

Working Together: Citizen Science and Research Libraries

The Role of Libraries in Citizen Science



Content

- Research Libraries and Citizen Science
- Open Science: what is it?
- Library engagement in Citizen Science
- UCL Press as an OA enabler for Society
- Conclusions



*Plaster Relief by John Flaxman,
Flaxman Gallery, UCL*

Research Libraries

Research **support** organisations, highly **standardised**, well connected in **networks** that work efficiently.

Build collections of primary sources, secondary sources, data, protocols, educational materials ... and more.

Manage the incoming and outgoing scientific **communication** that serves researchers and interested individuals.

World **leaders** of **Open Science**. Experienced **advocates**.

Open to **innovation**, working under continuous **transformation**.

Fun people, **centrally located** that answer with **politeness**.

The Befitting Expertise of Research Libraries

The Competence: 10 areas of skills

Collaborate ~ Communicate ~ FAIR Data ~ Infrastructure ~
Collections ~ Open Access ~ Connect people ~ Advocacy ~
Transformation ~ Learning

Citizen Science and Research Libraries

The Confluence: 10 areas of opportunities

Skills development ~ Support ~ Collections ~ FAIR Data ~
Infrastructure ~ Evaluations ~ Communication ~ Recruitment ~
Marketing ~ Advocacy

Advocacy for Citizen Science and Open Science

2017: Roles for Libraries in the Open Science landscape

Patras, Leeds, Edinburgh, Rome, London, Vienna,
Budapest, Ljubljana, Dublin, London, Copenhagen,
Reykjavík



2018: Focus on Open Science

Rome, Barcelona, Ljubljana, Gdansk, Belgrade,
Budapest, Vienna, Dublin



2019: Focus on Open Science - JOIN US!

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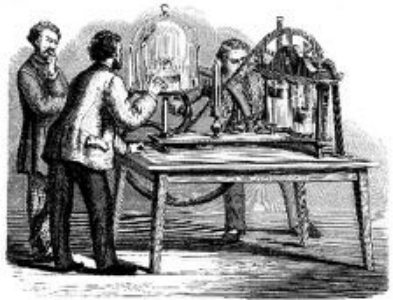


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What is Open Science?

The 8 pillars of Open Science

European Commission's
Open Science Policy Platform (OSPP)



Future of Scholarly Communication

EOSC (European Open Science Cloud)

FAIR Data

Skills

Research Integrity

Rewards

Altmetrics

Citizen Science

Open Science is a strong commitment from European policy makers

[Amsterdam Call for Action](#) (2016)

European Commission's [Open Science Policy Platform](#)

(incl. Recommendations on Citizen Science)

[LERU](#) Advice Paper May 2018



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UCL East



- London Memory Archive to be established
- UCL Library Services – a principal collector of the history of London
- Oral and social history of the London borough of Newham to be created
- Using citizens' oral history, photographs, letters, diaries and memorabilia

Transcribe Bentham



- Project from UCL Faculty of Laws
- UCL Library Services a collaborator
- Crowdsourced transcription – 624 individuals
- Academic quality of transcriptions high
- Cost-effective in context of total project costs
 - <https://doi.org/10.1093/llc/fqx064>

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Benefits of an OA University Press

Taking publishing back into the university system - the university supports the entire research life cycle

Challenge the prevailing scholarly publishing model - issue of low dissemination

Support for OA to AHSS outputs, which receive less funding than STEM

Social impact: research available to the public and policy makers

Global impact: outputs reach regions in which research is unavailable or unaffordable

Motivation for academics: they want their research to be widely read

Added reputational value of a university press, through global dissemination, publicity, reviews

Consistent with Open Science agenda

Opportunities for integration of research and learning

UCL Press facts

Launched with
first titles June
2015

Publishing
Manager plus
4.5 FTE, all with
publishing
background

Open to all;
mainly UCL
authors to
date (ECRs to
Professors)

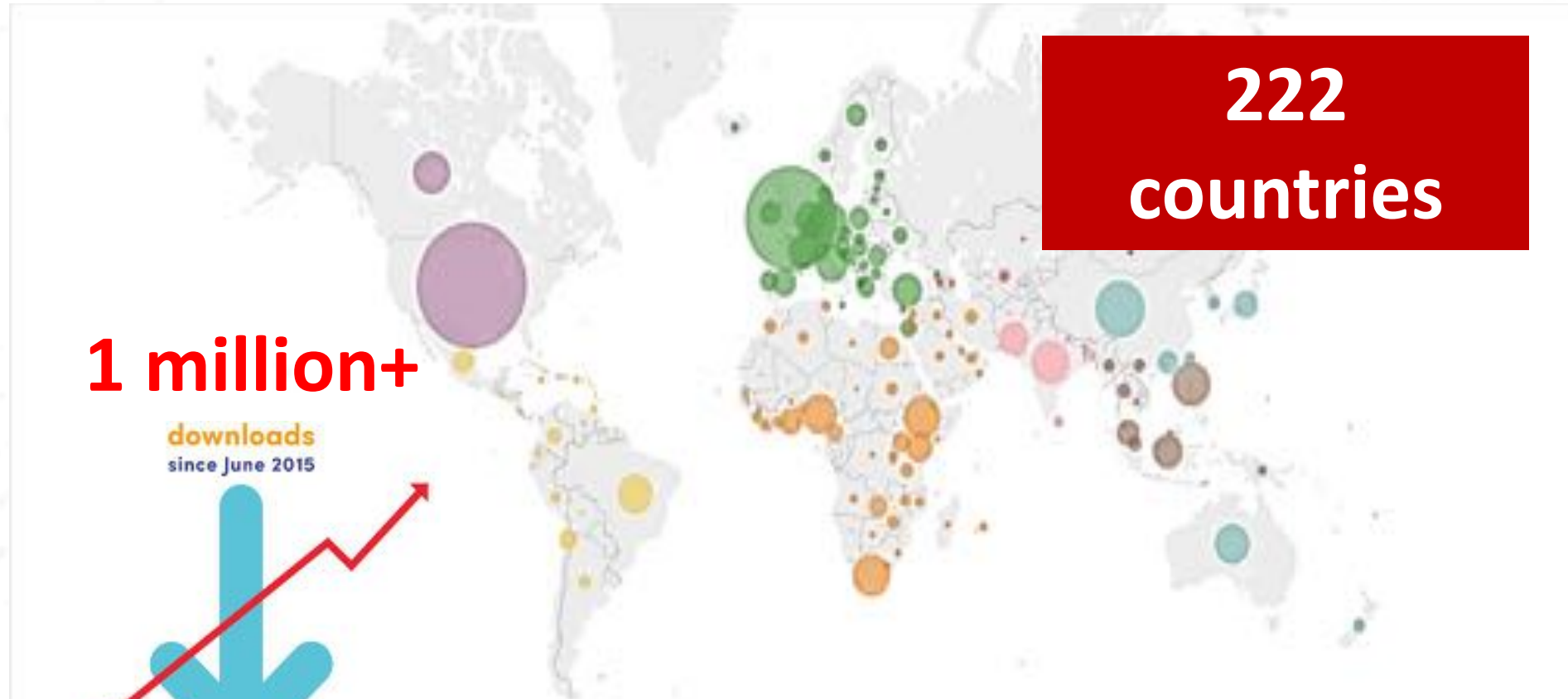
For non-UCL
author / editor,
BPC charge
starting at
£5,000

All books are
copy-edited
and typeset

All books
evaluated by
Editorial Board
and peer
reviewed

Strengths in
Anthropology,
Built Environment,
History, Language
Studies,
Archaeology

Target is 50
books / year
by 2018



**222
countries**

1 million+

downloads
since June 2015



**UCL Press downloads
since June 2015**

Questions to be answered

1. *Why do citizens collaborate?*
2. *What is their motivation to volunteer for Citizen Science projects?*
3. *Do they develop a deeper interest and engagement in science?*
4. *Do they have suggestions for improving collaborations?*



1. Genuine interest in the topic
2. To work with a world-renowned university and to learn research methods
3. Yes, and they give 'professional researchers' new insights
4. Yes. Some will work with established workflows while others have genuinely useful suggestions for new ways of doing things

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Conclusions

Libraries have an important role to play in Citizen Science

Libraries could provide:

Knowledge, Infrastructure, Project Management, Training, Standards

Survey: Roles for libraries in Citizen Science:

knowledge.services/citizenscience





DOI: 10.1515/opis-2018-0001

Review Article

Paul Ayris*, Tiberius Ignat

Defining the role of libraries in the Open Science landscape: a reflection on current European practice

<https://doi.org/10.1515/opis-2018-0001>

Received October 27, 2017; accepted December 23, 2017

Abstract: This collaborative paper looks at how libraries can engage with and offer leadership in the Open Science movement. It is based on case studies and the results of an EU-funded research project on Research Data Management taken from European research-led universities and their libraries. It begins by analysing three recent trends in Science, and then links component parts of the research process to aspects of Open Science. The paper then looks in detail at four areas and identifies roles for libraries: Open Access and Open Access publishing, Research Data Management, E-Infrastructures (especially the European Open Science Cloud), and Citizen Science. The paper ends in suggesting a model for how libraries, by using a 4-step test, can engage with and offer leadership in the Open Science movement.

Questions?

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Thank you!

