



Universitat Oberta
de Catalunya

Open Knowledge at the UOC, or how to contribute to social transformation

uoc.edu

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Open Science Fair, O Porto

17 September 2019

Why are we committed to Open Knowledge?



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development



Call to action

“Stakeholders must work with the academic community in all disciplines **to mobilize, harness and disseminate existing knowledge to accelerate** the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.”

“Member States, research consortiums and libraries should work together to remove the barriers to published scientific knowledge and data. **A more coordinated, harmonized international effort is urgently needed to enable open access to published research.**”



Call to action

“Research institutions such as universities, academies and scientific associations **should expand their evaluation systems** to recognize interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary skills, and reward research that strives for societal relevance and impacts.”

At UOC we wanted to address 2 main obstacles



"Knowledge is everywhere – reach for it" video screenshot. Photo © University of Wrocław

The UOC Open Knowledge Action Plan (2019-2030)

6 specific areas



Open access publications

Open FAIR data

Open learning

Open innovation

Open to society

Research evaluation models

3 universal themes



Training, communications, and awareness raising

Participation in areas of influence

Open access infrastructure

Where do we want to get to?



We express the UOC's commitment to transformation in research assessment to a more **qualitative** evaluation that incorporates constant **learning** and **transformation** as an objective. This change refers to all areas of research, including research results and projects, the research career, assessment of research groups, research centres and the entire UOC.



THIS WAY

THE OTHER WAY

THAT WAY

#actnow vs the Institutional dilemma

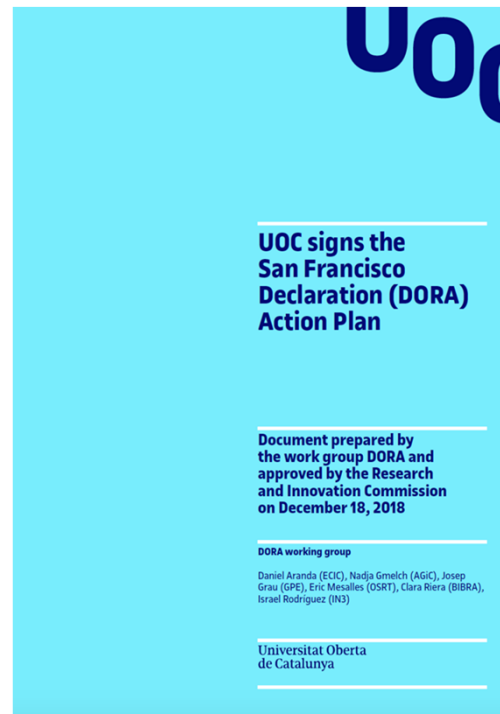
- External context vs University autonomy
 - Change resistance
 - No unique way to assess everything
-

What have we done so far at UOC?

1/ Creation of an interdisciplinary working group
(DORA work group)

What have we done so far at UOC?

2/ Report on
research
assessment at
UOC and
DORA
signature
(Dec 2018)



Institutional
implications

Implications for
researchers

Implications as
publishers



Signatory of
DORA

UOC Current events Interviews Press kit Contact Events EN

The UOC signs the San Francisco Declaration to encourage changes in research assessment

Photo: Unsplash, Anagene

13/05/2019
Editorial department

The University joins this international initiative to prioritize contents over metrics

The current research assessment system, which focuses almost entirely on impact factor, needs to be changed. This is the idea behind the San Francisco Declaration (SFD), an international movement that **promotes research assessment based on the quality** of research rather than the prestige of the journal publishing it. In its commitment to open knowledge, the UOC has joined the cause, with a view to applying its principles both in the field of research and at institutional level.

"We are committed to **open knowledge** as a key element in approaching the global challenges facing us as a society, which are set out in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", explains Pastora Marín Simón, the UOC's Vice President for Evaluation and

What have we done so far?

3/ First changes:
Criteria of the UOC's post-doc call (Feb 2019)




What are our next steps for 2020?

- To extend the **internal debate** on research assessment among our faculty. The need of raising awareness
 - To analyze the **existent incoherencies** within the UOC
 - To elaborate **specific actions** addressing:
 - All the internal calls (researchers, projects,...)
 - Institutional and scientific communication
-

Some final remarks

- How do we define **quality** in science and research? And how do we assess it?
- **Awareness** among researchers and **engagement** is urgently needed
- **Responsibility** of the Institutions
- **Cultural change is key** on moving forward towards new ways of evaluation as well as open knowledge
- The UOC is one institution in a big academic system → **Call for joint action!**



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Thank you!

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