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The Open Archives of Knowledge Experiment at University of Strasbourg

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Final abstract (486 words)

With the Open Archives of Knowledge (OAK) project, the goal of University of Strasbourg is to make all the university's research output open by default: research publications should be open access and research data should be open too. University of Strasbourg, a LERU (League of European Research Universities) member, is engaging in a global open science framework based both on European Union's policy and LERU's roadmap for research data.

Since September 2015, the OAKdata librarian has been assisting four researchers with their project to put their data online in accordance with FAIR principles. The main goal of this experiment was to implement scientific tools to meet the needs of researchers based on data they collected and/or produced. In addition, findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable data are also valued as they gain in visibility. The experiment is led by a cross-department team which includes all stakeholders: University Library, IT Department and Research Office, with strong political support from the Deputy Vice-President for Research.

The data librarian works as a link between the researchers and the IT department, collecting the needs of each one to translate them to the other. The needs identified were varied: legal support, data curation, websites, search engines and data visualisation. To carry out the projects, we allocated tasks as follows: data librarian as the functional project manager, IT department as the technical project manager. We also identified a network of experts from the university who can help us meet researchers' requests. We defined procedures such as systematically referring to the DPO when dealing with sensitive data. In order to harmonise the researcher's need for embargo periods and the university's policy of making data open by default, we defined 3 levels of access to the data (open, on demand, research team).

Over time, the OAK's scope of actions has widened to include more researchers from the university and has been enriched with new missions (DMP, training). Two years after its launch, the experiment is becoming more permanent and has enabled us to design an organizational structure aiming to simplify the pathway of the researcher willing to manage and promote his data. The planned online helpdesk dedicated to services for researchers is designed as a one-stop shop providing a first level of information on research data, as well as an access to several services (DMP, DOI creation, data center, High Performance Computing, etc.). The Data team can be contacted for more specific requests. A Scientific Committee then assesses the scientific significance and technical maturity of the project, as well as the researcher's commitment before issuing an opinion which, if favourable, signals the start of project management by the team.

We are trying to favour the lightness and flexibility of a virtual structure by bringing together experts from several departments of the university (library, IT department, Research office, legal office, DPO) and university's partners. Our goal is to provide the most relevant response to the request.