An introduction to:

peer

Publishing and the Ecology of European Research

February 2009

Supported by the EC eContent*plus* programme

Why is PEER needed?

There is agreement between publishing and research communities about the importance of access to results of European funded research

But

- there is no consensus on the need for mandated deposits or appropriate embargo periods
- or the impact this may have on journals

PEER has been set up to monitor the effects of systematic archiving over time

Stakeholders in scholarly communication

There are four key stakeholder groups:

- Publishers
- Researchers – authors and users
- Libraries and repositories
- Funding agencies

  - All of the above stakeholder groups are represented within PEER, both within the consortium & an advisory board
  - PEER will look at the effects of the systematic archiving of ***'stage two'*** outputs: the version of the author's manuscript accepted for publication

The three key stages of publication

Public Investment	Publisher Investment	
Stage One	Stage Two	Stage Three
Primary Outputs of Research: •raw data •Draft for submission to a journal	Author's draft incorporating peer review enhancements & as accepted for publication	Final published article on journal website: version of record with copyediting, typesetting, full citability, cross-referencing, interlinking with other articles, supplementary data

Current Situation and Key Problems & Issues

Current Situation:

- Rapid growth of institutional repositories
- Individual funding agency mandates
- Publisher experimentation
- Lack of agreement on evidence to date

Key Problems and Issues:

- Impact of systematically archiving stage-two outputs is not clear
  - on journals and business models
  - on wider ecology of scientific research

- Varying policies are confusing for authors and readers

- Lack of understanding and trust between publishers and research community

Purpose of PEER

Publishing & the Ecology of European Research

- Publishers and research community collaborate
- Develop an “observatory” to monitor the impact of systematically depositing stage-two outputs on a large scale
- Gather hard evidence to inform future policies

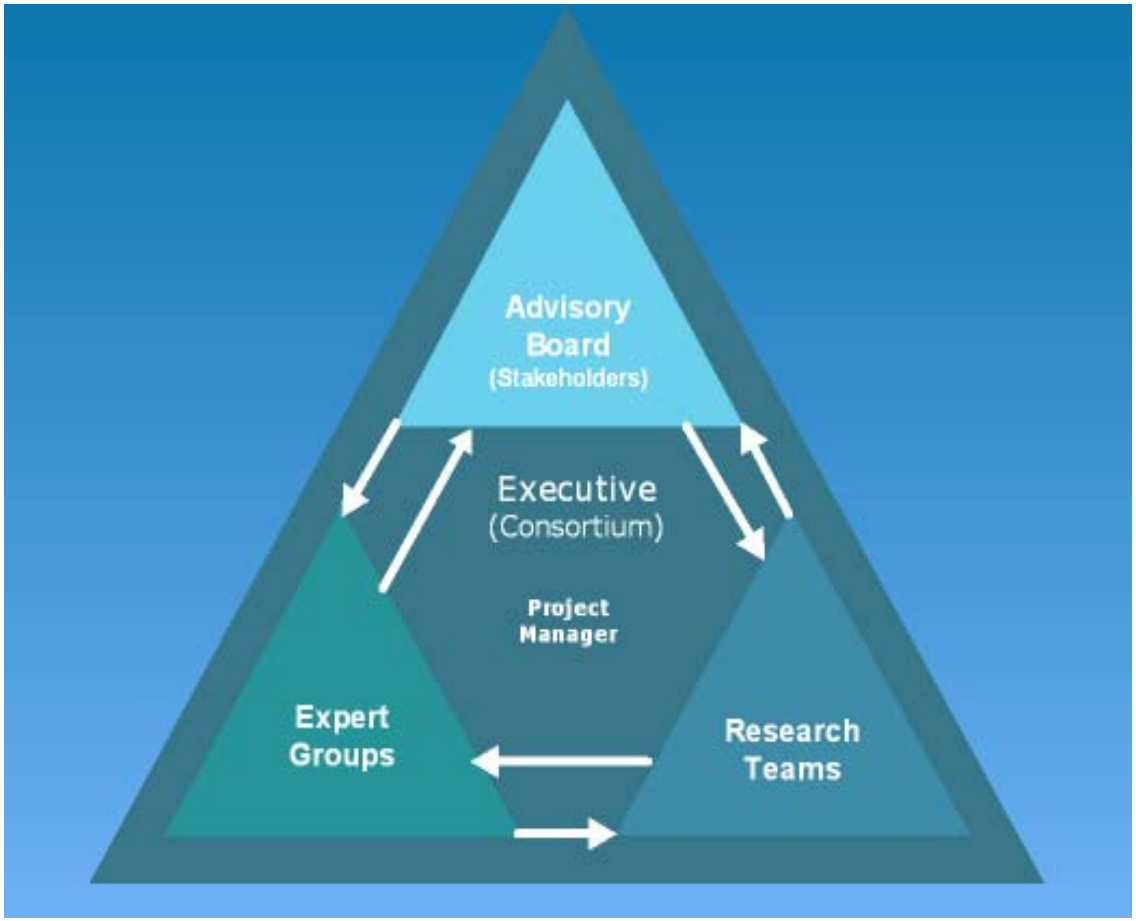
Objectives

- Determine how large-scale deposit of stage-two outputs will affect journal viability
- Determine whether it increases access
- Determine whether it affects the broader ecology of European research
- Determine the factors affecting readiness to deposit and associated costs
- Develop model(s) to show how traditional publishing can coexist with self-archiving

Expected Results

- Greater understanding of the effects of large-scale deposit in OA repositories
- Evidence to inform future policies
- Model(s) illustrating how to maximise the benefits of traditional publishing and archiving
- Trust and mutual understanding between publisher and research communities

Project Organisation



Project Organisation

Group	Represents	Role
Executive	Consortium	Plan & manage Key decisions
Advisory Board (20-30 experts)	All stakeholders (broad perspective)	Advise Evaluate research
Expert groups: publishers, respositories, authors, ROG	Key stakeholders (detailed perspective)	Discussion and feedback
Research oversight group (ROG)	Experts on scholarly publishing research	Oversee research Validate
Work package leaders & teams		Do the project work

Consortium & other participants

The PEER consortium:

- International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM)
- European Science Foundation (ESF)
- Göttingen State and University Library (UGOE)
- Max Planck Gesellschaft (MPG)
- Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA)

Plus technical partners: SURF & Universität Bielefeld

With other participants including:

- 11 STM publishers; Koninklijke Bibliotheek; Research Teams and Expert Advisors from all stakeholder groups

Publishers at January 2009

- BMJ Publishing Group
- Cambridge University Press
- Elsevier
- IOP Publishing
- Nature Publishing Group
- Oxford University Press
- Portland Press
- Sage Publications
- Springer
- Taylor & Francis Group
- Wiley-Blackwell

Overall Approach

- Publishers contribute 300 journals (and a control group)
- Maximise deposit and access within participating EU repositories
  - 50% publisher-assisted deposit
  - 50% author self-archiving
- Collaborate with DRIVER to involve repositories
- Commission research from independent research teams to assess impact – behavioural, access/usage and economic

Content

- Participating publishers collectively volunteer 300 journals (Life Sciences, Medicine, Physical Sciences, Social Sciences & Humanities & other professional publications)
- Selection criteria
  - European content – 20% or greater
  - Quality – good quality, but reflecting a range by impact factor
  - Subject – wide range
- Publishers set embargo periods appropriate for journal

User Involvement & Feedback

Authors

- Deposit their stage-two outputs
- Participate in the behavioural research
- Representative authors participate in Author/User group

Repository Users

- Participate in the behavioural research
- Representative users participate in Author/User group

Measuring Success

- Critical success factors
  - Observatory collects sufficient reliable data to draw conclusions
  - Stakeholders use the evidence gathered

- Success indicators therefore focus on
  - Underlying data provided to the observatory
  - Success at communicating results
  - Not what the observatory measures, e.g. user uptake

Project Timetable

- *September 2008*: project launched
- *December 2008*: issue RFPs for behavioural and usage research
- *January 2009*: establish project website
- *January/February 2009*: procedures issued to publishers and repositories for manuscript deposit and logfile harvesting
- *March 2009*: repositories begin receiving content from publishers and authors
- *April 2009*: sign contract for usage research & behavioural research; begin harvesting logfiles from repositories
- *August / September 2009*: complete behavioural research baseline study
- *December 2009*: sign contract for economic research
- *March 2010*: complete economic research
- *January 2011*: complete behavioural research follow-up study
- *January 2011*: complete usage research
- *March 2011*: collate results of research
- *May 2011*: develop preliminary model
- *July 2011*: develop final model on traditional publishing and archiving
- *August 2011*: project completion conference

Questions?

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