



Towards Open Science

This may be the last edition of this newsletter with 'open access' in its name. We are moving towards the wider perspective of 'open science'—of which open access to, and re-use of, research data is as much an integral part as open access to research publications.

In the Netherlands, a further step was taken with the presentation of the National Plan Open Science to the Dutch government on 9 February. The plan is ambitious, moving the target of 100% open access to publications forward from 2024 to 2020. We discussed the National Plan with Kees Aarts, dean of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences and a strong advocate of open science. Since our last newsletter, new open access deals have been made, and others renewed, with more than a dozen academic journal publishers. At present, more than 7,300 peer-reviewed journals are available for open access publishing—at no cost for the author (the costs are 'prepaid' from the budgets of the university libraries). It will be difficult not to find a quality journal in your field in which to publish in open access, in this newsletter we present an overview. For support, please contact OPENACCESS@RUG.NL. How do early career researchers (ECRs), taking their first steps in academic publishing, view open access? We interviewed Paul Plazier, a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences. He considers open access an appealing but complicated phenomenon, and discusses some barriers he experiences. Since the beginning of this year, the UG and UMCG follow an explicit 'green' open access policy. Researchers are required to deposit the full-text final author's version of their peer-reviewed articles in the University's research database. The new policy will not entail extra work for researchers; most of the workflow will be handled by the Library. Lastly, open access, open data, and open science are complex phenomena, and not just for ECRs. To help medical researchers find their way, the UMCG organized a symposium 'ResearchIT tools: which, how?' We summarize the main topics of this symposium. Enjoy reading!

Elsevier open access journals increase from 140 to 266

The number of Elsevier journals in which corresponding authors of Dutch universities can publish their articles without costs increased from 140 to 266. Starting 8 December 2016, all accepted articles are eligible for this scheme which is part of the Elsevier-VSNU agreement 2016–2018. Every year there will be an extension of journals in which authors can publish open access. Additional fields in 2017 are water, health, chemistry, logistics, pharmacology and toxicology.

National Plan Open Science presented

On 9 February 2017 the National Plan Open Science and the website OPENSOURCE.NL were presented in The Hague. The main ambitions of the National Open Science Plan are to provide full open access to publications by 2020, to make research data optimally suited for re-use and to adapt evaluation and reward systems that are in line with the objectives of open science. On 19 January 2017 Dutch State Secretary of Education Sander Dekker sent a LETTER to the parliament on the subject of open science in which he asks for a broad coalition of stakeholders to jointly develop a National Plan Open Science. The plan, signed by ten organizations including VSNU, KNAW and NWO, is an important step to create an infrastructure for making science accessible and transparent.

Download the [NATIONAL PLAN OPEN SCIENCE](http://NATIONAL_PLAN_OPEN_SCIENCE) via OPENSOURCE.NL.



INTERVIEW

Kees Aarts



The National Plan Open Science

Three questions for Kees Aarts, dean of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences

"In order to get things moving, high ambitions are essential." This is what Kees Aarts, Professor of Political Institutions and Behaviour and the new dean of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences, puts forward, when asked about the ambition of 100% open access in the National Plan Open Science. Universities should not only depend on the negotiations with publishers, but also call upon the creativity of researchers. The goal of the national plan to have a consistent system for findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR) research data can be facilitated by providing integrated support for researchers as the UG started up in the new Human Subject Research Program. [READ THE INTERVIEW](#)



Cost-free open access publishing in thousands of peer-reviewed journals

As a result of the successful negotiations of the Association of Dutch Universities (VSNU) with a dozen major publishers, any article with a corresponding author from a Dutch university can now be published in open access in thousands of peer-reviewed journals—at no costs for authors. The costs are ‘prepaid’ so to speak, and borne by the university libraries. Instead of just accessing all articles published in a given year, we can now also publish all our articles open access. [SEE AN OVERVIEW](#) of journals with prepaid open access.

Open access through the eyes of an early career researcher

Paul Plazier, PhD candidate at the Faculty of Spatial Sciences of the University of Groningen, investigates the subject area of transport geography, focusing on the rise of e-bike mobility in the Netherlands. As an early career researcher taking his first steps in academic publishing, Paul considers open access as an appealing, yet complex phenomenon. He shares his thoughts on open access with us; we try to remedy Paul’s concerns.

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Symposium ‘UMCG ResearchIT tools: which, how?’

On 15 February 2017 the UMCG hosted the symposium ‘UMCG ResearchIT tools: which, how?’. About 150 people attended the event that was open to anyone interested in health research data: from data capture to data processing, data publishing, data collaboration, data storage, data access and archiving. The symposium not only focused on technical issues and IT-tools, but also on policy, ambitions and awareness. [READ MORE](#)

New open access deal with SAGE

The Association of Dutch Universities (VSNU) has signed a three-year deal with publisher SAGE. In this deal, which runs from 2017 to 2019, corresponding authors from Dutch universities will be able to publish open access free of charge in 786 hybrid titles. Compared to the deal from 2015 and 2016, these are significantly more titles. Part of the deal is also a discount of 20% on Article Processing Charges when publishing in gold open access journals of this publisher.



University of Groningen and UMCG introduce a green open access policy

As open access becomes a more and more familiar concept, focus is now on the small steps everyone can take to make openness in research a reality. One such small but significant step is depositing the full-text of your article in the [UNIVERSITY’S RESEARCH DATABASE PURE](#), thereby making it freely available on your institutional researcher profile page. This is called [GREEN OPEN ACCESS](#).

Since 1 January 2017, researchers of the University of Groningen (UG) and the University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG) are required to deposit the [FINAL AUTHOR’S VERSION OF THEIR PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLE](#) in the University’s research database. The workflow asks little effort from researchers; [MOST OF THE REALIZATION IS BEING HANDLED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN LIBRARY](#).

What is asked from researchers?

- > Every UG and UMCG researcher that is (co-)author of an article published in a peer-reviewed journal is asked to deposit his or her article in Pure.
- > Depositing takes place as soon as possible upon acceptance of the article (immediate deposit on acceptance). The UG Library and the Central Medical Library (CMB) will handle the import of the publication to Pure.
- > The UG Library and CMB will take care of the legal requirements (embargo deadlines etc.) issued by the publisher concerning the open access publishing of the archived article (optional – and controlled – access).

How to deposit an article?

To ensure depositing costs authors as little time and effort as possible, we advise to fill in the [ONLINE FORM](#). Depositing an article takes less than 1 minute. Articles can also be [MAILED](#) or deposited directly in Pure.

More information

- > [ABOUT THIS POLICY AND ADVANTAGES OF GREEN OPEN ACCESS FOR RESEARCHERS](#)
- > [FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)
- > [OPEN ACCESS AT THE UG/UMCG](#)

The open access newsletter is edited by the University of Groningen Library. The newsletter is published two times a year. For comments and suggestions, please mail: OPENACCESS@RUG.NL