

# Helmholtz Open Science Newsletter of February 16, 2022

Dear colleagues,

This is the 90th Helmholtz Open Science Newsletter brought to you by the Helmholtz Open Science Office in German as well as in English. With this newsletter, we provide you with a regular overview of the most important open science developments.

You can find the current newsletter and the newsletter archive on the Helmholtz Open Science Office [website](#).

We appreciate you forwarding this newsletter to anyone interested.

For more information on the topic of open science: The internal mailing list os-pro-helmholtz “Helmholtz Open Science Professionals” supports members of the Helmholtz Association who are interested in open science topics, such as open access, open research data and open research software. In addition to information on current developments, practical discussions and information exchanges are facilitated. You can register for the mailing list [here](#). (**Please note:** This list is only available for employees of the Helmholtz Association).

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# 1. campusSOURCE Award 2022: Prize Winners Announced

Programming one's own software to investigate research questions has now become a standard part of scientific work for many researchers. Under the title "The Software Pillar of Open Science", a spotlight was placed on research software at this year's [Paris Open Science European Conference \(OSEC\)](#), during the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Often, however, research software is still being treated as a mere by-product. The campusSOURCE Award 2022 helps change this and, with this first nationwide award, aims to raise the profile of academics who also develop software as part of their research.

The campusSOURCE Award 2022 – supported by [CampusSource e.V.](#), [de-RSE e.V.](#), and [Helmholtz Open Science Office](#) – is awarded to individuals or teams who make significant contributions to supporting scientifically active persons developing research software and thereby enable new and innovative research software solutions.

Three teams from Helmholtz are among the prize winners selected by the jury (see [press release](#), in German). We cordially congratulate all prize winners!

The award ceremony will take place during the CampusSource Conference 2022 on March 17, 2022 at the FernUniversität in Hagen (online & free of charge). Among others, there will be a presentation called "Hidden Figures – where are they?" by Bernadette Fritsch (de-RSE e.V. & AWI), who will give an insight into the topics of diversity and visibility of women engaged in the development of research software. More information here (in German): <http://www.campussource.de/events/e2203hagen>.

## 2. German Science Council Calls for Open Access as Standard for Scientific Publications

The [Empfehlungen des Wissenschaftsrats](#) (i. e., the “Recommendations of the German Science Council”, document in German) on the transformation of scientific publishing towards open access, published in January 2022, are well worth reading. The topic of open access as a future standard for scientific publications is examined in great detail; also, corresponding recommendations are presented. It should be emphasized that scientific publishing is seen as part of the research process and that the respective costs are thus allocated to research funding. At the institutional level, the establishment of so-called information budgets is strongly recommended. Information budgets take into account all relevant funding flows of an institution.

During the work on the BMBF project [Options4OA](#), corresponding preliminary work was carried out in the Helmholtz Open Science Office; thus, according to a [report](#) (in German) of the project: “The central challenge is to create cost transparency of all expenditures for scientific information. In order to achieve this transparency, it is necessary to establish monitoring procedures at the scientific institutions that look beyond the library budget towards all expenditures for information supply and publishing. These monitoring procedures can pave the way for the creation of information budgets. Through such information budgets, universities as well as non-university research institutions can ensure the capturing, management, and control of all expenditures of institutions to publishers and other service providers related to scientific information in terms of cost transparency.” In addition, the need for information budgets has been explored in more detail in another Options4OA project [working paper](#) (in German).

## 3. G6 Network Positions Itself on Open Science

The six European research organizations [CNR](#) (Italy), [CNRS](#) (France), [CSIC](#) (Spain), the [Max Planck Society](#), the [Leibniz Association](#), and the [Helmholtz Association](#) draw up joint statements on current scientific and research policy issues under the name G6.

Within this framework, the Task Force Open Science of the G6 network has developed a [statement](#) on the common understanding of Open Science in the research organizations in December 2021. Among other aspects, this statement emphasizes the relevance of Open Science for cutting-edge research. The following aspects of Open Science are addressed: Open Access, FAIR Data, Research Software, Research Assessment, Skills and Training, as well as Information Infrastructure and Services.

## 4. Viewing Good Research Practice in Conjunction with Open Science

The ERAC Standing Working Group on Open Science and Innovation addresses the link between [Good Research Practice](#) (German: GWP) and Open Science in the comprehensive “[Guideline Report on Research Integrity and Open Science](#)”. The report presents several recommendations, including: “Communicate about Open Science and Research Integrity in a positive way, as two fundamental and complementary pathways toward excellent science and greater social impact of research. Indeed Open Science and Research Integrity both ultimately relate to the need to foster responsibility and trust in research and innovation.” At Helmholtz, a [Helmholtz Open Science Briefing](#), published in 2021, provides information on how these themes are connected within the context of the DFG’s Code of Conduct “[Guidelines for Safeguarding Good Research Practice](#)”. ERAC is an advisory body for the Council of the EU, the EU Commission and the Member States on issues of European Research Policy.

The interplay of Good Research Practice and Open Science is also addressed in the worthwhile report “[Protecting the Integrity of Government Science](#)” by the US National Science and Technology Council.

## 5. KIT Adopts OER Policy

The individual Helmholtz Centers as well as the entire Helmholtz Association are committed to the exchange and transfer of knowledge between science and society in a variety of ways. At the [Karlsruhe Institute of Technology \(KIT\)](#), both a non-university research institution and a university, special attention is paid to teaching. Against this background, KIT has supplemented its existing policies on [Open Access](#) and [Open Research Data](#) with a policy on [Open Educational Resources](#). Open Educational Resources (OER) are educational materials that are available under an open license and are therefore characterized by unhindered access as well as the option of free use, editing, and further dissemination. To support the implementation, the policy has been supplemented with an FAQ list as well as references to relevant [infrastructures](#) and [workflows](#).

## 6. Helmholtz Open Science Online Seminar: Charité Dashboard on Responsible and Open Research

The 63rd Helmholtz Open Science Online Seminar on the “[Charité Dashboard on Responsible and Open Research](#)” will take place on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, from 3:00 to 4:00 p. m. [Dr. Nico Riedel](#) from the [QUEST Center of the Berlin Institute of Health at Charité](#) will report on the background, status, and direction of the [interactive Charité Dashboard on Responsible Research](#).

The Charité is committed to creating, fostering, and sustaining a research environment that improves the robustness of research and the transparency and relevance of results. To this end, the BIH QUEST Center has developed a dashboard that provides an up-to-date overview of the status quo as well as the progress of various metrics of trustworthy and useful research at BIH and Charité.

The public, English-language presentation will be conducted via Zoom and will not be recorded. To attend the free event, please [register](#) in advance. After the talk, there will be time for questions and discussion; the presentation slides and an accompanying factsheet will be posted on the [event's page](#) shortly.

## 7. RDA DE Conference 2022: Program and Registration

The RDA DE Conference 2022 program, which will be held online from February 21 to 25, 2022, is now available via the [event's website](#). Participation in the online event is again free of charge. Please register [here](#) if you are interested.

The [RDA DE](#) Community in Germany aims to help increase data sharing and make data reuse more efficient. Since 2014, RDA DE organizes annual conferences and various activities such as training courses on aspects of data science and data management.

From the beginning, the Helmholtz Open Science Office has been a co-organizer of the RDA DE conference. This year again, the Office is responsible for a number of sessions with exciting contributions, including the topics: [Provenance Monitoring and Management – Metadata is the Key](#) (in English) and [Reproduzierbare Wissenschaft – Forschungsdaten und Research Software im Zusammenspiel](#) (in German), as well as [Data Publishing Best Practices – Mehr Sichtbarkeit für Datenpublikationen](#) (in German).

During the conference, the BMBF-funded [project EcoDM](#), in which the Helmholtz Open Science Office is involved, will hold its [closing event](#) (in German). In addition, the [EcoDM Satellite Events for the 2022 RDA DE](#) (in German) will be held on February 17, 2022, with a focus on data protection (attendance is free; registration is requested).

## 8. Save the Date: Helmholtz Open Science Forum on Research Software

On April 7, 2022, the Helmholtz Forum Research Software, jointly organized by the [Task Group Research Software](#) of the Helmholtz Working Group Open Science and the [HIFIS](#) Software Cluster, will host the next Helmholtz Open Science Forum on the topic of research software. The event is organized by the Helmholtz Open Science Office.

The forum is dedicated to three aspects of the open and sustainable use of research software in Helmholtz: policy, practice, as well as infrastructures & tools. The forum is open to be attended by all Helmholtz' employees.

The majority of the event will be held in German. The program is available [online](#). To attend, please register in advance on the [event page](#).

## 9. Helmholtz Open Science Online Seminar: Open Research Index "OpenAlex" launched

In January 2022, the new open source index [OpenAlex](#) – named after the ancient library of Alexandria in Egypt – was launched to replace the [Microsoft Academic Graph \(MAG\)](#); MAG was discontinued at the end of 2021. The metadatabase offers a free alternative to subscription-based platforms such as Scopus, Dimensions, or Web of Science and contains over 200 million records on scholarly documents, publication venues (journals and repositories), authorship, institutions, and concepts. OpenAlex has been developed and is being maintained by the nonprofit service company [OurResearch](#), based in Vancouver, Canada. It draws its content from the decommissioned MAG records as well as a variety of other sources, including ORCID and Crossref. The catalog is freely accessible via [REST API](#). Read more [here](#).

On the occasion of the launch, the Open Science Office will host an online seminar with [Heather Piwowar](#), co-founder of OurResearch, on April 19, 2022. You can register for the event on our [website](#).

## 10. Save the Date: 6th ORCID DE Workshop on May 4, 2022

On May 4, 2022, the 6th and last workshop by the [ORCID DE project](#) will take place online. The Helmholtz Open Science Office is a participating partner in the ORCID DE project. The topic of this last workshop will be “ORCID in a broader context – results and outlook of persistent identifiers in science and culture”. The full-day workshop will be conducted with [Zoom](#) and will not be recorded.

The preliminary program is now available on the [event page](#) (in German). To participate in the free event, please register in advance [here](#).

The ORCID DE project, which has been receiving funding by the [German Research Foundation \(DFG\)](#) since 2016, would like to present various use cases during this workshop and discuss with participants and experts how the ORCID iD and organizational identifiers, such as the [ROR ID](#), can be sensibly used in workflows of the Open Access transformation, in the [National Research Data Infrastructure \(NFDI\)](#) and in services of the [integrated authority file \(GND\)](#) and online publications. Following on what has been achieved in the project and in the [ORCID Germany Consortium](#), the workshop will provide an outlook on the PID landscape in science and culture in Germany.

Project partners of ORCID DE are [DataCite](#), the [German National Library](#), the [Helmholtz Open Science Office](#), [German National Library of Science and Technology \(TIB\)](#), and [Universitätsbibliothek Bielefeld](#). The project was initiated by the German Initiative for Network Information ([DINI](#)).

## 11. Review: Helmholtz Open Science Practice Forum Research Data Management

To share best practices on the topic of research data management (RDM) and to promote collaboration around RDM in the Community, the Helmholtz Open Science Office hosted the first [Helmholtz Open Science Practice Forum on Research Data Management](#) on February 3, 2022. In this internal forum, different approaches from Centers to organize RDM were presented as examples. In addition, the focus was placed on concrete service offerings from individual Centers. Furthermore, networking and cooperation with external actors, e.g., in the context of [NFDI](#), [EOSC](#), or [RDA](#), were highlighted. More than 180 participants attended the event, which indicates that there is great interest in an overarching exchange on RDM topics at Helmholtz.

Thematically related to this forum is the [second Helmholtz Open Science Forum on the National Research Data Infrastructure \(NFDI\)](#), which took place in December 2021. A report documenting this forum is now available [for download](#) (in German).



## 12. Hybrid Journals on the Way to Open Access

The biology journals [Development](#), [Journal of Cell Science](#), and [Journal of Experimental Biology](#) are among the first hybrid journals to meet [Plan S conditions](#) for [transformative journals](#) and to have fully transitioned to open access. All three journals are published by the [Company of Biologists](#), a science-led publisher that collaborates with several scientific societies.

The publisher has now [announced](#) that for 2021, the targets set for the open access transformation have actually been [exceeded](#). According to the publisher, “publish-and-read” agreements with more than 400 scientific institutions contributed to the significant growth in OA.

## 13. cOAlition S Begins Building a Journal Comparison Service

At the end of 2021, [cOAlition S announced](#) the launch of a Journal Comparison Service. This online service is intended to help researchers understand whether the OA publication fees they pay adequately reflect the services provided; the aim is to gain a better insight into the components of these services. The respectively commissioned data and software company, Cottage Labs, also developed the [Journal Checker Tool](#) for cOAlition S.

The new, planned web-based Journal Comparison Service will allow scholarly publishers to upload data in accordance with the cOAlition S [Price and Service Transparency Frameworks](#). At the same time, approved users will be able to determine which services are offered at what price for a given journal and compare the services and prices offered by multiple journals. cOAlition S plans to gradually release the Journal Comparison Service starting in spring 2022, initially accepting data from publishers. The online service will be available for authorized users in summer 2022.

## 14. ASAPBio Introduces FAST Principles to Foster Preprint Feedback Culture

Especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of preprints as a means for rapid communication and dissemination of research results has increased. The [ASAPbio preprint review cultural norms Working Group](#) has now proposed the “[FAST principles for preprint feedback](#)”; the acronym FAST stands for Focused, Appropriate, Specific, and Transparent. The principles are addressed to all actors involved in the peer review process, explicitly mentioning authors, reviewers, and the scientific community as a whole. They introduce a set of 14 principles, which are intended to provide a foundation for common norms and behaviors to be considered in the preparation, interpretation, and evaluation of preprints. To develop the principles, the working group reviewed and discussed existing [resources](#) on peer review and compared them with current practices and standards. The authors see the FAST principles as an initial basis for further discussion and are open to receive feedback. Read more [here](#).

# Recommended Reading

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# Imprint

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