

Of the major UK research funders, only the Wellcome Trust has so far mandated that monographs produced through its funding should be OA. However, OA has been signalled as the direction of travel by the consultations around the REF, and elsewhere. The main reason that some research funders have held back mandating OA to monographs is that the business models are not yet as well established as with journals. The market is also much smaller, and much less profitable, than the academic journals market. Jisc has been active in exploring new models for books, both monographs and also textbooks, though most recent focus has been on monographs. Here, with the help of my colleagues [Roger Tritton](#) and [Ben Showers](#), I outline what we’re doing – or otherwise involved with – in this area, and what significant milestones are expected over the next few months.

Project / Jisc lead	Description	Sep 14	Oct 14	Nov 14	Dec 14	Q1 15	Q2 15
HEFCE review of the future of the monograph (Ellen Collins, RIN)	On behalf of Jisc, Ellen Collins carried out with HEFCE a survey of over 2,200 UK humanities and social science researchers. This contributed to HEFCE’s work on “OA and monographs”, http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatswed/rsrch/rinfrastruct/oa/monographs/	Report based on researcher survey published on OAPEN UK web site . The survey explores the role of the monograph for researchers, as both authors and readers. It looks at issues around publishing, including what motivates researchers to change publisher and how they handle rights issues. It also looks at researcher preferences when reading books, including how and why they read them, and explores how desirable and realistic they consider open access to be.		HEFCE’s report on the future of the monograph due for publication			

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National Monograph Strategy Ben Showers	<p>A six month project funded as part of Jisc’s pilot co-design initiative working with UK higher and further education sector bodies to collaboratively explore the potential for a national approach to the creation, collection, preservation and digitisation of scholarly monographs</p>	<p>We will publish the NMS roadmap report.</p> <p>Start the further development of Copac Collection Management tools as part of the Monobase infrastructure.</p> <p>We convened a small library director steering group to begin exploring the potential of a UK shared print service (for monographs) and suggest concrete next steps.</p>	<p>We will specify work to analyse the landscape, requirements and options for a shared community publishing platform.</p> <p>We will specify work for options analysis on shared print service models.</p> <p>We will continue discussions with Hathi Trust with respect to establishing a UK Hathi Trust repository.</p>	<p>We will commission work to explore the shared publishing platform and shared print service models.</p>	<p>We will host a “Futures” horizon scan think tank workshop on researcher led impact metrics (building on the relevant section of the NMS report).</p>		<p>We will undertake a participative workshop as part of the Monographs Think Tank. It will gather together 10 - 15 key members of the community to explore current and future requirements for the monograph.</p>

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OAPEN-UK Roger Tritton / Caren Milloy	Collaborative research project gathering evidence to help stakeholders make informed decisions on the future of open access scholarly monograph publishing in the humanities and social sciences.	We will release a report based on researcher survey published on OAPEN UK web site, as above.	We will release four institutional cases studies, which address, from several different perspectives, how systems, structures, cultures and environment of a university and all its constituent departments might support or inhibit the progress of open access for books.	We will release the findings of a survey of librarians on how open access might fit into existing library practices, policies and systems for monographs.	We will release a report on the outcomes from “matched-pairs pilot” – in which usage, sales and citation data for OA monographs and monographs sold on a paid-for basis respectively are compared.	We will release further deliverables, including a literature review, best practice guide, publisher interviews, SWOT workshops, focus groups. Dates for each of these are to be confirmed.	
OAPEN central library service Roger Tritton	Research, specification, pilot, and validation of centralised deposit service for OA books with UK universities	We will release a report on current practices and relevant facets of monograph provision	We will host a workshop with UK HE institutions	We will release a report on workshop outcomes	We will hold validation / roadshows across stakeholder groups	We will release a report on evidence among stakeholder groups We will develop a specification of potential operational services We will pilot the specified services to enable evaluation of them	We will develop the business model for the services We will release a report on the technical and organizational aspects We will release the final report
Knowledge Unlatched Roger Tritton	We expect the future direction of Knowledge Unlatched to become clearer over the rest of 2014, following a pilot phase that concluded in May 2014.						

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HEI as e-textbook publisher Roger Tritton	Four projects among UK HEIs to fund teams to create eTextbooks – addressing the question "Will the institution as e-textbook creator help students by providing a more affordable higher education, and promote a better, more sustainable information environment for libraries, students and faculty?" National reporting on project progress and lessons learned.			Project teams will formally report on project progress and share benchmarking strategies.			April 15 – We will release the first annual report from project teams. Interim reports may be published as books are launched / significant changes are made to projects.