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### Introduction

Dear members and partners of COAR,

On behalf of the COAR Executive Board, Executive Director and COAR Office we wish you a happy new year. Our thanks go to all of you for your support and commitment over the past year. One of the highlights this year will be the 4th COAR Annual Meeting on 7-8 May 2013 in Istanbul, Turkey, which will be hosted by Özyegin University. We invite all our members and partners and look forward to seeing you all in this beautiful city. You can find first information [here](#).

### Repository Observatory

The new COAR Task Force “Repository Observatory” (RO) begins its journey. The aim of this project will be the identification of trends and future scenarios in the context of the use of repositories in research and education as well as

to help Open Access (OA) repositories to anticipate and respond to the constant state of rapid evolution. The first highlight will be an interview with Michele Kimpton, Chief Executive Officer of DuraSpace, about the plans and the near future of DSpace and Fedora. Amongst other things she provides her opinion on the major driving force in OA repositories’ development and her vision of the future of OA repositories. Moreover two new projects are presented: Hydra Project, founded by Stanford University, the University of Hull and the University of Virginia; and the Catmandu/ LibreCat Software Development Project, of Lund University, Ghent University and Bielefeld University. Both projects provide new approaches and tools to enhance our repositories and new perspectives for new services and roles. One important section of the RO will be a series of COAR members and partner institutions profiles. In the “readings” section you will find interesting articles and reports with a visionary and strategic focus. Please visit the [Repository Observatory website](#) and enjoy!

### New Members

COAR welcomes all new members and groups who have recently joined our association:

In October 2012 Özyegin University, Turkey, joined COAR. We are very pleased to welcome Ilkay Holt, Director of Libraries at Özyegin University, who will be representing Özyegin University in COAR. Our special thanks go to Ilkay for her support in hosting the COAR Annual Meeting 2013 at Özyegin University on 7-8 May 2013 in Istanbul.

Middle East Technical University (METU), Turkey, joined COAR in December 2012. Since its foundation in 1956, METU has been an international research university with deep and broad international ties and running inter-national research projects. We warmly welcome Associate

Director and representative of METU Emre Hasan Akbayrak.

Also in December 2012, Sistema Integrado de Bibliotecas of Universidade de São Paulo (USP), Brazil, joined our community. We welcome Sueli Mara Soares Pinto Ferreira, Director of the Integrated Library System of the University of São Paulo.

### **New partnership with euroCRIS**

COAR and euroCRIS are happy to announce their recently established strategic partnership. EuroCRIS is a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to the development of quality CRISs (Current Research Information Systems) enabling wide-scale interoperability. As a first step, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the euroCRIS members meeting in Madrid, Spain, on 6 November 2012. The partnership will be based on the mutual understanding of the importance of Open Access to research results and the need for appropriate mechanisms for ensuring this. Please find further detailed information on our [website](#).

### **From the Working Groups**

#### **WG1: Repository Content**

In order to ensure that COAR members have access to a wide variety of strategies for recruiting content, Working Group 1 will update its review of Sustainable Best Practices for Population Repositories and a report will be published in early 2013.

The Open Access Agreements and Licenses Task Force has completed a preliminary scan of the environment and a set of guidelines is forthcoming. The aim of the Task Force is to assist organizations and licensing consortia in supporting Open Access through licensing clauses or other types of agreements.

#### **WG2: Repository Interoperability**

On 6 November 2012 at the Berlin10 conference in South Africa, COAR Working Group 2 Chair Eloy Rodrigues and Abby Clobridge presented a COAR Workshop on the topic “Towards Repository Interoperability: Unleashing the True Value of Open Access for Open Science”. Approximately 45 attendees from Africa, Europe, South America, and North America participated. A detailed report of the workshop and conference itself can be found [on the COAR website](#).

Working Group Chair Eloy Rodrigues was also the guest speaker for the successful COAR webinar “[Towards repository interoperability](#)” held on 4 December 2012.

#### **WG3: Repository and Repository Network Support and Training**

COAR Working Group 3 welcomes our newly joined members Gültekin Gürdal, Izmir Institute of Technology Library, and Ilkay Holt, Özyegin University, Turkey.

We are happy to report that a collection of [training materials](#) from COAR members on operational issues required to install, implement and deploy Open Access repositories has been released. You will find documents, presentations and short films on themes such as setting up open access repositories; copyright and digital rights management; advocacy; research data management; and interoperability. We thank all COAR members who contributed to this collection. Any training material you would like to add to this collection can be submitted to Working Group Chair [Iryna Kuchma](#), or the [COAR Office](#). On 4 December 2012 we hosted the COAR webinar “Towards Repository Interoperability: Unleashing the True Value of Open Access for Open Science”. The guest speaker was Eloy Rodrigues (Universidade do Minho, Portugal), Chair of the COAR [Working Group on Repository Interoperability](#), and the webinar was attended by 32 people from 15 countries.

This event was designed to help participants make sense of interoperability. Based on COAR's briefing papers "[The Case for Repository Interoperability for Open Access Repositories](#)" and "[The Current State of Open Access Repository Interoperability \(2012\)](#)" we covered interoperability standards, protocols and initiatives in connection with current and emerging services that interoperability initiatives make possible. Eloy's presentation slides can be downloaded [here](#) and the recording of the session can be accessed [here](#). In 2013 we plan to repeat this webinar in the Spanish language and also host webinars on best practices for populating repositories in partnership with COAR Working Group 1 "Repository Content" in both English and Spanish. If you are interested in contributing or would like to suggest new topics for forthcoming COAR webinars, please contact the chair of Working Group 3 [Iryna Kuchma](#)) or the [COAR Office](#).

## Reports from the Regions

### Africa

#### COAR workshop at the Berlin10 Conference

During the first week of November 2012, South Africa was host to two major Open Access meetings: Open Access Africa, an organization which was sponsored by BioMed Central and which was hosted by the University of Cape Town from 4-5 November 2012; and Berlin10, an event which was hosted by Stellenbosch University from 6-8 November 2012. Approximately 150 delegates attended the Open Access Africa meeting, and nearly 270 delegates participated in Berlin10. The [workshop](#) "Towards Repository Interoperability: Unleashing the True Value of Open Access for Open Science," was sponsored by COAR and led by Eloy Rodrigues, Chair of COAR Working Group 2, and Abby Clobridge of Clobridge Consulting.

### Latin America

#### First regional network of scientific Open Access Repositories

On 29 November 2012 Argentina hosted one of the most important events of 2012 relating to the Open Access movement in Latin America: the signing of the agreement to create LA REFERENCIA, the regional network of scientific Open Access repositories. Professor Norbert Lossau, Chairperson of COAR opened the conference and remarked that initiatives like LA REFERENCIA, where nations achieve consensus to put their scientific production in Open Access are the first step to another great goal: a global infrastructure of scientific information. During the meeting Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and El Salvador signed a commitment to facilitate the visibility of their publicly funded research outputs, to develop common strategies to promote Open Access and to define policies and standards for interoperability. The event also included a recorded greeting from Ms. Neelie Kroes, Vice President of the European Commission for the Digital Agenda, who pointed to the importance of building a reliable infrastructure of repositories supporting open access to scientific information.

### Asia

The [China Open Access Week](#) was hosted from 22-24 October 2012 by COAR member National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Professor Norbert Lossau (COAR Chairperson and representative of the University of Göttingen), Eloy Rodrigues (COAR Working Group 2 Chair and representative of the University of Minho), Dr. David Ruddy (Cornell University Library) and Iryna Kuchma (EIFL) had the pleasure of giving presentations and participating in panel discussions on topics such as China Institutional Repositories (IR), China OA Publishing and China OA Policy Forum. During this event a national China IR Implementation

Group was established. This group will work on different themes, e.g. facilitating new developments and services, promoting Open Access mandates for publicly funded research results, developing model policies and guidelines as well as new tools, and sharing best practices.

### Europe

#### University of Edinburgh Research Data Management Roadmap

The University of Edinburgh is delivering a Research Data Management (RDM) Roadmap that addresses requirements from the University RDM Policy, passed in May 2011, as well as recommendations for data storage infrastructure, thereby committing to a significant capital investment. The roadmap has been published on the [University's website](#) and was presented at the [International Digital Curation Centre conference](#) (IDCC) in Amsterdam, 15-16 January 2012.

#### COAR represented in National Open Access Conference in Ankara

COAR was represented at the [Turkish National Open Access Workshop](#) at Hacettepe University Conference Center in Ankara from 8-9 November 2012. The meeting was organized by the Department of Information Management of Hacettepe University, COAR member Izmir Institute of Technology and the Consortium of Anatolian University Libraries ([ANKOS](#)). This two-day workshop brought together distinguished speakers to discuss the issues surrounding Open Access and institutional repositories and to review the progress attained in the EU-supported [MedOANet](#) and [OpenAIREplus](#) projects, of which Turkey is a partner. The focus of discussions was Open Access policies and strategies as well as the infrastructure in Turkey, the licensing models and European Union Open Access policy. In her keynote speech COAR Executive Director Alicia López Medina pointed to the creation of a global open access

repositories infrastructure as a “sine qua non” for truly accomplishing the Open Access vision, and discussed the role of COAR in building this global repositories infrastructure.

#### Open Access Mandate of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

An Open Access Mandate of the [Hungarian Academy of Sciences](#) (Magyar Tudományos Akadémia, MTA) was introduced on 23 October 2012 by the MTA President. The researchers and employees of the MTA are called upon to make their scientific publications available via Open Access (OA). Open Access could be achieved by self-archiving in institutional or discipline-based repositories or by publishing in OA journals or in hybrid journals offering paid Open Access. The Mandate is obligatory for all scientific publications submitted for publication after 1 January 2013. OA for scientific publications submitted before 2013, or already published, is recommended through repositories. The default repository of the Library of the MTA (a COAR member) is REAL, but discipline-based repositories could be used wherever available (e.g. arXiv, PubMed, etc.), and researchers may deposit in their institutional repositories. Embargo periods - if required by the publisher - could be accepted if they are not longer than one year (for articles). Further details about the mandate can be found [here](#).

#### The Open Access development in Lithuania

Dr. Žibute Petrauskiene, Vilnius University Library (COAR member in Lithuania) and Iryna Kuchma, EIFL Open Access Programme Manager (COAR Working Group 3 Chair) participated in a panel discussion on "The Open Access Development in Lithuania" on 26 October 2012 in Vilnius. Among the participants were young researchers, representatives of research funding institutions, publishers, librarians and other stakeholders. The event was organized by Kaunas University of Technology in cooperation with the Lithuanian Society of Young Research-

ers, the Association of Lithuanian Serials and the Lithuanian Research Libraries Consortium and funded by EIFL. Please find more information about the event with links to recordings (mostly in Lithuanian) [here](#).

### **Enlightenment in the Knowledge Society – OpenAIRE Event in Göttingen, Germany & OpenAIREplus workshop on interoperability in Minho, Portugal**

On 21-22 November, OpenAIRE held a two-day conference at Göttingen University. A vibrant event, over 140 guests from over 30 countries were present to hear not only the results of the first OpenAIRE funding period (2009-2012), but to be presented with the role of open access in wider data infrastructure landscape and potential services that can be delivered.

OpenAIRE has supported the EC's FP7 Open Access pilot, and in doing so has created a pan-European open access publication infrastructure. As well as presenting the achievements of both the technical and networking teams, it gave a flavor of the future vision of OpenAIRE, now into its first year of extension project, OpenAIREplus. This vision includes a linked up future of publications related to research data and other funding streams. Above all, just how OpenAIRE can be fully embedded in the European knowledge economy was explored. The voice of the researcher was also present, and a range of different academics at different stages of their careers expressed their views on open science. The role of data infrastructures had a stakehold in the conference, giving views on how they interplay with open access. Another interesting stream was a legal session on how licensing of research output can play a role in an e-infrastructure that links publications to data. With an outlook to Horizon 2020, EC representatives such as Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, and Thierry van der Pyl, Director Excellence in Science of the European Commission, presented their views on open access to publications and datasets, services on top of reposi-

tories as well as policies and practices on data and publications.

Presentations of the conference can be found at the OpenAIRE [website](#) and the videos of all speakers are online at OpenAIRE's [vimeo channel](#). Take a look!

And news just in: 120 delegates gathered in Minho on 7 & 8 February 2013 to attend an [OpenAIRE workshop](#) on Interoperability. One of the purposes of the workshop was to review the new OpenAIRE guidelines for data repository managers and invite a number of speakers representing a range of initiatives, e.g CRIS, DataCite, publishers, data archives to present on how they fit into the knowledge infrastructure and can further work with OpenAIRE. Presentations and videos of this exciting event will soon be up on the OpenAIRE portal.

### **From the Executive Board**

We congratulate Professor Norbert Lossau on his new post. Since 1 January 2013 Prof. Dr. Norbert Lossau is Vice President of the University of Göttingen.

With the inauguration of the new Executive Board on 1 October 2012, Shigeki Sugita, former Co-Chair is no longer a Board member. On behalf of the Executive Board, Executive Director and Office we would like to thank him for his commitment to shaping and supporting COAR's development over the past years.

### **From the Office**

If you would like your organization to be represented on the COAR website, please send a short description and the logo of your institution to the office.

### Forthcoming Events

- Research Data Alliance launch, 18-20 March 2013, Gothenburg, Sweden
- FORCE 11, the Future of Research Communications and e- Scholarship, 19-20 March 2013, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- COAR Annual Meeting, 7-8 May 2013 Istanbul, Turkey
- ELPUB 2013, International Conference on Electronic Publishing, 13-14 June 2013, Karlskrona, Sweden
- LIBER Annual Conference, 26-29 June 2013, Munich, Germany
- Open Repositories 2013, 8-12 July 2013, Prince Edward Island, Canada.

### Recent Publications

- Paul Vierkant: [Open Access Repository Survey Germany](#), 2012
- Kuchma, Iryna, Dr. Birgit Schmidt: [Implementing Open Access Mandates in Europe](#). November, 2012
- [National Open Access Report](#), Turkey, 8-9 November, 2012
- Sven Vlaeminck: [Research Data Management in Economic Journals](#), 7 December, 2012

For further information, visit

<http://www.coar-repositories.org>

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