Making mandates more memorable at the University of Huddersfield (UoH)

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Game board

START HERE

Green Open Access

The Game of Open Access

Your route to Open Access publication

Our Open Access Policy

Green Open Access

Gold Open Access

Share and promote your work

Opportunities to publish Open Access

Open Access publishing is supported by the University and is expected in all but cases when the Copyright of the work is owned by a third party. The University prefers that peer-reviewed articles are deposited in the University Repository within three months of the acceptance date and embargo can’t be submitted. Authors are expected to pay Article Processing Charges. Green Open Access is expensive? True or false?

You make great progress! Take an OA card everywhere you land on the Green Open Access route and go forward.

You can only publish Open Access versions of your work in OA repositories. You are likely to pay APCs to deposit your article in the University Repository via the OA routes. Your article is accepted by the journal’s publisher and goes into the embargo. Take an OA card and go back one space!

Open Access publishing increases dissemination and visibility and impact. Take an OA card and go forward two spaces!

Your Library pays your article open access fee in the embargo. Take an OA card and go forward one space!

You can publish in your OA repository whilst the embargo is in place. Take an OA card and go forward one space!

You can’t publish your work in Open Access. Take an OA card and go back one space!

You accidentally delete all your survey data. Take an OA card and go back one space!

Rule number one: Keep your articles compatible with OA mandates.

You can only publish your OA article via the Green Route, settle to pay Article Processing Charges! Take an OA card and go forward one space!

Your Head of Research places your work in the embargo. Take an OA card and go forward one space!

You accidentally delete all your survey data. Take an OA card and go back one space!

You accidentally delete all your survey data. Take an OA card and go back one space!

You must reach the end and publish your article under an OA mandate. You must reach the end and publish your article under an OA mandate. Take an OA card and go forward one space!

If you’re publishing your OA article via the Green Route, settle to pay Article Processing Charges! Take an OA card and go forward one space!

Articles with a publisher embargo can’t be submitted for the REF? True or false?

The University prefers researchers to publish their OA article via the Green Gold Open Access route – true or false?

If you are publishing your OA article via the Green Route, you will need to pay Article Processing Charges!

The University OA policy says that the author accepted version of an article should be placed in the Repository. Does this version have to be open access?

Take an OA card whenever you land on the Gold Open Access route.

Feedback

Good potential for discussion, especially if there is an open discussion facilitator to aid this.

50:50 questions? They have a good chance of getting the answer right.

Cards are really easy to read in a good font and clear contrast (even without glasses)!

Excellent game!

The Game of Open Access is an innovative learning method that encourages imaginative thinking. It allows participants to engage in Open Access information sessions and be able to apply what they have learnt in a way inspired by its usefulness.

How did we create the game?

Several of our librarians use game based learning for their information skills sessions and decided to use this approach to engage our researchers. In Spring 2017 members of the Subject Team and the Scholarly Communications Team brainstormed, designed and played the game with 25 scenarios. One in house designer created the visuals and we then tested the game until we were happy for it’s first official outing at the annual Computing and Library Services Showcase in July.

And it seems we are in good company, as games seem to be a very popular way of disseminating information and encouraging understanding. The game has been played by researchers and librarians at library roadshows and in Open Access information sessions.

Future

Following on from the DART56 conference, some delegates played the game with researchers at their Institutions with some very positive feedback and, most importantly, lots of discussions around Open Access mandates.

At UoH we can now take on board the feedback given and alter some questions, add more scenarios and even adapt the gameplay with the potential for some ‘wildcards’.

A ‘special edition’ version for REF 2017 could also be an option with the potential for an online version too.

Summary

The game has given library staff the opportunity to help researchers deepen their understanding of OA compliance and hopefully with the game, in addition to traditional support, library guides and advocacy, we can lighten the stresses of their journey towards publication.

What’s it all about?

The Game of Open Access is a teaching resource created by library staff at the University of Huddersfield to engage researchers with the key concepts and tools required to meet Open Access mandates. Through the use of playful learning, it aims to develop an understanding of the role of Open Access through the initial ideas for an article to its acceptance for publication. The game has been played by researchers and librarians in the context of library roadshows, in Open Access information sessions with 250 people and more recently at the UoH WRL (DART56) conference where delegates played the game and gave honest and constructive feedback on how it could be improved.

The resource is available to download from our Repository (eprints.hud.ac.uk/id/eprint/33874/1) and can be shared and adapted under CC BY-NC 3.0