BIROn - Birkbeck Institutional Research Online

Powered by ePrints software, BIROn is an Open Access digital archive of Birkbeck staff's published research.

The College has operated a mandate to deposit since October 2011.

See the latest additions via Twitter.

Quick FAQ

What is Open Access?

- “Open Access (OA) is free, immediate, permanent online access to the full text of research articles for anyone, webwide.” You can read more about it here. Depositors give permission to keep their work in a current format and to freely distribute electronic copies - nothing else.

Why should I deposit in BIROn?

- **Enhance** your academic standing and widen your audience. BIROn's data is indexed by search engines and content aggregators like Google and OAIster. Your work is available world-wide.
- **Preserve** your research in a backed-up, searchable space. BIROn assigns stable URLs so your work has a permanent home.
- **Enable** access if the library doesn't subscribe to a journal – BIROn works around rising subscription costs and restricted budgets which could stymie students' access.
- **Link** to the version of record. BIROn always provides a web link to the definitive published version where available.
- **Fulfil** your obligations to research funders, who increasingly mandate Open Access to research output.
- **Ensure** eligibility for the next REF. HEFCE now requires articles and conference publications to be deposited at the point of acceptance.

How long will it take?

- First time users need five minutes to register, and five minutes to deposit an item. Only starred fields are mandatory. The more you deposit, the quicker it gets.
How will the college benefit from OA?

- It **Demonstrates** the breadth of research carried out at Birkbeck.
- It **Frees** work from access barriers and subscriptions.
- It **Provides** a secure, central archive for research in perpetuity.
- It **Accelerates** the dissemination of research.
- It **Allows** part-time and distance learners to access publications.
- It **Complies** with the new HEFCE Open Access policy.

How do I use BIROn?

- Authors need to **register** in order to deposit, but anyone can search and access the live content from the **front page**. View a complete **Deposit FAQ** and a **Search FAQ**.

Who can I contact?

- For technical, copyright or general BIROn queries in the first instance, please contact **Paul Rigg** (ext. 6240)
- Alternatively, you can contact your **Subject Librarian**:
  - Sciences: **Sue Godsell**
  - History, Classics & Archaeology, History of Art & Screen Media, Politics and Sociology: **Aubrey Greenwood** and **Jackie Madden**
  - Law & Psychosocial Studies: **Wendy Lynwood**
  - English & Humanities, European Cultures & Languages, Iberian & Latin American Studies, and Philosophy: **Lindsay Tudor**
  - Business, Economics & Informatics: **Aidan Smith**
  - Media & Cultural Studies; Social Policy & Education: **Elizabeth Charles**
  - Applied Linguistics & Communication, Geography, Environment & Development Studies: **Noemi Defossez**

How do changes in funders' OA policies affect me?

- For more information on the potential effects of the RCUK funding policy changes, and the ongoing Wellcome Trust policy, please see **Funders & Open Access**.

How does HEFCE's new OA policy affect me?

- For more information on the new HEFCE policy, please visit **OA & the next REF**.