# Jisc Advisory Group for Scholarly Communications

## Terms of Reference (April 2014)

### Introduction

Jisc pursues a range of activities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of scholarly communication for its customers. To ensure that these activities meet customer needs, and are co-designed and undertaken with the active support and participation of our customers and other relevant stakeholders, Jisc would like to establish an advisory group.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Group is to advise Jisc on the prioritisation, design, implementation and evaluation of Jisc’s work in scholarly communication. It is not a decision-making body, and responsibility for the conduct of Jisc work remains with Jisc.

### Scope

The Group will advise on matters relating to infrastructure and services. It will complement, not duplicate, the advice given to Jisc by the Electronic Information Resources Working Group, whose focus is on negotiated access to scholarly material.

For the purposes of this group, scholarly communication is the “process of academics, scholars and researchers sharing and publishing their research findings so that they are available to the wider academic community (such as university academics) and beyond.” (from Wikipedia). For Jisc, this includes the arrangements whereby institutions manage and report on such activities.

At this stage, the Group will focus on scholarly communication in traditional forms, specifically excluding – for example – research data.

Initially, the Group’s role will be to advise the Jisc Head of Scholarly Communication Support with respect to work done within Jisc’s Content and Discovery directorate. In time this advisory role might expand to cover other areas of Jisc’s work, as those and their arrangements become clearer.

### Objectives

The Group will fulfil its purpose by advising Jisc on:

1. opportunities for Jisc to act, where action would demonstrably benefit Jisc’s customers;
2. the quality of Jisc’s plans for such action, and its communication and evaluation;
3. risks, issues and opportunities arising from Jisc’s work;
4. opportunities for Jisc’s work on behalf of its customers to benefit from initiatives elsewhere;

### Membership

The Group will most effectively fulfil its purpose by including members who are directly concerned with practical aspects of scholarly communication, across universities, research funders, libraries, publishers and others. The membership will therefore comprise representatives from:

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| senior academics | Stephen Curry (Imperial College) |
| libraries from Russell Group universities | David Prosser (RLUK) |
| academic libraries from outside the Russell Group | Ann Rossiter (SCONUL) |
| research managers | Sally Puzey (ARMA) |
| repository managers | Yvonne Budden (UKCoRR) |
| institutional finance managers | Karel Thomas (BUFDG) |
| the UK Funding Councils | Steven Hill (HEFCE) |
| the UK Research Councils | Geraldine Clement-Stoneham |
| the Wellcome Trust | Robert Kiley |
| CrossRef | Ed Pentz |
| learned societies | Madeleine Barrow (Academy of Social Sciences) |
| publishers that publish subscription journals | Alicia Wise (Elsevier, Publishers Association) |
| open access journal publishers | Mark Patterson (eLife) |
| publishers that publish open access monographs | Hazel Newton (Palgrave MacMillan) |
| suppliers of publishing management systems | Martin Eve (for Public Knowledge Project) |
| suppliers of repository systems | Sheridan Brown / Les Carr (EPrints) |
| suppliers of research information management systems | Thorsten Hollrigl (Thomson Reuters Converis) |
| suppliers of library management systems | Jane Burke (Serials Solutions) |
| suppliers of serials management systems | Paul Harwood (EBSCO) |

## Operation

The Group will be chaired by someone representing an institution. It will meet quarterly, and be serviced by Jisc. It will also conduct business by email.