

# PEER – Publishing and the Ecology of European Research

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News release

25 August 2009

## **PEER announces the appointment of teams from Loughborough University and University College London (UCL) for Behavioural and Usage Research.**

### **Behavioural Research:** *Authors and Readers vis-à-vis Journals and Repositories*

The behavioural research will be undertaken by the [Department of Information Science](#) and [LISU](#) at Loughborough University and has the following objectives:

- Track trends and explain patterns of author and user behaviour in the context of so called Green Open Access.
- Understand the role repositories play for authors in the context of journal publishing.
- Understand the role repositories play for users in context of accessing journal articles.

A baseline report is due in autumn 2009 and will be made available on the [PEER website](#).

### **Usage Research:** *Journals and Repositories*

The usage research will be undertaken by the UCL based [CIBER](#) group, with the following objectives:

- Determine usage trends at publishers and repositories;
- Understand source and nature of use of deposited manuscripts in repositories;
- Track trends, develop indicators and explain patterns of usage for repositories and journals.

The research teams were selected by the PEER Executive following an open tendering process and assessment by the members of the PEER [Research Oversight Group](#).

Both research teams will provide final reports mid 2011 and will feed into model development to determine whether (and how) traditional publishing systems can co-exist with self-archiving.

Michael Mabe, CEO of STM which acts as Coordinator for PEER stated *'The research outcomes from PEER will provide valuable input to informed dialogue and decisions in the open access debate. The successful teams were selected from a range of exceptional candidates and we hope to see the same levels of quality and interest when the invitation is announced for the forthcoming Economics research tender.'*

### **About PEER:**

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.

Further information on PEER, visit the website: [www.peerproject.eu](http://www.peerproject.eu)  
For enquiries relating to PEER, please e-mail: [peer@stm-assoc.org](mailto:peer@stm-assoc.org)

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**PEER Partners:** International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM), the European Science Foundation, Göttingen State and University Library, the Max Planck Society, INRIA, SURF Foundation and University of Bielefeld

**STM publishers participating in PEER:** 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

**PEER repositories:** Max-Planck-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Wissenschaften e.V. (MPG); HAL, Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA); Göttingen State and University Library (UGOE); BiPrints, Universität Bielefeld (UNIBI); Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania; University Library of Debrecen, Hungary  
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