



The University of Edinburgh



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Library & University Collections

The University of Edinburgh's Open Research

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Open Research Co-ordination

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Open Research

Find out more about the Open Research activities at the University of Edinburgh.

Edinburgh Open Research Roadmap

The Edinburgh Open Research Roadmap will guide our move towards Open Research as the "new normal" across all research disciplines in the university. As an active member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU) we have based this roadmap on the "Open Science and its role in universities: a roadmap for cultural change" (<https://www.leru.org/publications/open-science-and-its-role-in-universities-a-roadmap-for-cultural-change>) paper published by LERU in 2018.

This version of the roadmap contains our assessment of our progress against the 37 questions asked by LERU and gives details of the steps we will take to move forward. We will frequently review our progress against this roadmap and will publish annual updates on this website.

[Edinburgh Open Research Roadmap, January 2022 \(203.83 KB PDF\)](#)

[Edinburgh Open Research Roadmap, January 2022 \(28.21 KB Word\)](#)

We welcome feedback and suggestions for this roadmap from all members of the university community. These should be sent to dominic.tate@ed.ac.uk

Open Research, or Open Science as it's commonly known in much of the rest of the world, is research conducted and published via a combination of two or more of the following attributes:

- Open Access publication
- Open research data
- Open source software and code
- Open notebooks
- Open infrastructure
- Pre-registration of studies

At Edinburgh we have made a conscious choice to use the more inclusive term "Open Research" over "Open Science" in order to underscore the relevance of the terminology across the entire University, from Physics to Fashion. It is not a binary, either-or situation, but rather a continuum that runs from fully closed to fully open.

The drivers behind Open Research are both idealistic and pragmatic: it argues that publicly funded research is a public good, and ought to be accessible by everyone with minimal barriers or paywalls, and also that openness benefits society by speeding up the research process, facilitating the reuse of research outputs for new purposes, and increasing transparency and public trust. By making the full record of research "as open as possible and as closed as necessary", and taking active steps to preserve not only research publications but also the data, protocols and documentation that support them, the conclusions of research remain accessible and reproducible for contemporaries and future generations alike.

Edinburgh Open Research Conference 2022

The University's Library Research Support Team and grassroots organisations Edinburgh ReproducibiliTea and Edinburgh Open Research Initiative (EORI) are joining forces to launch the first Edinburgh Open Research Conference. Which will be held in the John McIntyre Conference Centre and Online on the 27th May 2022.

Edinburgh Open Research Initiative – EORI

Edinburgh Open Research Initiative (EORI) is a grassroots collective of students and staff based primarily at the University of Edinburgh, promoting awareness of and training in Open Research practices and policies, and lobbying for these to be implemented and formally recognised by the University of Edinburgh.

Background

- Library staff contributed to LERU's Open Research Roadmap.
- LERU document establishes 8 pillars of Open Science, provides plenty of detail
- Appendix sets out questions to enable universities to self-assess progress against 41 recommendations.



LERU Open Science Roadmap



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Open Science and its role in universities: a roadmap for cultural change



Open Science opens up new ways in which research/education/innovation are undertaken, archived and curated, and disseminated across the globe. Open Science is not about dogma per se; it is about greater efficiency and productivity, more transparency and a better response to interdisciplinary research needs. The LERU universities are convinced Open Science brings new and exciting opportunities for the scholarly community and for how academics interact with society. They also realise, however, that this transition will not be straightforward to deliver. There are challenges that lie ahead. For universities and other stakeholders to embrace Open Science principles, policies and practices, there needs to be a culture change in these organisations if this transition is to be successfully negotiated.

This paper discusses the eight pillars of Open Science identified by the European Commission (the future of scholarly publishing, FAIR data, the European Open Science Cloud, education and skills,

Executive summary

[↓ Open Science and its role in universities \(Executive Summary\)](#)

Full paper

[↓ Open Science and its role in universities \(Full Paper\)](#)



Eight pillars of Open Science

Future of Scholarly Communication

EOSC (European Open Science Cloud)

FAIR Data

Skills

Research Integrity

Rewards

Altmetrics

Citizen Science



Open Research Roadmap

Roadmap for Open Science – University of Edinburgh Self-Assessment January 2022

The following table contains a self-assessment on the University of Edinburgh’s readiness for Open Research, based on the 37 criteria set out in the LERU Open Science Roadmap. This self-assessment has been carried out by staff in the Library Research Support (LRS) Team. This is a working document and we would welcome the views on the accuracy of the self-assessment and the recommendations made.

	Topic	Question	Assessment of progress	Proposed next steps	RAG Status
Cultural change					
1.	Leadership	Has your university appointed a senior manager to lead Open Science approaches across all eight pillars of the Open Science debate identified by the European Commission?	<p>Dominic Tate (Head of Library Research Support) has been acting in the role of LERU Open Science Ambassador (OSA) but Dr. William Cawthorn (Lecturer, Centre for Cardiovascular Science, CMVM) has now taken on this role. Dominic Tate will continue to lead on Open Research for the Library.</p> <p>A number of other senior researchers have taken very active roles in areas of Open Science, including Andrew Millar, Malcolm McLeod (via the UK Reproducibility Network) and Emily Sena. In addition, as part of the recent REF submission, various School and Centres have identified a senior academic with a remit for open science.</p> <p>Grassroots networks of Open Research champions have emerged, such as the Edinburgh Open Research Initiative (EORI: @edinburgh_open, https://edopenresearch.com/) and ReproducibiliTea sessions, organised by interested postgraduate groups.</p>	<p>Schools and Colleges should consider engaging Open Research Champions at a local level</p> <p>The Open Research Co-Ordinator will create a network of Open Research champions from across the University. These will primarily be senior academics who have a responsibility for Open Research in their School, and school or college Research Support Staff who have a direct role in promoting and supporting Open Research. This network will work together to ensure coordinated action in designing and implementing strategies for advancing the University’s progress on the eight pillars. Dr. Cawthorn will Chair this network as part of his LERU Open Science Ambassador role.</p> <p>The Open Research Co-Ordinator will also identify any other researcher led Open Research work going on within the University. Once identified the Library will offer support to these groups as well as encouraging them to work</p>	



So far we have...

- Completed the self-assessment against the 41 recommendations and assigned rag statuses
- Consulted with members of Research Strategy Group
- Opened up the roadmap for comment and feedback



Next we have to...

- Ask for more detailed feedback (e.g. through the workshop later today),
- Prepare an update report for Research Strategy Group in the Autumn,
- Develop a workplan to take forward.