Dear reader,

It is not long until the holiday season begins which marks the end of an eventful year. Over the last few months, COAR has been very active with the launch of several new interest groups and attendances at important Open Access and research infrastructure events all over the world. The COAR Executive Board and Office wishes you a pleasant and restful end of the year!

**New Membership & Fee Structure**

As already reported in our last newsletter, the members voted for a new fee structure at the General Assembly held on May 7th, 2013. Coming into effect on January 1st, 2014, the new structure will remove a major barrier for many institutions in joining COAR. The cost of an institutional membership will be €500 (approximately US$680). The annual fee for a consortium depends on its size, the minimum being eleven institutions. The discount granted to each institution is available on the COAR website.

**Annual Meeting 2014**

Picture 1: By the Acropolis Museum

The 5th Annual Meeting of COAR will take place in Athens, Greece, from May 21st to 23rd, 2014. The meeting will be held together with the final conference of the OpenAIREplus project at the Acropolis Museum. This conference will explore how OA infrastructures are being practically implemented around the world, and how those regional networks can be aligned. Sessions will touch on how repositories intersect with other library and research services and the variety of value-added services that enhance them such as usage statistics or text-mining. Other focus areas include measuring the impact of scientific articles and data in an institutional context. COAR Working Groups and projects will also present their activities and results.

**Repository Observatory**

The Repository Observatory will be producing an introduction to Linked Open Data for repository managers. Contents of this edition will be e.g. an interview with Richard Wallis, Semantic Web and Linked Data specialist at OCLC, or an introduction of the repository of the German National Library of Economics (ZBW) “EconStor”.

**WG2: Repository Interoperability**

A new Interest Group will be launched shortly that will look at controlled vocabularies for research output. The group will maintain and update the "info:eu-repo" vocabulary which is used by a number of organizations in Europe and beyond. You are invited to attend the kick-off meeting (webcast) on January 14th, 2014 at 15:30 CET. If you are interested in attending the call or the group, please contact IG leader Jochen Schirrwagen or the COAR Office. More details about the Interest Group are available on the COAR Website.

For further information, please visit

http://www.coar-repositories.org

**COAR Office**

C/o Göttingen State and University Library,
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen
Germany
Tel.: +49-551-39 22215
Fax: +49-551-39 5222
office@coar-repositories.org