Role of libraries and institutions as EOSC intermediaries in publishing, dissemination and long-term preservation of research data

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Intermediaries are (part of) the network

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Why should institutions care?

• (Some) academics actively want it
• (Many) researchers funders mandate it
• Interoperability means more efficiency and better research information management
• It’s not (proper) science/research if it isn’t open (FAIR)
Libraries in a changing environment

- Research is digital, are we?
- Are we still needed for discovery?
- In an open world, do we still have a role for access to digital content?
- Will print content become invisible?
- Global content grows so fast, our collections are shrinking (relatively)
Living Knowledge

• Living Knowledge articulates the vision of the British Library as the most open, creative and innovative institution of its kind in the world.

• Research Services is a new department set up to lead the transformation of the Library’s services and contemporary collections in support of research, on-site and on-line.

• Everything Available is a strategic change management portfolio designed to deliver the (emerging) strategy for the Library’s services to researchers and research organisations.
BL research service strategy elements

• Contribute to a sustainable global knowledge environment that benefits all
• Local to global collections: everything we can make discoverable and accessible
• Procurement: from just-in-case to just-in-time tailored delivery
• Assist users in not just finding content but in extracting useful information from it
• Bring the content to the users and their favourite tools (even if it means or ‘immediate’ users are machines – APIs)
• Manage and preserve third party content relevant for research
• Provide shared collection management services to other organisations
Institutions: nodes & interface to researchers

Support & advice

Access & discovery

Tools for research

Digital preservation

Tools for publication
British Library data strategy

‘Our vision for the British Library is that research data are as integrated into our collections, research and services as text is today.’
BL repository services infrastructure

- EThOS
- Data.bl.uk
- British Library Institutional Repository
- Partner Repositories

Access Layer

Services Layer (e.g. digitisation, analytics)

Preservation Layer
Close the cycle
Example: FREYA project
FREYA aims

- Improved discovery, navigation, retrieval and access
- New provenance series to make the scientific record more complete & reliable
- Toward the vision of fully and effectively accessible data
- New types of PIDs and new things to do with them!
A few challenges

• Appropriate metadata available
• Consistent use of PIDs
• The right level of policies and support
• Federated publication infrastructures
• Federated digital preservation networks?

⇒ Ultimately, success is reuse!
Concluding thoughts

• No single institution can crack this

• Key role in culture change locally

• EOSC will only work if it is seen to deliver benefit, not just funding

• So it’s up to us to make something of it