

University of Bristol Research Publications and Scholarly Works Policy

Introduction

The University of Bristol (University) has a long-standing commitment to open research and scholarship, recognising that open access to the materials and products of research—including publications and intermediate research objects such as data and code—increases the quality of its research, maximises the opportunity and impact of its research for local, regional and global communities, and contributes positively to its research culture and environment.

Research funders are increasingly requiring immediate open access to the research they fund, licensed under terms that enable its reuse. This policy has been developed to effect research funder policies, allowing the University and its staff to comply with funding terms and achieve the University's wider goals and benefits of open research while minimising risk and workload for authors.

Members of Staff at the University have traditionally, when publishing research outputs, exercised an independent right to assign copyright in their Scholarly Works (in addition to the University's right). This has enabled the current practice of the "corresponding author" assigning copyright to publishers, which results in many Scholarly Works now being under partial or complete ownership by academic publishers.

In order for the University and its researchers to disseminate its research and scholarship as widely as possible and comply with funder requirements whilst enabling its staff to publish their work in a journal of their choice, the University will adopt the following policy.

Policy

1. The University confirms that Members of Staff own the copyright in manuscripts of their Scholarly Works (which means that the University will waive its rights of ownership of such copyright), provided the Member of Staff complies with this Policy and grants the licence set out in clause 3 below.
2. For the avoidance of doubt, the University does not waive its rights in:
 - (i) any intellectual property described in Scholarly Works, such as know-how, copyright, design rights, inventions, etc. or
 - (ii) anything other than the manuscripts of Scholarly Works.
3. In consideration of the University's waiver in clause 1, upon acceptance for publication each Member of Staff grants to the University a continuing, non-exclusive, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free, sub-licensable licence to make manuscripts of Scholarly Works publicly available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) licence (or any successor or replacement) or a more permissive licence.
4. Each Member of Staff will ensure that all manuscript submissions (whether for funded research or otherwise) will include the following text in the funding acknowledgement section of the manuscript and any cover letter/note accompanying the submission:

'For the purpose of open access, the author(s) has applied a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising from this submission.'

...or such other wording as may be required by the relevant funder.

5. Each Member of Staff who is the "corresponding author" will on acceptance of publication provide an electronic copy of the accepted manuscript of each article to all required University institutional repositories.

6. It is the corresponding author's responsibility to obtain the relevant Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) licence (or any successor or replacement) or more permissive licence from any co-authors who are not Members of Staff.
7. The University will deposit the accepted manuscript in institutional repositories, with article Metadata usually available immediately upon deposit and the accepted manuscript being made accessible to the public on the date of first online publication (or the conference end date for conference proceedings) under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence.
8. The University recognises that there may be situations outside a Member of Staff's control where it is difficult to follow this policy exactly. In this case it may be permissible for a Member of Staff to opt out of the requirement for immediate open access upon publication, but not the licence granted in clause 3 above. However, this may cause the research output to be non-compliant with funder policies. To opt out the Member of Staff must comply in full with the requirements set out in the guidance notes.
9. Members of Staff who are the corresponding author must include standardised University affiliation "University of Bristol" in all Scholarly Works.
10. The University encourages Members of Staff to make other research materials and outputs that are not Scholarly Works as openly available as possible.

Definitions

In this Policy the following terms have the following meanings:

Member of Staff: any person who is under a contract of employment or otherwise engaged with the University including academic, research, technical and administrative staff or those with honorary or visiting status, whether full-time or part-time or on a temporary basis where publication is an expectation of their employment or engagement

Metadata: information about the Scholarly Work that enables it to be stored, identified, described, managed, searched, accessed, or attributed.

Scholarly Works: all scholarly articles which are the outputs of Members of Staff either as author or co-author including research articles and conference proceedings. It does not include Teaching Materials, monographs, scholarly editions, text books, book chapters, collections of essays, datasets, software, or other outputs that are not scholarly articles

Teaching Materials: All materials used in, or in connection with, and for the purpose of, teaching an educational course through the provision of lectures, tutorials, seminars, workshops, field or laboratory classes, assessments, practicum and other teaching activities conducted by the University; and all intellectual property rights in such materials.