

Curating the dynamic: future challenges of a shifting research landscape

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# Aims of research



To identify themes associated with the changing research environment



To explore issues emerging within these themes



To develop a conceptual framework that illustrates the emerging relationship between the researcher and the academic library



To suggest some possible emerging scenarios



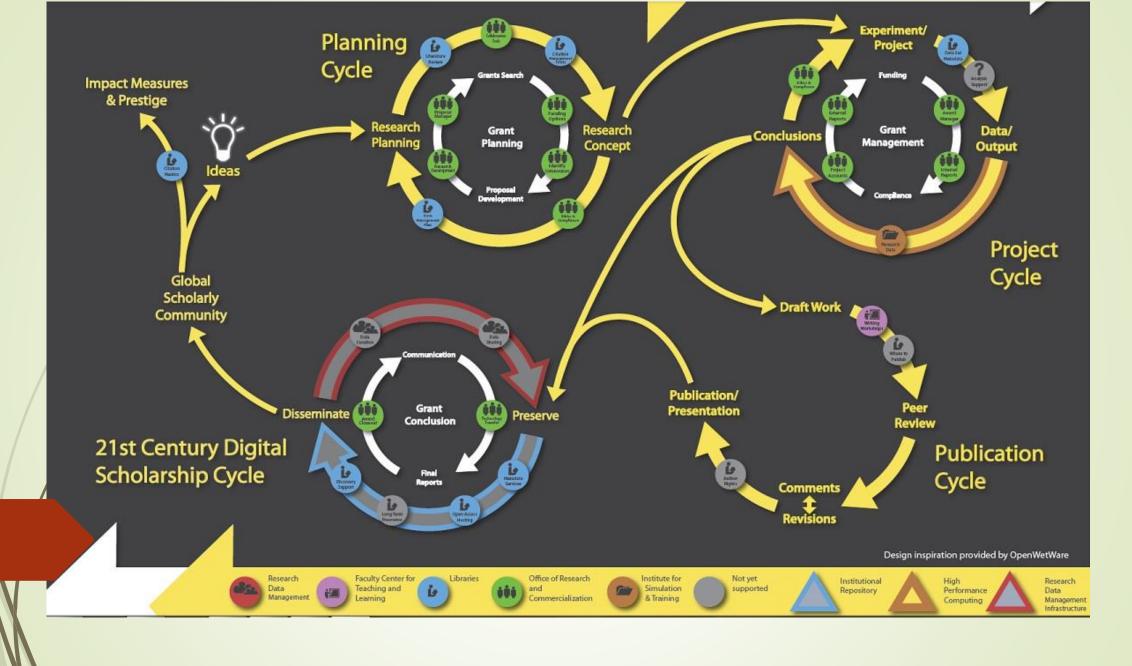
To recommend action for senior leaders and policymakers in the light of the findings

### Why...

The proliferation of digital content is part of the evolution, revolution, or crisis in scholarly communication, depending on the perspective taken. Authors, libraries, universities, and publishers are wrestling with the trade-offs between traditional forms of publisher-controlled dissemination and author-or institution-controlled forms of open access publishing. At issue are the forms of peer review, the speed of dissemination, the ease of access, the cost, who pays the cost (e.g., the author, library, or reader), and preservation. (Borgman, 2010, p. 9)

### Research Questions

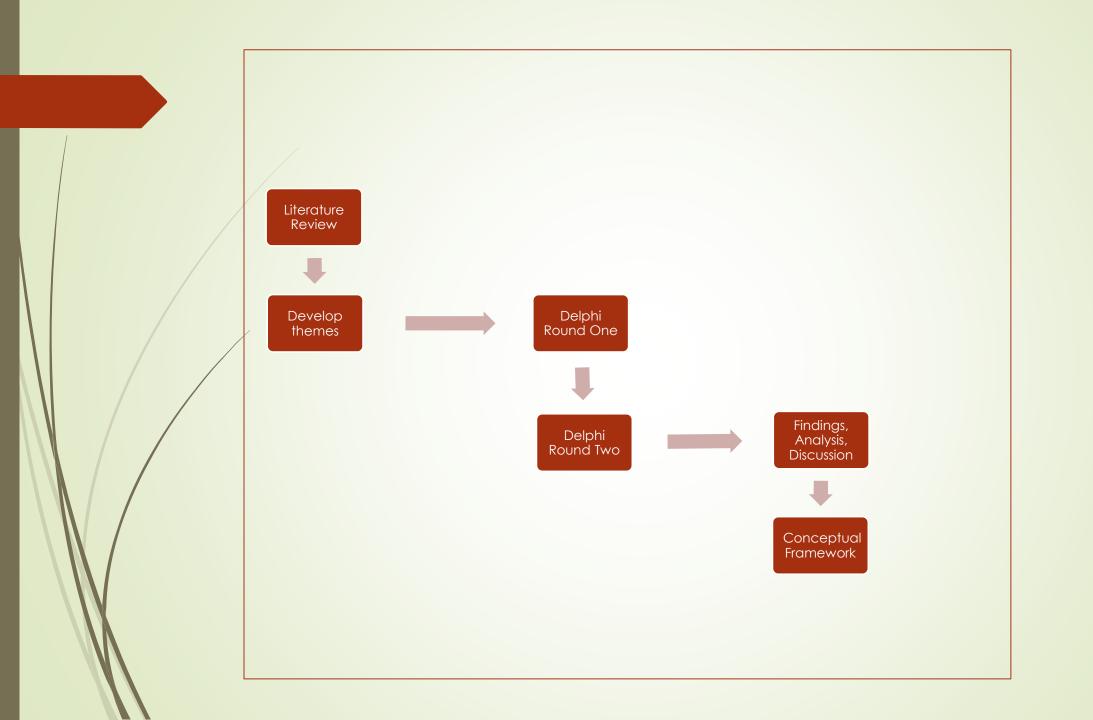
- How is the external environment disrupting and changing the research process?
- How is open access instigating change in the structure and functional support of research?
- What might be the impact of open access on those stages of the research lifecycle supported by the library?
- How might disruptive changes reshape the library?
- What is the response of the library to the changes in open access research?
- What are the important and pressing issues library leadership needs to address?

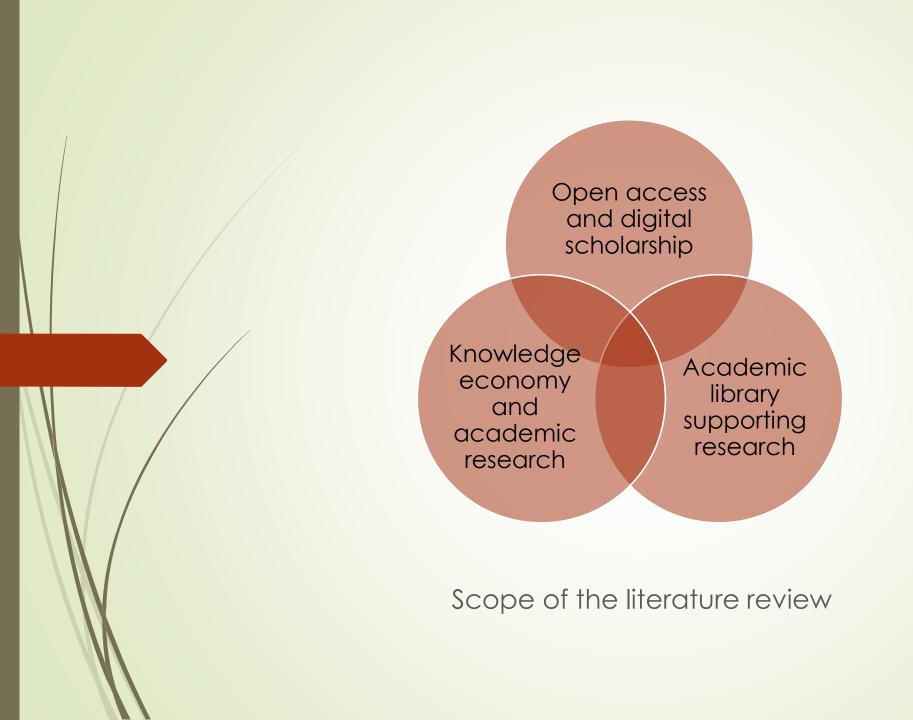


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# How... Methodology

Context; Literature Review; Identified themes; Delphi Technique; reengaged with the literature contextualised and synthesised.





| THEME              | SUB-THEME                    | Question        |  |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|                    |                              | Areas           |  |
| Open Access policy |                              | A1, A2, A5; B2, |  |
| and strategy       |                              | B4, B5, B6      |  |
|                    | OA and library leadership    | B2, B6          |  |
| Scholarly          |                              | A2, A3 A4 A5;   |  |
| communication      |                              | B6              |  |
|                    | Research Data Management     | A2, A3; B4, B5, |  |
|                    |                              | B6              |  |
|                    | institutional repositories   | A3 + A4; B4     |  |
|                    | Bibliometrics                | A4              |  |
| Role of library    |                              | B1 and B2       |  |
|                    | library positioning (and     | B1              |  |
|                    | perception) for research     |                 |  |
|                    | support                      |                 |  |
|                    | library skills and workforce | B2, B3          |  |
|                    | davalannant                  |                 |  |

# Delphi study

Moodle; Two rounds; Delphi Technique; re-engaged with the literature (Mendeley) contextualised -

http://librarydelphi.learnerinformatics.com/

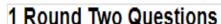
# Research and the Academic Library: A Delphi Study

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- 3 About this research
- 4 Information for Participants and Ethics
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#### The Delphi Study



Welcome to the questions for **Round Two** and thank you again for completing the first round of this Delphi study. Round Two is a short exercise building on the data collected from Round One. The aim is to identify more closely the issues of importance currently and in the future.

An outline summary of the data collected in Round One can be found on the next page.

Click here to go to Round Two questions





|   | Prediction Questions -<br>B4 – Two Year Horizon  | Likely/<br>desirable | Likely/<br>undesirable | Unlikely/<br>desirable | Unlikely/<br>undesirable | Total |
|---|--|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
|   | <b>B4.1</b> Library strategy will shift towards supporting research data management          | 30 (86%)             | 2 (6%)                 | 2 (6%)                 | 1 (3%)                   | 35    |
|   | <b>B4.2</b> Librarians will add value (e.g. enhance discoverability) to research data        | 25 (71%)             | 1 (3%)                 | 8 (23%)                | 1 (3%)                   | 35    |
| / | <b>B4.3</b> Universities will have effective institutional repositories                      | 23 (66%)             | 1 (3%)                 | 10 (29%)               | 1 (3%)                   | 35    |
|   | <b>B4.4</b> The RDM function will fall within the remit of a dedicated research support unit | 15 (43%)             | 6 (17%)                | 8 (23%)                | 6 (17%)                  | 35    |

| Rank            | Five years' time statements                                     | Score* |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | An effective open scholarly communications model                | 124    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | An effective research funding model                             | 116    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Increasing the data management skill levels of librarians       | 79     |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Sharing research outputs across institutional repositories      | 77     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Repositioning the library to respond to research support issues | 73     |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Other   | 35     |

## Main Findings

- the complexity of the policies and strategies associated with open access
- their likely profound impact on the concept and character of the academic library, and,
- the extent to which university and library leaders have yet to fully appreciate the potency and urgency of digital scholarship.

