inform MEPs and Council members, and to help the Commission explain the need for certain wording
- National level in Member States:
 - European Commission's Recommendations to Member States, 17 July 2012: effectively told Member States to develop policy on Open Access to research results
 - We will support local experts and advocates where needed to stimulate debate, discussion and policy development

Policy examples

- Guidelines for Open Access and Open Data policies (27 June 2013) by the Conference of the Rectors of Italian Universities (CRUI)
- Croatian Open Access Declaration (24 October 2012)
- Irish National Principles for Open Access Policy Statement (23 October 2012)
 - 'Green' mandate and encouragement to publish in 'Gold' OA journals
 - aligns with the European policy for Horizon 2020
 - can be used as a model for other national policies in development

Infrastructure support

- Will consider providing (limited) financial support for new OA-infrastructure initiatives (with Europe-wide applicability)
- Will try to assist existing services seeking help or advice on service development or sustainability issues

Information and engagement

- Library support programme (advocacy materials, presentations, etc)
- Researcher support programme (advocacy materials, presentations, etc)
- Record and monitor progress on Open Access

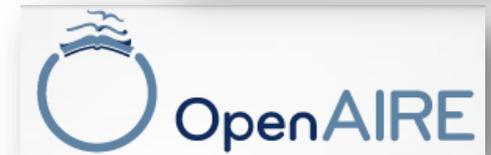


Business models for OA services

- Encourage the study of, and learning from, successful business models for OA services
- Develop new thinking around cooperation and collaboration to ensure sustainable solutions

Continue to build organisational strength and capacity

- Build membership
- Greater member engagement
- Exploit alliances with like-minded organisations



Advocating change in scholarly communications for the benefit of researchers and society

Thank you for listening

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