Principles for Open Access to Research Outputs at Melbourne

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Authored by Student and Scholarly Services and Chancellery Research & Enterprise

Position of University of Melbourne

1. The University of Melbourne is committed to disseminating its research as widely as possible to improve the public good by accelerating the pace of discovery, encouraging innovation, enriching education, and stimulating the economy.
2. Research outputs from public funding should be shared in a timely and accessible manner to foster social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits.
3. The University supports the deposit of research outputs to repositories as a means of openly disseminating research, reflecting the investment in repository infrastructure in Australia and worldwide.
4. The University recognises that the level of engagement with open access practices will vary according to disciplinary behaviours and norms and may be determined by a variety of factors.

Responsibilities of researchers

5. The University expects researchers to deposit the post peer reviewed and corrected version of their published research (the Author’s Accepted Manuscript) in the Institutional Repository or an accredited subject repository within three months of publication. Deposited work can be embargoed to meet publisher requirements on making the work accessible. The University will provide guidance to determine any publisher policies related to access to the work.
6. The University expects the bibliographic details of data (metadata) underpinning published research to be shared in an accredited repository, as appropriate and where required by funding mandates.
7. Considering regulatory responsibilities and ethical, legal and other guidelines, the University supports the sharing of the analysed and published (not raw) data.
8. While the University recognises there are challenges associated with making non-traditional research outputs accessible due to the variety of forms these can take and issues such as copyright, we both acknowledge and value the breadth in types of research outputs, and remain committed to making non-traditional research outputs as open and discoverable as possible and practical. Those researchers interested in exploring options for making these types of outputs accessible will be supported by the University.
9. The University encourages the sharing of research outputs such as preprints, software, protocols and others as appropriate through disciplinary infrastructure.
10. The University encourages the sharing of non-published research outputs (grey literature) through the Institutional Repository.

Responsibilities of University of Melbourne

11. The University will provide guidance and systems for researchers who are bound by the requirements of their funding agreements to make research outputs open access through the deposit of works to the Institutional Repository, including requirements to manage their research data.
12. The University will work with its research community to implement or provide the infrastructure and associated support that will be necessary to increase openness.
Definitions in scholarly communication

This is a list of common terms used in scholarly communication referenced in this document. More information can be found on these webpages https://library.unimelb.edu.au/openscholarship

Author’s Accepted Manuscript (AAM)
The final, peer reviewed and corrected version of a paper. In the past these have sometimes been called ‘post-prints’, but this term is confusing because this version of work is not yet ‘printed’. The AAM is the version of the work that can be deposited to a repository.

Embargoes
A restriction imposed by publishers on the public release of an AAM. The length of any given embargo is arbitrary, and embargo lengths differ according to funding sources, disciplines and publishers. Libraries spend time determining and implementing embargoes on AAMs deposited to repositories.

Grey literature
Research outputs that sit outside the published literature. Working papers, discussion papers, technical papers, presentations and submissions are some examples of grey literature.

Institutional repositories
Repositories hosted within an institution to collect the research outputs of that institution. They often collect a broad range of digital items such as articles, books and chapters, reports, grey literature and creative outputs. Institutional repositories historically have been built on software platforms that were open source, such as DSpace or ePrints, but there are now commercial providers in the market, such as bepress (owned by Elsevier) and Pure (owned by Elsevier). The institutional repository of the University of Melbourne is Minerva Access.

Metadata
Information about data. It describes the data and allows the data generator and other to understand the data at a later stage.

Open Access
Permits any user of the work to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full text of these articles, crawl them for indexing, or use them for any lawful purpose, without financial, legal or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.

Preprint
A version of an article that is shared on a preprint server such as arXiv, bioRxiv or the like.

Published research
Refers to the following categories from the University of Melbourne “Research Outputs collection Classification Guidelines”: A1 - Authored research books, A - Other book categories, B1 - Research book chapters, B - Other book chapter categories, C1 - Journal articles, refereed, F1 – Conference publications, full written papers, refereed.

Repositories
Databases used to share information about research articles and the articles themselves. They generally fall into two categories, institutional repositories and subject repositories.

Research Data
Research data is data that is generated in a research project. It is, in itself, a research output.

Researchers
All staff employed by the University of Melbourne in a research capacity, including Graduate researchers.

Research Outputs
Any work produced during the research project. They are diverse in nature and range from research articles, books, book chapters, research data, software, protocols, creative works and others.

Subject Repositories
Developed by members of a particular discipline. They tend to differ from a preprint server in that they are a location for the deposit of work rather than providing an ability to comment on the work. Examples include arXiv and Pubmed Central.

Non-Traditional Research Output (NTRO)
In this context, the definition is broader than those NTROs defined by the ARC (https://dataportal.arc.gov.au/ERA/NationalReport/2018/pages/section1/non-traditional-research-outputs-ntros/) and include the following categories from the University of Melbourne “Research Outputs collection Classification Guidelines”: F - Other conference publications, C - Other journal contributions, D - Reference works, G – Reports, J - Original Creative works, Jii – Creative Recorded Works, K - Curated or produced Public Exhibitions and Events.
Minerva Access is the Institutional Repository of The University of Melbourne

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