

## OR2024 Panel Submission

The 19th International Conference on Open Repositories, June 3-6th 2024, Göteborg, Sweden

A reminder that the theme for OR2024 is: "Empowering Global Progress"

OR2024 provides an opportunity to explore and reflect on the ways repositories enable transparent and sustainable information and data. How can we better utilize repositories for empowering global progress? How can we develop the capacity of institutions to implement sustainable open repositories to improve data equity worldwide and support the SDGs? How can the repository community harness AI responsibly to support their goals? We are interested in the following sub-themes:

- Transparency: Promoting research transparency
- Community: Elevating underrepresented communities
- Sustainability : Opening research for climate justice

You will be asked to select a sub-theme at the time of submission.

### ***Rights Retention and Repositories: Accelerating Global Progress***

*William J Nixon, Research Libraries UK (RLUK), [william.nixon@rluk.ac.uk](mailto:william.nixon@rluk.ac.uk); Dominic Tate, University of Edinburgh, [dominic.tate@ed.ac.uk](mailto:dominic.tate@ed.ac.uk); Sally Rumsey, cOAlition S, [sally.rumsey@coalition-s.org](mailto:sally.rumsey@coalition-s.org); George Macgregor, University of Glasgow, [George.Macgregor@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:George.Macgregor@glasgow.ac.uk); Kathleen Shearer, COAR, [kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org](mailto:kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org)*

### **Abstract**

In the last couple of years in the UK there's been a not so quiet revolution in the adoption of institutional Rights Retention Policies (IRRP) which has been gathering momentum. There are now 26 institutions with IRPPs now in place, with more planned.

While Rights Retention is not new, it was pioneered in 2008 at Harvard, in the UK however, 2023 felt like a tipping point with statements and policies released at institutional, regional and national levels.

The Rights Retention revolution is here. Authors rights are at the heart of the scholarly dissemination process. With the support, and leadership of research libraries we can ensure academia's control of original copyrights becomes the new norm, enabling and protecting free and open access to research for the public good. How can our institutional repositories be best placed to support this new norm?

The panel will explore the role that Institutional repositories (and their supporting infrastructure and services) can play in supporting Rights Retention, and in turn empowering authors and accelerating global scholarship.

### **Keywords**

- Rights Retention Policies

- Institutional Repositories
- Infrastructure

## **Audience**

The target audience is a mix of repository managers, interested in how they can align their institutional repository functionality and services with institutional rights retention statements/policies.

## **Time**

*Please select a preferred time period.*

90 minutes

## Background

In the last couple of years in the UK there's been a not so quiet revolution in the adoption of institutional Rights Retention Policies (IRRPs) which has been gathering momentum. There are now 26 institutions with IRRPs now in place, with more planned.

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The Rights Retention revolution is here. Authors rights are at the heart of the scholarly dissemination process. With the support, and leadership of research libraries we can ensure academia's control of original copyrights becomes the new norm, enabling and protecting free and open access to research for the public good. How can our institutional repositories be best placed to support this new norm?

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## Panelists

The panel will bring a diverse, rich mix of experience and expertise in rights retention and repositories together to discuss the intersection between these including:

- Global overview of repositories and new initiatives
- Rights Retention Strategy
- Institutional experience implementing RRS
- Technical perspective

**Kathleen Shearer (COAR)** will provide a global overview and perspective around the importance of the role of institutional repository services in supporting rights retention policies

**Sally Rumsey (cOAlition S)** will reflect and share on the importance of Rights Retention statements in Europe and beyond and Rights Retention resources available.

**Dominic Tate (University of Edinburgh)** will share the experience of the University of Edinburgh in adopting their Rights Retention policy<sup>ii</sup> in 2022. The lessons learned and challenges faced.

**George Macgregor (University of Glasgow)** will share the technical perspective in readying the institutional repository for supporting Rights Retention.

The session will be chaired by William Nixon (Research Libraries UK) who will provide an overview of the session, highlighting the momentum around Rights Retention in the UK. William will moderate the session, manage the mentimeter poll and engage the audience in wider discussion.

## Format and Audience Engagement

A mentimeter poll will be used periodically through the session to capture feedback from the audience, to establish a baseline of IRRP adoption (and planning) by the audience, as well as approaches and examples of institutional repository integration.

The Panel members will share their experience and perspective to set the scene and provide an overview and to explore the challenges and opportunities for rights retention and repositories.

## Proposed Programme

- 00:00-00:05 Session opens / Buffer
- 00:05-00:15 Welcome, Overview, Introductions and initial Menti poll
- 00:15-00:55 Panelist Introductions, Reflections and Experiences
- 00:55-01:15 Audience Q&A, Mentimeter polls and wider discussion:  
Reflections, Opportunities, Challenges & Next Steps
- 01:15-01:25 Closing Comments/Thoughts from Panelists and Moderator
- 01:25-01:25 Session closes / Buffer

**Note:** while the panel is suggested for 90 minutes this session is scheduled for 80 minutes to provide buffer time at the start and end to reflect where it sits in the wider OR programme and to provide flexibility for the Programme committee if it were to be accepted.

## Key Takeaways

The key takeaways for the audience will include

- How an IRRP might be mapped onto a repository service;
- Suggestions for repository features and services that are critical for supporting an IRRP;
- The value of the IR in supporting an IRRP;
- How adopting an IRRP that is supported by an IR aids academia to “regain academic sovereignty over the publishing process”<sup>iii</sup>
- Understanding the role and development of your institutional repository to support and underpin rights retention

## About the Panelists

**Kathleen Shearer** has been the Executive Director of COAR since 2013 and has been working in the area of open access, open science, scholarly communications, and research data management for over 15 years. She is based in Montreal, Canada and participates in numerous other organizations to advance open science around the world. She is the author of numerous publications and delivered many presentations at international events. She was the lead author of the paper [Fostering Bibliodiversity in Scholarly Communications: A Call for Action](#) (April 2020) and presented the keynote speech at the Open Repositories Conference in June 2020.

**Dominic Tate** is the Head of Library Research Support and Deputy Director at Edinburgh University Library. Dominic's teams provide help and support for staff and students in all matters relating to scholarly communications and research publication, including open access, bibliometrics, copyright and research data management.

**Dr George Macgregor** based within Information Services at the University of Glasgow as 'Assistant Director - Digital Libraries'. He oversees and leads on repository and digital library initiatives, while also supporting activities within open research, research discovery, and digital scholarship. His background is both as an academic and as a practitioner. His broader interests encompass structured open data (esp. within open repository contexts), resource discovery, distributed digital libraries & repositories, and human-computer interaction (HCI).

**Sally Rumsey** is a cOAlition S Ambassador. She has 20 years' experience working on Open Access, Open Research, and institutional repositories at the London School of Economics, Bodleian Libraries University of Oxford, Jisc/UKRI, and cOAlition S.

**William J Nixon** is Deputy Executive Director (Research Libraries UK). He led on the development of the University of Glasgow's institutional repository service, Enlighten and has been active in the Open Repositories and scholarly communications communities for over 20 years. William recently presented at the British Library's [Open and Engaged Conference](#), in October 2023 on Rights Retention.

## References

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<sup>i</sup> A brief history of open access at Harvard, Peter Suber and Martha Whitehead, July 2020, <https://osc-harvard.pubpub.org/pub/2m1q3hm6/release/2> [Last accessed: 11 January 2024]

<sup>ii</sup> University of Edinburgh Research Publications and Copyright Policy (2021), <https://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services/about/policies-and-regulations/research-publications> [Last accessed: 11 January 2024]

<sup>iii</sup> EUA Open Science Agenda 2025 <https://eua.eu/downloads/publications/eua%20os%20agenda.pdf> [Last accessed: 11 January 2024]