

# OCLC-LIBER Open Science Discussion Series

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2020

## Round-up: findings from the small group discussions

**PRESENTERS:**

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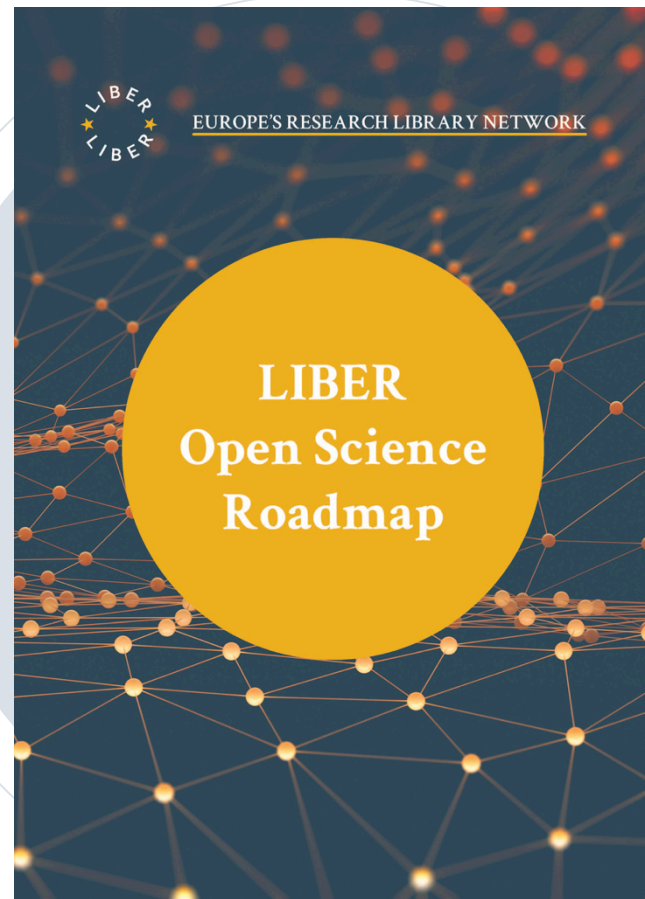
# OCLC-LIBER Open Science Discussion Series



# Open Science Roadmap

## Focus Areas

1. Scholarly Publishing
2. FAIR Data
3. Research Infrastructures & the EOSC
4. Metrics & Rewards
5. Open Science Skills
6. Research Integrity
7. Citizen Science



# Objectives and desired outcomes

- Offer our Networks a **Forum for Meaningful Discussion**
- Offer an opportunity to **Exchange Ideas across the Atlantic**, with audiences from both Europe and North America
- Identify **Key Research Questions** that LIBER in cooperation with OCLC can address to advance the role of Research Libraries in an emerging Open Science Landscape



# Results



1. **Good participation:** 53 attendees from 18 countries
2. **Positive feedback:** meaningful conversations, participatory, caring, stimulating, different points of view across continents, well structured, poll was a good instrument to collect obstacles
3. **Nice reports:** blog posts on [HangingTogether.org](https://HangingTogether.org)



A close-up photograph of a person's hand pointing at a colorful mosaic of small tiles on a table. The tiles are in various colors like blue, yellow, orange, and green. The background is blurred.

# The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

**WHAT DOES AN IDEAL FUTURE STATE LOOK LIKE FOR THE OPEN SCIENCE ECOSYSTEM?**

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES PREVENTING SWIFT ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS IDEAL?**

**HOW CAN THE LIBRARY (AND OTHER) COMMUNITIES TAKE COLLECTIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES?**

**WHAT DOES AN IDEAL  
FUTURE STATE LOOK LIKE  
FOR THE OPEN SCIENCE  
ECOSYSTEM?**



# Imagine...



# In the Ideal Future...

- Culture has changed
- All Research Processes are Open, Transparent & Inclusive
- Infrastructures, Services and Data are Interoperable & Accessible
- Librarians have all necessary Skills
- New Metrics and Rewards are in place
- Libraries cooperate with everyone

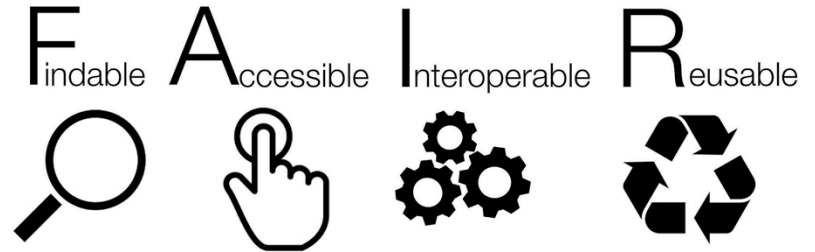
# In the Ideal State: Culture has changed

- **Openness** is central
- All **Research Processes** are **Open, Transparent & Inclusive**
- **Open Science Values & Principles** are **Institutionalized** & are part of **PhD education**
- The Open Science **Jargon & Acronyms** (DMP, FAIR, CARE, etc.) are **adapted**
- Students and Researchers **understand** what Open Science means in practice for them
- **New types of Incentives** for Research are in place: transparent and open



# In the Ideal State: Infrastructures, Services and Data are Interoperable & Accessible

- Research is **Data-Driven** and there are **Robust Infrastructures** for storing, sharing, processing and preserving data
- Infrastructures are **globally interconnected & seamlessly integrated** leading to an Internet of FAIR data and services
- Software and Metadata are **equally available** to humans and machines
- Data is **available** “naturally and easily”
- Metadata standards are **FAIR** and ensure **Semantic Interoperability**



# In the Ideal State: Librarians have all necessary Skills

- Open Science and FAIR Principles are embedded in Librarian Skills
  - **Soft Skills:** able to walk in the shoes of Researchers / Students / Citizens
  - **Hard Skills:** vocabularies, metadata, basics of software programming, tools and data science
- The Library is the Place to go for **Data Services**





In the Ideal State: Research Libraries collaborate with



**WHAT ARE THE MAIN  
CHALLENGES AND  
OBSTACLES PREVENTING  
SWIFT ACHIEVEMENT OF  
THIS IDEAL?**



# Main obstacles to reach the ideal future state

1. Culture Change necessary
2. Inadequate Rewards and Incentives
3. Lack of Researcher Awareness and Involvement
4. Lack of Skills relating to Open Science
5. No agreement on Standards & Interoperability

# 1. Culture Change is necessary

- Need to change Ingrained Attitudes

“Librarians are Risk-avoiding”; “need to change the Attitude of Senior Researchers and senior Campus Leadership”

- Lack of Collaboration and Engagement with other Stakeholders

- Between Libraries and Researchers
- Siloed Structure across Academic Campus
- Different Stakeholders have different perspectives on Open

- It’s also about a bigger Culture Change: Open as a “Second nature”

## 2. Inadequate Rewards and Incentives

What is inadequate?

- The **Evaluation** System for Researchers and Institutions
- The **Funding** System
- The **Metrics and Rewards** System
- The **Competitive Nature** of Rewards System (*competition trumps ethics*)
- **No Recognition**, Incentives or Rewards **for doing Open**

# 3. Lack of Researcher Involvement

- Researchers are still **not Aware** of Open Science Practices
- Researchers are **uncertain** of what Open Science means to them
- Researchers **lack Knowledge** of Open Science (e.g. research integrity, ethics)
- Researchers are **not being involved** in Open Science Developments
- Researchers perceive Open Science practices as a **Burden**  
*‘This is yet another thing we need to do’*

## 4. Lack of Skills

What are the most important Skills that Librarians lack?

*“**Connecting to Researchers** is one of the most important Skills Librarians have to learn. Get out there. Go to Researchers. Don’t stay behind your bookcase. If we stay in our Library, nothing will happen.”*

*“I agree, and I think also that Researchers want to talk with People **who understand what they do**. Not every Librarian needs to be an excellent Programmer or Data Scientist, but to be a good Person to speak with, to make connections, they need to know at least the basics of these Hard Skills.”*

# 5. No Standards & Interoperability

- **No agreed Standards**; stop trying to develop Different Standards
- **Persistent Identifiers** are important, but are often not supported by Information Systems
- No Seamless **Integration**
- No **Open Metadata**



**HOW CAN THE LIBRARY (AND  
OTHER) COMMUNITIES TAKE  
COLLECTIVE ACTION TO  
ADDRESS THESE  
CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES?**



# So... how do we get there?

- Harder to **ideate**
- We heard **frustration**
- Repeatedly heard the need to work **outside the library**
- Perhaps we are **uncomfortable** and don't know how to do this?

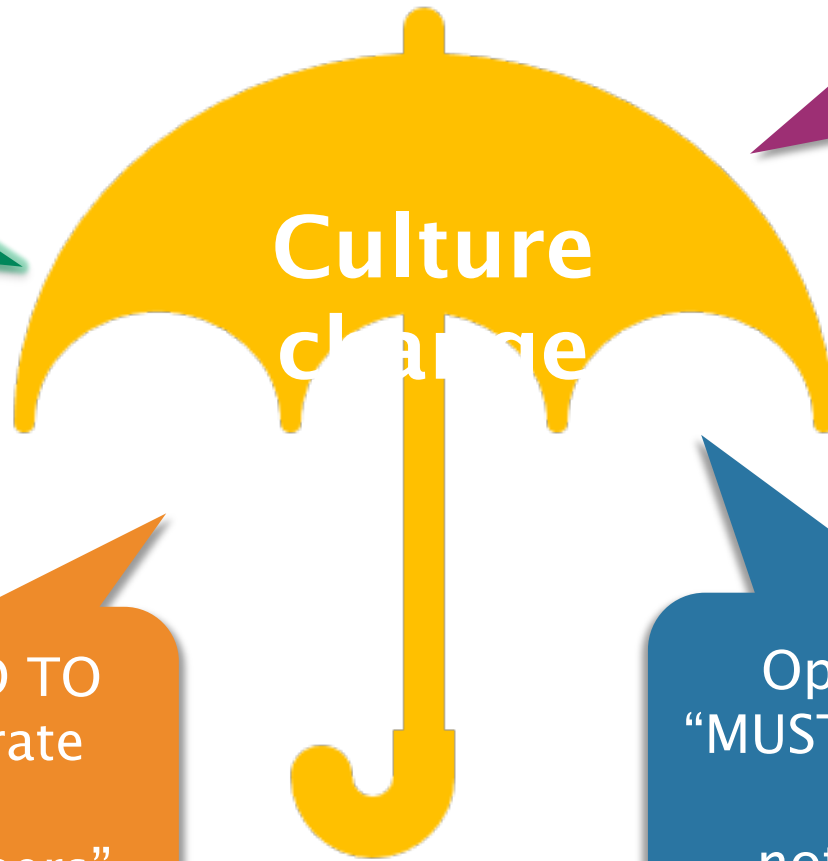




# Culture change

- Lack of researcher involvement
- Inadequate rewards and incentives
- No agreement on standards and interoperability
- Lack of skills

“The library  
CAN’T do it  
alone”



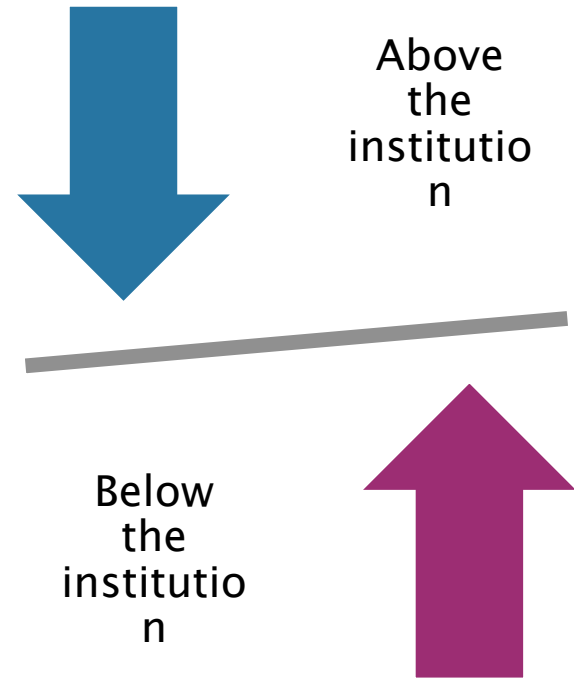
“We HAVE TO  
partner with  
the Research  
Office”

“We NEED TO  
collaborate  
with  
researchers”

Open Science ...  
“MUST be a collective  
effort ...  
not just libraries”

# Culture Change/Working together

- OS stakeholders
- Policy makers
- Research funders
- Researchers
- Staff from different campus units



# Above the institution: stakeholders

- Funders
- National policy makers
- OS communities
- PID providers
- Publishers
- Service providers
- Public libraries & citizens

“One thing to push things forward is to look at funding agencies. They are the ones that do the assessment! They have a very important role in changing things quickly.”

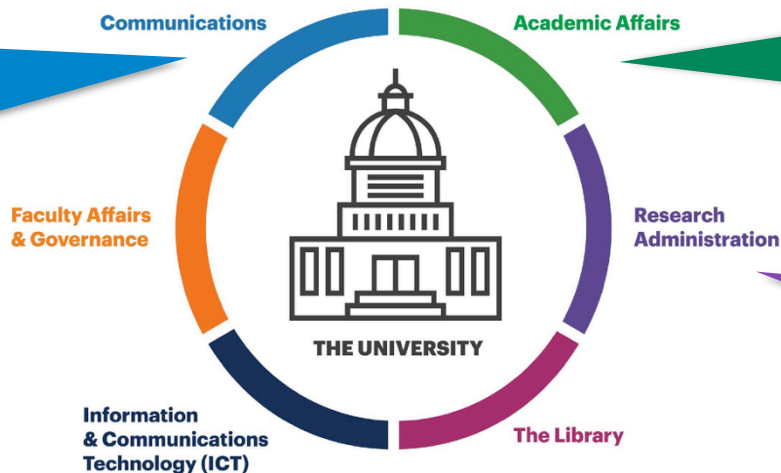
Be involved in national (funded) initiatives that advance OS. In the Netherlands, the Digital Competence Centres Program is a strong incentive to collaborate.

“Work with parties that work on innovation: RDA groups, GOFAIR, EOSC.”

# Below the institution: stakeholders

“The Science Centre ... supports researchers to translate their research for the layman.”  
(*Citizen Science session*)

A Conceptual Model of Campus Research Support Stakeholders



“We need to collaborate with the Deans, Provost, Associate Deans’ Council. Customize impact reports for them.”  
(*Metrics & Rewards session*)

“We have librarians that are funded by them”  
(*Research Integrity session*)

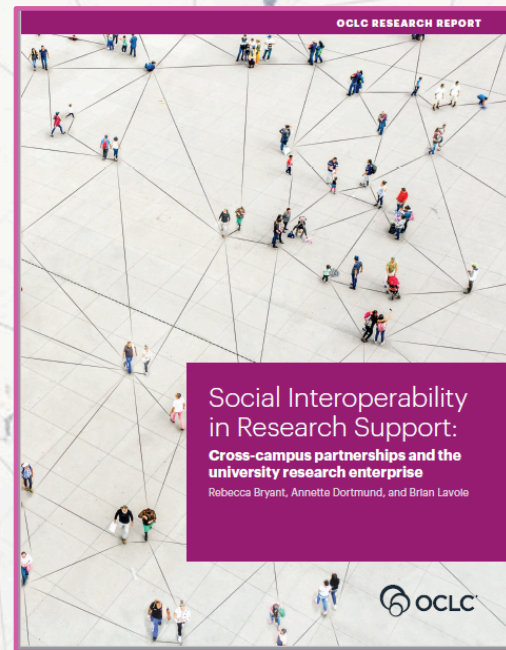


“A conceptual model of campus research support stakeholders” by [OCLC Research](https://doi.org/10.25333/wyrd-n586), from *Social Interoperability in Research Support: Cross-campus Partnerships and the University Research Enterprise* (<https://doi.org/10.25333/wyrd-n586>), [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)



# Below the institution: stakeholders

*SOCIAL INTEROPERABILITY is the creation and maintenance of working relationships across individuals and organizations/units that promote collaboration, communication, and mutual understanding.*

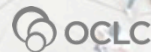


[oclc.org/social-interoperability](https://oclc.org/social-interoperability)



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# Culture change starts with us

- The library has an important role to play
- The library has expertise

## BUT

- **Overemphasis on values**, to the neglect of others' needs & interests
- **Services/value proposition can be diluted** by desire to "be everything for everyone."
- **Lack of confidence** among librarians can hinder effectiveness.
- **Discomfort with finances**

"Maybe . . . we are a bit brutal to them when we come with our mission and we want to skill them; that can be a bit frightening. It's about soft and political skills here."

"We CAN broker relationships, and that's underrated."

# Key Takeaways about Successful Intra-campus Social Interoperability

“Open Science is a good example – in the UK they call it open research so that Humanities scholars and Social Scientists don’t find it off-putting – too sciencey.”

**Communications**

**Academic Affairs**

**Faculty Affairs & Governance**



- Secure buy-in
- Know your audience
- Speak their language
- Offer solutions to problems
- Timing is essential
- Find opportunities to connect
- Leverage shared staff
- Find “connectors”
- Manage personalities
- Be confident in your value
- Manage resistance
- Invest the energy

**Research Administration**

“Promote the library as ‘the place to go.’”

“We have librarians that are funded by them [the research office]”

**Information & Communications Technology (ICT)**

**The Library**



# Researcher involvement, buy-in, and convenience

- Educational opportunity: outreach to early career researchers
- Integration of librarians into interdisciplinary research teams

“Educate early career researchers. DMP is a starting point. We could even target undergraduate level and teach about open/sharing ... include OS in information literacy courses.”

“Liaison librarians should become more an integral part of the research team. If they are more embedded in the research process, I think we can do a better job of facilitating conversations around research integrity.”

# Incentives and rewards

“In the Netherlands, we are setting up a system at the national level for rewarding researchers for making data available. You need both top-down and bottom-up incentives.”

“The challenge is moving the funding conversations OUT of the library and into the broader institutional setting.”

- Work both above- and below-the-institution
- If the library isn't in the conversations, it can't have an impact; choose the right level for achieving impact

“The best tactic for libraries to achieve impact is finding the right level in the organization that has influence on researchers and influence that intermediary level.”

# Standards & Interoperability

- Use existing PIDs
- Support existing services (CrossRef, DataCite, ORCID, etc.)
- Build into our systems

“Systems integration is necessary.”

“Build PIDs into all of our systems. We need to practice what we preach.”

“We need to ‘make open easy’—and we are currently not making it easy.”

# Skills

- Acknowledge the need for both “hard” and “soft” skills
- Collaboration is needed to support OS across all disciplines

“Could we develop coordinated specializations within groups of libraries?”

“What is the modern renaissance librarian? They need basic knowledge (soft skills) and specialism (hard skills).”

“**A revolution is required:**  
one which **opens up research**  
processes and **changes mindsets** in  
favour of a world where policies,  
tools and infrastructures universally  
support the growth and sharing of  
knowledge.

# NEXT STEPS

## We will

- Finish our **synthesis of the discussions** and **publish the outcomes** in LIBER Quarterly
- Develop a **follow-up LIBER-OCLC activity**

**Follow us** on [Hangingtogether.org](https://Hangingtogether.org) and [Libereurope.eu](https://Libereurope.eu)



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## Q & A



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