OPERAS Advocacy Workshop: Libraries supporting Open Science

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Supporting Open Science practices and policies from the library

Ignasi Labastida i Juan
CRAI Universitat de Barcelona
About the University of Barcelona

The oldest and largest university in Catalonia
Several campuses around the metropolitan area
Multidisciplinary university with 16 faculties
Around 60,000 students and 5,000 researchers
Member of the LERU since 2010
Partner of the European University alliance CHARM-EU and its research arm, TORCH (Transforming Open Responsible Research and Innovation through CHARM)
About the Library (CRAI) University of Barcelona

The library became the Learning and Research Resources Centre (CRAI) in 2004
16 libraries, two of them heritage libraries and 7 technical units
Around 240 staff members
Members of LIBER, REBIUN and CSUC
First Catalan university library structure to obtain EFQM 500+ European Seal of Excellence.

From the current strategic plan:

Strategic Goal 1.4: Give support to the Open Science Principles
Our beginnings towards the current situation

2004 the library becomes the CRAI
2005 the library incorporates two support units: Teaching and Research, together with the Office for the Dissemination of Knowledge
2006 Dipòsit Digital, the institutional repository, opens with a collection of educational resources, all with a DOI and a CC license
2008 first research papers in the repository
2010 Connection with the CRIS and the repository
2011 First institutional open access policy
Weaknesses and strengths

Weakness

- Library is not always seen as a research partner
- Unstable staff at the libraries
- Not enough open science skills among staff
- Traditionally, university services do not collaborate enough
- Hidden library services in the institutional website
- Not well represented in the university government
Weaknesses and strengths

Strengths

- Library is always seen as a place to find an answer
- Staff willing to learn new things
- Local and international networks
- A long history of giving support to researchers providing resources
- Representation in all the campuses
- Experience in training
Our commitments

To provide support to researchers facilitating their work
To have research support staff in all the 14 campus libraries
To collaborate with all the units that give research support in any manner
To become a key partner for research policies
To strength national and international collaborations
To train researchers, staff and students
To be part of the cultural change
With the help of guidelines, roadmaps,...
Open Science is complex and global
Future of Scholarly Communication

Consolidation of the institutional repository and its research collection

Update of the institutional policy in 2019 towards a mandatory archive for internal evaluation

Implementation of an open access indicator for faculties

Transformative agreements in place since 2021

Partnership with university press to open collections and include them in DOAB

New regulation on institutional journals including open access requirement
Case 1: Monitoring OA
Case 1: Monitoring OA
Research data

Migration of research data from the institutional repository to a Catalan Data Repository (CDR)

Collaboration with universities and research centers to build and develop the CDR

Research Data Management Institutional policy in 2019

Training sessions on RDM to PhD students

Development of a DMP template for PhD students
Case 2: supporting RDM

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Leadership

Establishment of an Open Science Committee in 2018 led by vicerectors from the Research Area and proposed by the CRAI (Library)

Participation of a mix of vicerectors, heads of units, deans and researchers

New rector, new committee. Renewal of the Open Science Committee, now led by the rector’s delegate on Open Science

Participation of more researchers from several disciplines
Other collaborations

Collaboration in citizen science projects
Participation in ethics committee
Review of the new research integrity code
Challenges in the library

Consolidate the research support from the library
Consolidate the internal collaborations
Acquisition of open science skills
Exploring new ways of publishing
Support open science infrastructures
And broader challenges

Engaging researchers in the change
Are transformative agreements the solution?
Making data FAIR and as open as possible
Balancing privacy, ethics and openness in relation to data
Participation in the development of EOSC
Changing research assessments and evaluation
Engaging citizens in the full cycle of research
Supporting collective infrastructures ruled by the community
Thanks

Ignasi Labastida i Juan
CRAI Universitat de Barcelona

ilabastida@ub.edu
@ignasi
http://www.ub.edu/odc