

Instances of Open Science at Leiden University

Problem Statements:

- 1) Leiden community members are not aware of all Open Science related activities at the university because information is spread and siloed across faculties and institutes.
- 2) Community members lack knowledge on what one another does in regard to Open Science within Leiden.
- 3) Open Science support areas (OA, Data, Software, etc) are not presented holistically and legibly in a way that would allow for broad appreciation.
- 4) There is not a coordinated space to communicate on Open Science across the university.
- 5) There is not a coordinated space to present the diverse ecosystem of work being done in Open Science across Leiden University to the outside world.

How Might We:

- 1) How might we pass on information about Open Science for community members so that people can feel supported and interconnected in their work?
- 2) How might we scaffold space for community members so that they feel comfortable enough to share their news and views?
- 3) How might we encourage co-creation of a network/ecosystem for stakeholders to hold conversations on Open Science across Leiden?
- 4) How might we present and share information on Open Science as a legible narrative for people outside the university network?

Why?

- In August of 2022, the CDS discussed the need for all our focus areas to thread toward a coherent narrative.
- In that same meeting, Laurents Sesink encouraged us to be bold and innovative in developing an initiative to raise the profile of Open Science and its sub-disciplines at Leiden University.
- Open Science is often caught up with Open Science Champions and a cult of personality. Can we instead showcase a wider community?

Proposal:

A semi-informal regularly occurring publicatication (i.e. a magazine) with overlay capabilities – that is, the ability to collect content from a range of diverse sources and organize and present that content as a collection.

The publication would serve as a foundational source for information on Open Science for people within and outside the university.

The publication would act as a critical form of Recognition for Open Science work at Leiden University; engendering collaboration and supporting Leiden's reputation as leader and innovator in Open Science.

Format Connections: Overlay Journal, Magazine

An overlay academic journal collects articles from repositories and organizes those articles into an issue, effectively recontextualizing the articles by placing them in conversation with pieces that they might not have had contact with otherwise.

You might also think of this as a mixtape for journal articles.

Given the forms of content that might be present in our publication, however, shifting our conception from Overlay Journal to Overlay Magazine makes space available for eclectic forms of content.

A magazine also has a unique history of shaping, broadcasting, welcoming, and archiving communities. Examples: Rolling Stone, The New Yorker, The Funambulist, Harvard Business Review, etc.

Types of Content:

- Information on digital skills trainings, Open Science-related events, workshops
- "Retweet" of blog posts related to open science from various faculties and institutes around Leiden.
- Mid-to-long-form articles profiling a researcher or project.
- Video and audio, podcasts and other multimedia content that could be hosted on the platform to retain or digital sovereignty and maintain persistent identifiers.

ResearchEquals

ResearchEquals is a Dutch/German open source publishing platform to rethink form and content in scientific communication.

ResearchEquals has unique publishing capabilities that enable our vision for an Open Science overlay publication. We also have a strong relationship with the organization that allows us to collaborate on the development of the platform.

ResearchEquals has ties already with other universities in the Netherlands, such as Tilburg and TU Delft.

Platform Features:

- Modular publishing
- Multi-user editing permissions
- Customizable visual design elements to establish unique identity of our publication
- RSS feed
- DOI minting
- Ability to receive external submission
- Editor annotations

How:

1. CDS establishes the brand and remit of the publication.
2. CDS begins collecting content related to Open Science scattered throughout Leiden.
3. CDS begins publishing content on a pilot basis, broadcasting to a closer circle of stakeholders.
4. CDS monitors adoption and use of the publication, while gathering feedback from stakeholders as to content types to include.
5. CDS opens the submission process, first to the pilot circle, then more broadly across the university.
6. CDS remains as a maintainer of the project, but opens editing capabilities to more stakeholders across the university.

Identity:

Instance – n. an example or occurrence of something; v. to cite as an example; (with regard to software) n. a context based on a model, a concrete occurrence of an object; Dutch: Instantie;

Instances – multiple occurrences spread across a context resulting in a constellation of events that establish community

of Open Science at Leiden University – this part is largely self-explanatory

Formal title: Instances of Open Science at Leiden University / Shorthand: Instances

Risks:

- How can Instances encapsulate everything Open Science at Leiden University?
 - I would argue that our remit does not require us to be comprehensive, but rather representative. The submission capability will mean that, over time, Open Science stakeholders across the university will take on ownership of submitting their appropriate content to the publication, diminishing our own need to seek such information out ourselves.
- What if no one reads this?
- This is too much work!
 - We might consider leveraging our broad network of data stewards and information managers as a distributed network to assist. We should also consider the ways in which this might alleviate work as underlying infrastructure to much of our efforts in creating a narrative for Open Science.

Hypothesized Outcomes:

- Greater visibility of Open Science at Leiden.
- Place into conversation a diverse range of Open Science perspectives and practices.
- Legible narratives will lead to greater participation in activities and services.
- Greater visibility leads to greater coordination, collaboration, investment, Recognition, celebration, and, ultimately, Rewards!

Key Terms:

Infrastructure, decentralization, co-creation, eclecticism, recognition, transparency