Welcome to the December issue
In technical developments, this autumn we have launched a new version of Sherpa Juliet and are working on an upgrade to OpenDOAR. We have bolstered our support for ORCID and for repository technical support, looking at metadata standards and assistance.

Discovery of OA materials is an increasingly important topic for those wishing to ensure they have the most cost-effective solution for the use of materials. We are very proud to say that CORE, run by Jisc with the Open University, is the world’s largest aggregator of OA materials, allowing search of over 82 million research articles – at time of writing. It will have gone up by the time you read this! In addition, unlike many other open access discovery services, CORE’s aggregation of materials allows direct full-text access to over 8 million research articles.

Finally, we are pleased that SPARC Europe has just launched an initiative to encourage global users of Sherpa Romeo to contribute to service sustainability. This work will proceed over the coming year while a model for collaborative funding is evolved. But do note for UK users, contributions to Sherpa Romeo are covered: all part of the Jisc subscription.

Policy compliance
Helping you to meet and demonstrate compliance with the range of different funders’ and publishers’ requirements

» Publications Router: The latest new publisher to join the service is Hindawi, providing full-text articles daily, in the published version of record, within two months of acceptance. This follows the earlier announcement of BMJ Publishing Group’s feeds to Router, providing accepted manuscripts (AMs) of subscription content – articles that would otherwise be behind a paywall. BMJ delivers these daily, the majority within four weeks of acceptance. We are in advanced discussion with many other publishers who are also talking about providing AMs of subscription content, and are working with them as they tackle the workflow challenges this involves.

We’ve held the first meeting of the Router’s Community Advisory Group, consisting of representatives of our user community, to guide the service’s continuing development priorities and to make sure it meets institutions’ real needs. The list of institutions who are receiving content straight into their EPrints repositories is still growing steadily, and we are approaching some of them to try out the new RIOXX importer plug-in before we invite its wider adoption. Another new EPrints plug-in, this time to make it easier to identify and weed out duplicate records, has now been released – this will be of interest not only to users of the Router service, but also more generally. We continue to work with early adopter HEIs who have kindly agreed to test the new interoperability with DSpace – we want to make sure all works correctly before we make it publicly available.

Interoperability with research information systems (CRIS/ RIMS) in wide use by institutions remains a key objective, so we’ve been in further detailed discussions both with vendors and with representatives of institutions that use them to help articulate to the vendors the nature of the need. We hope this will help them prioritize their development roadmaps accordingly, opening up the Router service to an even greater range of institutions.

» Sherpa services: We continue rebuilding the Sherpa services as part of our service improvement programme, which aims to update all Sherpa services to provide the community with a set of agile services better placed to respond to the increased complexity in today’s open access landscape. The first deliverable of this work saw the release of an updated Sherpa Juliet service in October - for more information on Sherpa Juliet visit https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet

Work on an updated version of OpenDOAR is currently progressing and a beta version of OpenDOAR v2 will be available in December 2017.

Future plans include integration with technologies like the Elastic Stack that will allow us to put state-of-the-art search, reporting and visualisation tools on our service endpoints. We will also be developing new API endpoints for interfacing with repository and CRIS systems for data quality, automated compliance checking, auto completion and a host of other possible use cases.

To find out more about our open access services email help@jisc.ac.uk or visit our website www.jisc.ac.uk/content/open-access
Open Access update

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Cost management
Support with improving your processes and systems, providing shared services and negotiations agreements, in order to manage the costs of OA and subscriptions

» Monitor services: We have now released version 1.6 of Monitor Local. This release includes the functionality to produce the RCUK and COAF reports. It also pushes data from Monitor Local to national aggregator Monitor UK. We would welcome discussions with any institutions who are interested in one or both Monitor services, so please do get in touch: help@jisc.ac.uk

» OUP introduces offsetting agreement: For the first time, OUP has agreed to an OA offset element to the 2018-2019 Oxford Journals Full Collection Agreement. Two options will be available – a prepayment account and a retrospective credit. Institutions selecting the prepayment option will be provided with an APC ‘pot’ worth 15% of the combination of their 2018 collection fee and their 2017 APC expenditure (and so on in 2019). The retrospective option will offer institutions an APC credit in 2019 worth 15% of their 2018 APC expenditure (and so on in 2020).

Discovery, usage, and impact
Supporting you to improve the visibility of your repository and demonstrate the reach and impact of your research

» IRUS-UK: The number of Institutional Repositories (IRs) participating in IRUS-UK has now reached 332 (by November 2017), representing 88% of eligible IRs. The latest enhancement to IRUS involves provision of daily (in addition to monthly) usage statistics. Developed in response to a community request, this new feature was released ahead of OA Week and supports aspects such as institutional, national, and potentially international monitoring of OA advocacy campaigns. Further community requested enhancements include a report showing top downloads by IR and enhanced search capability. The IRUS team is currently collaborating with the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) and the Digital Library Federation (DLF) in the United States, and with CAVAL in Australia and New Zealand. Two pilot developments underway, known as IRUS-USA and IRUS-ANZ, are replicating the approach taken in the UK to explore opportunities for international analysis, comparison and benchmarking in order to demonstrate the impact of open access. This development is aiming to foster an international community of practice, to support use and provision of open metrics for open science.

» The Jisc ORCID national consortium now has 85 member organisations. Jisc is offering full UK support to consortium members. A webinar on the Collect and Connect program and upcoming plugin for EPrints took place on 7th Dec and a recording will be available shortly on the ORCID consortium site.

» OA button: We have reached the end of our feasibility study to evaluate the viability of a service in the discovery/interlibrary loan (ILL) workflow utilising open access button functionality to aid the discovery of OA content. The findings are now available and we are continuing to explore how best to proceed in this complex space.

» Text and data mining- CORE/ Journal Archives: We have been investigating the opportunities for developing text mining services, initially looking at the possibility of enhancing two existing Jisc services: CORE and Journal Archives. Further information on how we expect to proceed in this area will be available in the New Year.

» OpenAIRE: Jisc works as the UK’s National Open Access Desk for OpenAIRE, the EU initiative to promote Open Science across Europe. The work helps support the Horizon 2020 and FP7 policies and requirements. As such, there are three different projects with which Jisc is involved: OpenAIRE2020, OpenAIRE Advance, and OpenAIRE Connect. Jisc’s part in each project focuses on different work packages, including its expertise with IRUS standards and potential links with the Publications Router. A workshop is being planned for March 2018 covering all three projects.

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Open Access update

Metadata and interoperability
Helping you to overcome interoperability issues between funder, publisher and institutional systems

» Review of metadata requirements for OA: Further to working with HEFCE, RCUK and Wellcome trust on planning for the REF 2021 consultation, Jisc, funders and metadata experts will be reviewing the metadata requirements to support OA (RIOXX). This is being planned for early 2018. This will be an opportunity to refine metadata requirements further (if needed). Note that a number of applications have been developed to support the collection of metadata in various systems and these will also be reviewed in light of any changes.

Maintaining OA good practice

» Community webinar: A write up of our community webinar in September is now available. Discussions covered an alternative OA week, ‘demand management’ for OA funds and mentoring.

» Resources from our community workshop on 5th December are now available, including slides and a storify of tweets. Emerging topics for discussion were university presses, OA book discoverability, making judgments on RCUK compliance and the impact of the latest REF decisions. A blog post will follow.

» Scholarly communications professional development: In October Jisc hosted a second meeting of a group of sector bodies with an interest in scholarly communications professional development. Danny Kingsley’s blog post summarises the key strands of activity that are emerging, including mapping competencies and exploring the training provided by library schools, institutions and private providers. The next meeting is in January and we will welcome the British Library and CILIP to these discussions.

Moving to a simplified contact email

» Jisc centralised help email address: We are currently in the process of migrating all our individual service and support email addresses to a central address: help@jisc.ac.uk

Old addresses will work for a time, but please start using this address from now on. It’s helpful if you can mention the service you are enquiring about in the subject of the message so queries can be routed as quickly as possible.

Key Dates:
December: CNI Fall 2017 Membership Meeting
February: Researcher to Reader Conference
March: RLUK conference

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