PEER – Guidelines for publishers and repository managers on deposit, assisted deposit and self-archiving now available at http://www.peerproject.eu/reports/

PEER is a pioneering collaboration between publishers, repositories and the research community, which aims to investigate the effects of the large-scale deposit (so called Green Open Access) on user access, author visibility, journal viability and the broader European research environment. The project will run until 2011, during which time over 50,000 European stage-2 (accepted) manuscripts from up to 300 journals will become available for archiving.

Guidelines documenting the procedures for publisher deposit and for subsequent transfer to participating PEER repositories are presented in this document following extensive consultation with both target groups within PEER.

An author helpdesk for the project is being established and will shortly be made available via the PEER website. This will serve as the major information point for EU based authors of articles in participating PEER journals who wish to self-archive their accepted manuscripts after receiving an invitation to do so.

The report sets out a major advance in repository practice in the use of the SWORD protocol which allows application-level deposit of material into repositories. It is presented as a cohesive sub-report (Appendix B), and it is expected that this may become a ready reference tool in its own right.

The Guidelines set out in this document should be read in conjunction with ‘D2.1 Draft report on the provision of usage data and manuscript procedures for publishers and repository managers’ also available at http://www.peerproject.eu/reports/.

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