



medanet

Mediterranean Open Access Network



Portuguese National Workshop

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PORTUGUESE NATIONAL WORKSHOP

22ND OCTOBER 2012

UNIVERSITY OF MINHO, BRAGA, PORTUGAL

BACKGROUND

National Workshops are an initiative included in the MedOAnet's (<http://www.medoanet.eu/>) project plan to be held for each Mediterranean country between October and November 2012.

In Portugal this initiative was held on 22nd October 2012, at the University of Minho, in parallel with Spanish National Workshop. This initiative was part of the UMinho's program for Open Access Week.

The main goal of this national workshop was to discuss what should be done to foster open access in Portugal converging with the European policies and benefiting of the experience and knowledge of the National Task Force members.

This event gathered three dozen delegates representing not only universities, polytechnics, scientific institutes, research laboratories and other research performing organizations, but also scientific and professional associations, funders, and scientific publishers.

DELEGATES

In June 2012, the University of Minho, on behalf of the MedOAnet Project, addressed invites to relevant institutions connected with the national scientific and research and Open Access, and also to delegates of the *Seminar for Open Access to Science Information: policies for the development of OA in Southern Europe* held in Granada, Spain, on the 13th - 14th May 2010. The main goal of this invitation was to define a Portuguese Task Force. This group will allow their members to participate in the developments of Open Access strategies and policies at national and European level; access to the relevant information and documentation on Open Access, and foster Open Access in Portugal.

The meeting gathered 23 representatives from institutions and Portuguese delegation members who have been in Granada, the Rector of Minho University and members of the Open Access Projects Team of University of Minho Documentation Services.

The list of participants is the following:

1. Associação dos Bolseiros de Investigação Científica (ABIC) - Jérôme Borme
2. Associação para a Promoção e Desenvolvimento da Sociedade da Informação (APDSI) – José Dias Coelho
3. Associação Portuguesa de Bibliotecários, Arquivistas e Documentalistas - Henrique Barreto Nunes
4. Centro Académico de Medicina de Lisboa (CAML) - Joaquim Ferreira
5. Conselho Coordenador dos Institutos Superiores Politécnicos (CCISP) - Maria Potes Barbas
6. Conselho dos Laboratórios Associados (CLA) - Alexandre Quintanilha
7. Associação Portuguesa de Telemática Educativa (Educom) - Ana Luísa Gonçalves
8. Fundação para a Computação Científica Nacional (FCCN) - João Mendes Moreira
9. Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) - Vasco Vaz
10. Fundação Champalimaud - Roque da Cunha Ferreira
11. International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL) – José Rivas
12. Imprensa da Universidade de Coimbra – Delfim Leão
13. Instituto Nacional de Investigação Agrária e Veterinária (INIAV) – Nuno Canada
14. Instituto Politécnico de Bragança - Clarisse Pais
15. Instituto Politécnico de Santarém - Dina Rocha
16. Instituto Universitário de Lisboa (ISCTE – IUL) - Maria João Amante
17. Sociedade Portuguesa de Pediatria - Manuela Alves
18. Universidade Aberta - Fernando Pestana da Costa
19. Universidade de Évora – Fernando Capela e Silva
20. Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro - Arsénio Reis
21. Universidade do Porto - Lígia Ribeiro
22. Universidade Fernando Pessoa - Nadine Rombert Trigo e Ana Moutinho

PROGRAMME

The workshop started with a welcoming message from the UMinho's Rector, Professor António Cunha that also briefly described the history of Open Access at Minho University, mainly through the institutional repository of the university – RepositóriUM. He stressed the value of the repository on the university strategy, especially in the current action plan running until 2013. The RepositóriUM is a project with almost ten years, which begun in 2003. The main goals of the institutional repository are: contribute to increase the impact and visibility of the scientific production of the university; preserve the memory of the institution in a structured way, and facilitate the intern management. In the future, the repository will also contribute for the research management system, including monitoring and evaluation of the human resources involved in research. In 2010, the University

reviewed its institutional open access policy and, released a formal document '*Despacho RT-98/2010*¹' which requires all academics deposit a copy of their scientific articles, communications and other scientific documents into RepositóriUM immediately after publication.

After the Rector's talk, all participants had the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves. The first communication on MedOAnet Project² initiated the set of planned presentations. Clara Boavida introduced the project and presented some results of the Medoanet's surveys held in each of the six Mediterranean countries. This analysis allowed to compare the current Open Access situation in Portugal with the current situation in others five countries. From the conclusions of this study some topics for reflection and future debate were identified: the lack of monitoring mechanisms of Open Access policies; the lack of preservation policies, and the lack of research data on most repositories; the excellent number of implemented institutional repositories; the significant number of mandatory Open Access policies in Portugal. It was still stressed that scientific publishers, despite allowing some form of deposit of the articles they publish into institutional repositories, do not make available on their websites the policy which regulates this possibility.

The followed presentation, *Open Access policies in Europe in 2012 (so far)*, by Alma Swan, was shared using Skype. Alma Swan presented the number of institutional and politic mandates in Portugal as well as in other European countries. She described the new developments of the European Commission (EC) relating Open Access in the 7FP (2007-2013) and she made a reference to the EC recommendations³ which were launched on the 17th July 2012. These recommendations were considered priorities for new framework programme, the Horizon2020, running from 2014 to 2020.

Under Horizon2020 (H2020) the EC announced that its policy will be applied to all scientific fields (differently from the current FP). A deposit mandate (Green OA), requiring the harvesting through OpenAIRE infrastructure of all publications with embargo periods not higher than 6 or 12 months, was defined and the publication costs (Gold OA) can be supported by the project budgets, during the project duration and even after. Within H2020 policy a pilot to research data is also announced.

¹ Despacho RT-98/2010 available at:

http://intranet.uminho.pt/Arquivo/files/Despachos/2010/Despacho_RT-98_2010.pdf

² Medoanet – Mediterranean Open Access Network (PT) available at:

<http://openaccess.sdum.uminho.pt/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/pps-clara-MEDOANET-Workshop-Nacional.pptx>

³ EC Recommendations on access to and preservation of scientific information (EN) available at:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2012:194:0039:0043:EN:PDF>

Finally, Alma Swan presented the recent Research Councils UK (RCUK) policy, which focus and favors publication of OA articles (Gold OA), alerting to the potential negative effects, such as the rise of scientific publication costs, the offering of OA article publication (Hybrid OA) by traditional journals simultaneously with larger embargo periods and worse conditions for the deposition of articles into repositories (Green OA).

Bernard Rentier made a presentation⁴ on the mandatory policy of the Université de Liège, one of the worldwide success cases. The main reasons to this successful OA policy implementation are a range of scientific, economic, ethics, philosophic and strategic factors mixed with a perfect understanding between top management and the libraries of the university. The mandate was decided in 2005 and implemented in 2007.

In general terms, this mandate requires the deposit of all publications into the institutional repository, and all articles published after 2002 should be available in full text. The big incentive, which contributed to the initiative success, is the fact that the university only takes into account the deposited publications in the evaluation and promotion process.

Behind the technique there is a concept which has been developed over the last years. In order to achieve this development stage there is a strong strategy of communication between all participants taking part of the process as well as a support 'back office' not only in terms of electronic tools but also in human resources where the authors have the primary role. As a result of this effort, other institutions are adopting similar mandatory OA policies. The Université du Luxembourg assigned a collaboration protocol which will allow the university to create its own institutional repository, ORBI^{lu5}.

Rentier's presentation was shared, through Skype, for our Spanish colleagues in Madrid who were running the National Workshop at the same time.

Eloy Rodrigues concluded the set of presentations with a reflection on current situation of OA in Portugal⁶. He started to describe the OA evolution in Portugal since 2003 until nowadays in terms of scientific journals and OA policies. This part was followed by some results of a survey conducted by the University of Minho targeted for researchers working in Portugal.

⁴ *OA at Liège University: the ORBi gamble* (EN) available at:

<http://openaccess.sdum.uminho.pt/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Rentier-Medoanet-Workshop.pptx>

⁵ In Portugal, through the SARI service included in the RCAAP Project, academic and scientific institutions have the opportunity to implement an institutional repository applying this service. If their scientific production is not enough to create their own IR they can use the Common Repository.

⁶ The current situation of the OA in Portugal (PT) available at:

http://openaccess.sdum.uminho.pt/wpcontent/uploads/2012/10/Apres-Portugal_ER.pptx

The first survey's results were published⁷ and presented at 11^o BAD Conference. As soon as possible, both final report and collected data will be available for public. Based on the survey results some conclusions were stressed: researchers have a general knowledge about the Open Access concept; they strongly agree with the principle of making published results paid by public funds free available to all; there is a, still significant, gap between opinion and adherence and effective OA practice. It was still identified a favorable opinion relating a possible OA mandate of the FCT (main public funder in Portugal); an acceptance of the requirements and institutional OA policies, and a lack of awareness from researchers about existing OA policies from institutions or at EC level.

RESULTS

After all the presentations the floor was open to discussion, among all participants, around the main question of the meeting:

What should be done to foster OA in Portugal in convergence with European policies?

The task force members were invited to reflect and discuss about:

- What can or should be done by performing research institutions?
- What can or should be done by research funders?
- What can or should be done by scientific publishers and other stakeholders to achieve the purpose of the main question.

Other topics were added for debate as the strategies to increase the OA practice from researchers; how can the activities of the stakeholders be coordinated to foster the OA in Portugal; how to ensure the sustainability of the OA infrastructures such as RCAAP (Open Access Scientific Repository from Portugal), institutional repositories hosted outside RCAAP, scientific journals, etc.; and finally, how all these Portuguese initiatives can be coordinated with European activities and infrastructures.

Representatives from funders, publishers and research institutions participated in the debate. They shared their opinions and concerns that should be taken in consideration in the future. It was clear for all of them that the institutional leaderships should be coordinated and harmonized. These leaderships should strongly support the implemented OA policies or OA policies created in the future.

They addressed for the delicate issue regarding the evaluation process of the institutions and academics. It was suggested that not only the OA policies of the institutions but also

⁷ Open Access policies and mandates: researchers' perceptions is available at:
<http://repositorium.sdum.uminho.pt/handle/1822/20521>

the OA policies from the funders should be connected with these evaluation processes, which should be rigorous. The interoperability between institutions' systems and services should be a priority, decreasing the additional work and therefore reducing the barrier for Open Access. It was unanimous to include scientific data and preservation policies in the agenda. Finally, relating the language issue, it was considered important spreading national scientific production worldwide mainly across Portuguese-speaking countries. Some testimonials include what should be considered and taken in account in the future action plan:

Regarding the questions of debate everything is relating with institutions leadership.

Alexandre Quintanilha

It will be useful through a range of innovative tools to decrease work effort using interoperability between systems.

Lúgia Ribeiro

Being Portugal a Lusophone country, how can we work in an articulate way to convert the demographic issue in a scientific benefit?

Delfim Leão

It is fundamental to harmonize common policies between universities and polytechnics.

Dina Rocha

To implement a mandatory policy should be taken in account the difference in terms of time-consuming between different scientific fields and type of researchers. (...) We should add the research data topic to the discussion on repositories, essentially, in the biomedicine field.

Joaquim Ferreira

The OA policies should consider young researchers training (...).

Jérôme Borme

The OA capitalizes the own researchers' merits (...).

Roque da Cunha Ferreira

The OA is an excellent option when the quality and excellence of the scientific works is ensured, these are fundamental aspects to better satisfy researchers, institutions and scientific community.

José Rivas

Should exist a behavior change of those who do research, not only in Portugal, but also worldwide, to open and facilitate the access to the scientific results.

Nadine Trigo e Ana Moutinho

The event was concluded with the announcement of next Task Force meeting which will be held at the University of Minho, on the 6th February 2013. This event will bring together activities from two 7FP projects: MedOAnet and OpenAIREPlus (2nd Generation of Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe). Next meeting will gather Task Force members not only from Portugal but also from other five Mediterranean countries: Spain, France, Italy, Greece and Turkey.

CONCLUSIONS

At the conclusion we can mention that the meeting was very positive because it allowed people be involved in an event on Open Access for the first time.

Hopefully, after next meeting an action plan can be adopted taking in account concerns and requirements expressed by participants allowing fostering OA in Portugal in convergence with European policies.

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More information available at: http://openaccess.sdum.uminho.pt/?page_id=915