The Ascent of SOAPbox

A new generation of open access publishing bubbles up in Trinity College Dublin

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@TCD_SOAPbox
The Long Room Library, Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin

Established: 1592

17,000 students
1,500 researchers

The Jedi Library, Star Wars, Attack of the Clones
The Open Science revolution will be led by early-career researchers."

— Professor Linda Doyle, Dean of Research, Trinity College Dublin
15 years of Open Access in Trinity

LEADERSHIP
- EC EURAB report (TCD chair).
- SPARC Europe board.
- Repository Network Ireland.
- TCD OA Publications Policy.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
- National Open Access Desk for Ireland (OpenAIRE Advance);
- Multiple EU & global Open Access projects. Invited talks on 5 continents.
- Host to Open Repositories 2016.
- Locus of RIAN launch + national OA events.
- ‘Research Integrity & Impact in an Open Scholarship Era’: online training, NFETL-funded.

PREMIUM QUALITY CONTENT
40,000 fully Open Access full text items in TARA (Trinity’s Access to Research Archive). Publications, data, research images...

TECHNICAL INNOVATION
- Pioneer in CRIS/ repository integration.
- World first in ISI data integration;
- EC PEER Project:
  - eDeposit Ireland;
- Rian.ie (national portal) technical lead;
- TCD Disability Accessible Archive (DARAT.)

ANALYSIS, CONSULTATION, ADVOCACY
- Monitoring, analysis, automation.
- LERU Open Science Roadmap
- Open Scholarship Taskforce:
  - co-chairs: Dean of Research & Librarian
  - ‘Unboxing Open Scholarship’ events
  - Sponsor of SOAPbox.

2005
-
2006
-%
2005 –
2014 –
2016
- 100%
2014 2015 2016 2020

% TCD peer reviewed articles on Open Access
Trinity’s Student Open Access Project

Using the Open Source OJS 3.1 Platform; Aiming for DOAJ inclusion.

Next Generation of Open Scholarship Ambassadors
The State of Play

Knowledge of Open Access
- 25% Very Good
- 25% Excellent
- 25% Fair
- 19% Poor

Knowledge of Open Data
- Average
- Excellent
- Fair
- Good
- Poor
- Excellent

Knowledge of Licensing
- Poor
- Good
- Fair
- Average

Knowledge of Open Source Software & Tools
- Average
- Excellent
- Fair
- Good
- Very Good
Importance of Publication making societal / cultural impact.

Importance of Publication being Open Access

Importance of Publication being read / engaged with by people from diverse backgrounds / physical abilities.
Barriers to embracing Open Scholarship

- Concerns about your journal's quality and reputation
- Concerns regarding plagiarism
- Lack of expertise within editorial teams to fully embrace Open Scholarship principles
- Concerns regarding licensing and/or copyright issues
- Open Scholarship skills deficits among contributing authors
- Concerns regarding additional costs associated with Open Access Publishing
- Lack of incentives for authors to adhere to Open Scholarship principles
- Absence of best practice student open access publishing examples to follow
- Lack of awareness of Open Scholarship among contributing authors
## Working to Implement Best Practice OS Policies

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Journal/Title</th>
<th>Peer-Review Policy</th>
<th>OA Policy</th>
<th>Copyright</th>
<th>Licensing</th>
<th>Registered ISSN</th>
<th>Advisory board with ≥ 2 members with PhD</th>
<th>≥ 33% material peer-reviewed</th>
<th>Journal has its own page</th>
<th>Clear Aims and Scope</th>
<th>1 unique URL per article</th>
<th>Use of DOIs</th>
<th>Editorial Board information displayed prominently on Journal</th>
<th>Published in last year</th>
<th>Publishing/Quality Criteria</th>
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**BIG BANG**
- Very rapid platform development.
- Lightening-fast transformation of a significant number of journals (student-run alongside illustrious academic journals).

**ALIGNMENT**
- University strategic goals.
- University graduate attributes.
- Dean of Research champion.
- Graduate Students’ Union support.

**CULTURAL CHANGE**
- Embedded, creative training & education strand.
- Innovation & enterprise expertise.
- Ongoing feedback to form understanding.

**INCLUSIVENESS**
Multi-disciplinary Open Science publishing community practice:
- All access; all abilities.
- All disciplines.
- All research career stages (UG & PG students + senior academics).

**ETHICAL, SUSTAINABLE, GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY**
- Supporting positive societal, economic & cultural impact of research.
- Specific emphasis on the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.
The University’s Strategic Plan and its Research Strategy both include a commitment to achieving Open Science / Open Scholarship.

A particular benefit of SOAPbox is the manner in which participants acquire a holistic set of transferable skills which can be applied across a range of programmes and disciplines.

Gráinne Sexton, Trinity Women’s Review
AUGUST 2019: 11 journals on new OJS 3.1 platform in 2 weeks. 8 of them new to Open Access & to online digital publishing + 1 academic journal start-up during OA week bringing total SOAPbox Journals to 12.
“...great to prepare my team (and our writers) in ...finding solutions to the issue of widening high level Open Access Scholarship at all collegiate levels. I really appreciate the structured workshop and engagement format.

Shubhangi Karamkar, General Manager, Trinity Student Scientific Review

Why not develop collaborative transferable review processes across the journals?

= Greater than the sum of its parts
INCLUSIVENESS

• Full OA/no APC/Author copyright retention: SOAPbox requirements. Open data supplementary content is supported and encouraged.

• Accessible for diverse abilities: new SOAPbox academic journal ‘International Journal of Inclusion in Education’: testing accessibility in OJS, to share recommendations via Community of Practice / seminar.

• ‘Lay-person’s summary/abstract’ supported & encouraged in all SOAPbox journals via OJS author submission: concept from TCD’s DARAT (Disability OA Archive) + request from ‘Economic and Social Review’; supporting Citizen Science & public understanding.

• All disciplines welcomed, interdisciplinarity encouraged: current journals represent arts and humanities, social sciences, creative practice, health sciences, sciences.

• Open to new and long-established journals & publishers/authors from all research career stages.

• Research ethics training (including COPE authorship ethics).

• Enable a ‘Policy Inside’ element to be added by authors to their papers at the submission stage.

• Provide a means for authors to classify their papers by SDG Goals & Indicators.

• Enable an ‘SDG Inside’ element to be added by authors to their papers at the submission stage.

• Provide templates, boiler-plate text and training to support the above.

• Investigate/ share technical solutions supporting standardization & discoverability.

Example from recently-published Trinity Postgraduate Review article:

Maternal mortality or maternal morality? A critique of proposals to introduce maternal upper age limits for Assisted Human Reproduction services in Ireland.

Sophie Donnelly

This article has argued against proposed legislation for maternal age limits in AHRI provision on ethical, social, and medical grounds. It has highlighted a number of misconceptions and logical inconsistencies in common arguments favoring it while elaborating on compelling cases against them. A final system of ordinal, points-based ranking which could be adopted in place of blanket cut-offs, reflects of the ‘individualised care’ advocated by medical practitioners in this field.

The paper argues for reproductive rights and may thus be aligned with Gender Equality as well as the above.
SOAPbox: Early Findings

• **Student publishing bridges the research and the teaching and learning ‘divide’** – requiring participants to address practical issues in research integrity, research management and scholarly communication – huge potential for development as part of inclusive learning / open pedagogical modes.

• **Community of Practice approach works** – both amongst the student journal managers & between new and long-established journals – triggering questioning & innovation.

• **Need for training in all aspects of the publishing process** – *far* greater than expected – and not just in areas associated with open science.

• **Transition to OA/OJS via a parallel or tandem process (print and electronic)** – preferred by pre-existing student journals in order to fully understand the process & allow time to make necessary decisions (policy-related and other).

• **Clear annual ‘handover’ model required per journal** – to seamlessly support annual changes of journal personnel (student journal managers & editorial boards).

• **Student publishers’ commitment to ethical and global issues is overwhelming** – challenging all of us to find conceptual and technical solutions beyond the mainstream.
Embracing the spirit of ‘glocalisation’, SOAPbox instills a life-time commitment to Open Science amongst its participants ...

... changing the world, from one university out.
Go raibh míle maith agaibh – thank you!

Acknowledgements

- Dean of Research, Professor Linda Doyle (Executive sponsor);
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- Professor Ronan Lyons (Trinity Business School & Economic & Social Review);
- SOAPboxers (Journal managers and editors).
- Eliademy

Picture credits

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By Libraries Taskforce - Icon representing culture, CC BY 2.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=70875035


‘An artist's interpretation of the Big Bang’ (Image: © NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center/CI Lab)