The Huddersfield Open Access Publishing (HOAP) project was a 6 month project funded by JISC and fulfilled by Computing and Library Services at the University of Huddersfield, in conjunction with the School of Education and Professional Development and the Research and Enterprise Directorate. The HOAP platform aimed to develop a new, sustainable Open Access (OA) journal publishing platform using EPrints Institutional Repository software. It has been used to migrate the University of Huddersfield’s Teaching in Lifelong Learning journal, from its existing print subscription model to an OA-e-journal. A specific front end has been created for the journal, with access to the Repository. The HOAP project also attempts to bring together the two systems of delivering OA research articles, OA repositories and OA journals [1].

As the chief beneficiaries of research within the university, universities have long chafed at the notion that the research is given away to commercial entities, thus reprinted at a premium [3].

References

Usage statistics
The HOAP team package from EPrints can be used to monitor usage for all articles in the journal. This also shows us whether the journal is being read, and can be followed to other journals. This allows each title to retain its own branding on the landing pages and contents pages.

The creation of the journal landing pages and the volume/issue pages is fully automated. The articles are uploaded into the repository in the second week of each month. The third week of each month sees the publication of each volume. Article downloads are counted for each article. The total number of downloads is reported in the journal’s landing page. An analysis of these downloads gives insights into the readership and use of the journal.

In addition to the ‘impact’ of a particular volume can be measured over time using the ‘viewing history’ in the IRStats administration pages. There have been approx. 1,000 full text downloads of journal articles since launch. Volume 3, Issue 2 has had 26 downloads from 26 countries.

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Recommendations
The project has made a number of recommendations to JISC in the final project report [4]:

- Audit UK universities to find in-house journals.
- Collect the metadata of University OA journals in a central repository for exploitation by link resolvers, e.g. Crossref/DOAJ
- Make the code behind the HOAP platform freely available via the EPrints Bazaar
- Develop best practice guidelines from the HOAP and SAS Open Journals Projects [5]
- Workflows
  - Use the ROA toolset to enable authors to deposit their articles directly into the system, which could then be post-processed, copy-edited and published as a series of workflows.
  - Use the outcomes of the EPICURE project to develop and make output available in PDF and XML formats resulting in dissemination through mobile devices.
- Usage statistics. The project has recommended that JISC incorporate the recommendations of the PUBLIS final report to provide article level metrics. It is also suggested that this is to be used by other university publishing initiatives, rather than a tool for the JISC Journal Usage Metrics Portal (JUMP).

For further information on the project, including the latest developments, articles, data and a toolkit please visit our blog: http://library.hud.ac.uk/blogs/projects/hoap/