



Conseil des Recteurs des
universités francophones
de Belgique

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ON POLICY LEVEL TO GIVE OPEN ACCESS IN BELGIUM A BOOST?

THE CREF ANSWER

Open Access to Excellence in Research

Brussels, October 22, 2012

Short reminder...

- The first goal of Science
 - ▣ is to increase the human knowledge in order to improve the global well-being for all
 - ▣ is not to generate outrageous profits for some

- Publicly funded research is to be freely accessible to all
 - ▣ For ethical and philosophical reasons
 - ▣ For economic reasons
 - ▣ For strategic reasons

What's already done?

- Institutional « Mandates » for most universities
 - **PhD theses:** FUSL (2005-2008), UCL (2005-2008, ULg (2006), ULB (2007), FUNDP (2008)
 - **Articles:** ULg (2007), ULB (2007), UCL (2008) , UMONS (2010 not mandatory but encouraged)

- 3 Repositories for the 3 Academies
 -  (ULB+UMONS) 107,000 references – 17,600 with FT
 -  (UCL + FUNDP + FUSL) 88,000 references – 22,300 with FT
 -  (ULg) 86,000 references – 52,300 with FT

- Some Open Access journals

One priority, four facets



- Green first!
 - ▣ Without a strong frame, Gold OA could become a pitfall (1500-2500€/article)
 - ▣ ... and a source of new profit for publishers

- 4 facets
 - ▣ Improved IR
 - ▣ Copyrights issues
 - ▣ Harvesting
 - ▣ Belgian Mandate

Improve IR



- Bibliometrics
- Unified authors identifiers for CfB
- Unified information for peer reviewing status in IR
- Challenge of long-term preservation
- Experimenting new publication models and peer reviewing
- Open data

Address copyright issues



- Developing global tools to help authors not to transfer all rights on the publications to the publishers
- Working on a political level to improve the legal framework in order to retain sufficient rights to the Institutions

Harvesting



- Harvesting in a central portal ALL publications from IR of the Universities
 - ▣ Maximizing the visibility and access to the scholarly research of CfB (+280,000 references)
 - ▣ With special attention to OA papers
 - ▣ Single source for all F.R.S-FNRS evaluations?

Towards a Belgian Mandate...

- Same for ALL Belgian universities
- For authors:
 - Deposit in their IR
 - a copy of the FT for ALL scholarly articles and published conference proceedings
 - In final version
 - Immediately after acceptance
 - Make the FT freely available asap. For example, according to the EU recommendation: no later than
 - 6 months after publication (STM)
 - 12 months after publication (SSH)
 - Introduce in IR bibliographic references of ALL publications and scholarly communications
- For Universities and F.R.S-FNRS & FWO:
 - 6 months after the implementation of this Belgian mandate,
 - only references listed in these IR would be taken into account
 - for all researchers of Belgian universities and for researchers funded by the F.R.S.- FNRS and the FWO,
 - for any institutional official list of publications, including evaluation purpose of curriculum and credit allocation

... before an European mandate!

- The Belgian mandate as an example for Europe
- Convince
 - ▣ EUA
 - ▣ Other chancelors
 - ▣ Funders
 - ▣ Other stakehoders