First Open Research Survey at The University of Reading

Survey Questionnaire

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Study background

This survey questionnaire has been collaboratively developed by the authors as part of the 2021 Open Research Champions Programme at the University of Reading, with feedbacks from other Open Research Champions and members of staff. Our goal with the survey is to map the existing Open Research (OR) landscape at the University of Reading — understanding perceptions around OR, tracking the use of different OR practices, identifying the existing barriers and incentives, understanding key learning and training needs for staff and students, and suggesting actions to facilitate and support the adoption of OR practices more widely both at the University and the School level. We have structured the survey to capture differences across disciplines, schools, roles, and demographic groups. The questionnaire was built and administered using REDCap, and it is organised in the following sections:

1) Introduction (Participant Information Sheet – PIS) & consent
2) Background of respondent
3) OR experience
4) OR perception
5) OR opportunities & challenges, barriers & incentives
6) OR needs, activities, education & training opportunities
7) Follow-up (OR communications, future surveys and activities, prize draw)

1) Introduction (Participant Information Sheet – PIS) & consent

The Project: This survey forms part of the University of Reading Open Research Champions programme, which supports the University's Open Research Action Plan 2021-2023. With it, we hope to gain insight into the knowledge, practices, and needs in relation to Open Research among staff and students at the University of Reading. The results of the survey will be used to inform our work as Open Research Champions.

What will happen: In this survey, you will be asked to provide some general information about yourself, your perceptions of Open Research practices, your own experience with the use of such practices, your awareness of the University of Reading policies and activities around Open Research, and your recommendations for future open research activities.

Eligibility restriction: This survey is voluntary but is only limited to participants – students and staff – who are members of the University of Reading.

Time commitment: The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete.

Confidentiality & Anonymity: By submitting your answers to the survey, you consent that your data will be analyzed for the purpose of this project. After analysis, your data will be anonymized and preserved on the University of Reading Research Data Archive. This archive is publicly available. Any research output that may be produced based on your data will be anonymized also.
Participants rights: Your participation is completely voluntary. You may choose not to participate, and you may withdraw at any time during the survey. Should you change your mind after filling in the survey, you also have the right to withdraw your data, without having to give any specific reason, until the analysis begins, and no later than November the 12th, 2021. If you decide to withdraw your participation after completing the whole survey, your rights to enter the prize draw will not be affected. At the beginning of the survey, you will be given a unique and anonymous code number. Please take note of it and store it. If you wish to withdraw your participation, you can send a written request to the PI of the project (marcello.demaria@reading.ac.uk), and you will have to reference this code number.

Benefits and risks: There are no known risks for you in this study. If you complete all the questions of the survey, you can enter into a prize draw, where you can win one of three £50 prizes. If you wish to participate to the prize draw, you will be asked to provide your email address, which will be used to randomly select and notify the winners and follow-up on your responses, should you give your consent (you will be asked for your explicit consent at the end of the survey).
If you need any more information about this research or if want to know how your data is used you can contact the project PI, Dr. Marcello De Maria at: marcello.demaria@reading.ac.uk.

Privacy notice
The organisation responsible for protection of your personal information is the University of Reading (the Data Controller). Queries regarding data protection and

your rights should be directed to the University Data Protection Officer at imps@reading.ac.uk, or in writing to: University of Reading, Information Management & Policy Services, Whiteknights House, Pepper Lane, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6UR, UK.

The University of Reading collects, analyses, uses, shares and retains personal data for the purposes of research in the public interest. Under data protection law we are required to inform you that this use of the personal data we

may hold about you is on the lawful basis of being a public task in the public interest and where it is necessary for scientific or historical research purposes. If you withdraw from a research study, which processes your personal data, dependant on the stage of withdrawal, we may still rely on this lawful basis to continue using your data if your withdrawal would be of significant detriment to the research study aims. We will always have in place appropriate safeguards to protect your personal data.

If we have included any additional requests for use of your data, for example adding you to a registration list for the purposes of inviting you to take part in future studies, this will be done only with your consent where you have provided it to us and should you wish to be removed from the register at a later date, you should contact marcello.demaria@reading.ac.uk.

You have certain rights under data protection law which are:

Withdraw your consent, for example if you opted in to be added to a participant register Access your personal data or ask for a copy Rectify inaccuracies in personal data that we hold about you Be forgotten, that is your details to be removed from systems that we use to process your personal data Restrict uses of your data Object to uses of your data, for example retention after you have withdrawn from a study Some restrictions apply to the above rights where data is collected and used for research purposes.

You can find out more about your rights on the website of the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) at https://ico.org.uk.

You also have a right to complain the ICO if you are unhappy with how your data has been handled. Please contact the University Data Protection Officer in the first instance.

This application has been reviewed according to the procedures specified by the University of Reading Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct.

☐ I have read the above and consent

2) Background of respondent

Thank you for taking the time to fill in the first ever Open Research Survey at the University of Reading. We really appreciate your support.

As previously discussed in the Participant Information Sheet, you have the right to withdraw your participation and data, without having to give any reason, until the moment when the data analysis begins - but no later than November the 12th, 2021.

Please take note of the following code number, as you will have to reference this, should you decide to withdraw your participation. If you wish to withdraw your participation you can send a written request to the PI of the project (marcello.demaria@reading.ac.uk), referencing the code number shown below:

[record_id]
1 What is your university email address? _____

2 How old are you?

- ○ 18
- ○ 19
- ○ 20
- ○ 21
- ○ 22
- ○ 23
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- ○ 25
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- ○ 69
- ○ 70
- ○ 71
- ○ 72
- ○ 73
- ○ 74
- ○ 75
- ○ 76
- ○ 77
- ○ 78
- ○ 79
- ○ 80+

3	What is your gender?	○ Woman
		○ Man
		○ Non-binary
		○ Prefer not to say

Please specify:

_____

4	What is your current status at the University?	○ Undergraduate student
		○ Master student
		○ PhD student
		○ Post-doctoral researcher
		○ Teaching fellow
		○ Research assistant
		○ Lecturer
		○ Associate Professor
		○ Professor
		○ Other

Please specify:

_____

5a	Which School are you primarily affiliated with?	○ Agriculture, Policy and Development
		○ Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science
		○ Arts and Communication Design
		○ Biological Sciences
		○ Built Environment
		○ Chemistry, Food and Pharmacy
		○ Henley Business School
		○ Humanities
		○ Institute of Education
		○ International Study and Language Institute
		○ Law
		○ Literature and Languages
		○ Mathematical, Physical and Computational Sciences
		○ Politics, Economics and International Relations
		○ Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences
		○ Other

Please specify:

_____

5b	Which Department are you primarily affiliated with?	◯ HBS - Accounting
		◯ HBS - Buisness & Management
		◯ HBS - Business Informatics, Systems and Accounting
		◯ HBS - Executive MBA
		◯ HBS - Finance
		◯ HBS - Flexible Executive MBA
		◯ HBS - Full time MBA
		◯ HBS - Henley DBA
		◯ HBS - Informatics
		◯ HBS - International Business and Strategy
		◯ HBS - Leadership, Organisations and Behaviour
		◯ HBS - Marketing and Reputation
		◯ HBS - Real Estate & Planning
		◯ HBS - Strategic Marketing Leadership
		◯ HBS - Executive Education
		◯ HBS - ICMA Centre
		◯ SACD - Art
		◯ SACD - Film, Theatre & Television
		◯ SACD - Typography & Graphic Communication
		◯ SAGES - Archaeology
		◯ SAGES - Geography & Environmental Science
		◯ SAPD - Agriculture, Policy & Development
		◯ SAPD - Animal Sciences
		◯ SAPD - Applied Economics & Marketing
		◯ SAPD - Centre for Agrimetrics
		◯ SAPD - Crop Science
		◯ SAPD - Farm-Commercial
		◯ SAPD - Institute for Food Nutrition & Health
		◯ SAPD - International Development
		◯ SAPD - Sustainable Land Management
		◯ SBE - Architecture
		◯ SBE - Construction Management & Engineering
		◯ SBS - Biomedical Engineering
		◯ SBS - Biomedical Sciences
		◯ SBS - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
		◯ SCFP - Chemistry
		◯ SCFP - Food & Nutritional Sciences
		◯ SCFP - Pharmacy
		◯ SHUM - Classics
		◯ SHUM - History
		◯ SHUM - Philosophy
		◯ SLL - English Language & Applied Linguistics
		◯ SLL - English Literature
		◯ SLL - Languages and Cultures
		◯ SMPCS - Computer Science
		◯ SMPCS - Mathematics & Statistics
		◯ SMPCS - Meteorology
		◯ SMPCS - Walker Institute
		◯ SPCLS - Charlie Waller Institute
		◯ SPCLS - Clinical Language Sciences
		◯ SPCLS - Psychology
		◯ SPIER - Economics
		◯ SPIER - Politics & International Relations

6	Do you have any other affiliation(s)? If so, please specify:

_____

7	How long have you been affiliated to the University of Reading?	○ Less than 1 year
		○ 1 year
		○ 2 years
		○ 3 years
		○ 4 years
		○ 5 years
		○ 6 years
		○ 7 years
		○ 8 years
		○ 9 years
		○ 10 years
		○ 11 years
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		○ 32 years
		○ 33 years
		○ 34 years
		○ 35 years
		○ 36 years
		○ 37 years
		○ 38 years
		○ 39 years
		○ 40 years
		○ More than 40 years

8	Are you currently or have you previously been actively involved in a research project?	○ Yes
		○ No

9   Which academic discipline do you feel your research mostly relates to?

_____

10   Please state a maximum of 5 key words or short phrases to describe your common research methods [examples may include field work, living subject interviews, chemical analysis, software coding, archival research, databases, GIS...]

_____

3) OR experience

11   What does the term 'Open Research' mean to you?

_____

How familiar are you with the following Open Research practices:

	I am using or plan to use it for a current project	I have used this on a project in the last 12 months	I have used this on a project more than a year ago	Heard of it, but I never used it	Never heard of this	I don't know / I am not sure
12.a Open Access Publications	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.b Open Data	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.c Open Source Software	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.d Open Code (e.g. Scripts used to run analyses)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.e Open Hardware	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.f Preprints	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.g Open Peer Review	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.h Open Licences	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.i Altmetrics	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.j Open Educational Resources	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.k Collaborative Writing Tools	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.l Preregistration	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.m Registered Reports	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.n Open Protocols/Proposals	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12.o Open/Electronic Notebooks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

13 Are there any other Open Research practices that you have experience with that are not listed above? If so, please specify: _____

14 If you are using or have ever used open practices as part of your research, why did you start incorporating them? _____

15 If you have never used anything that you would consider an Open Research practice, why is this the case? _____

16 Which Open Research practices, in the widest sense of the term, do you think are most relevant to your academic discipline? _____

17 Who or where would you go for advice regarding Open Research? _____

4) OR perception

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
18 On a scale from 0 (least likely) to 10 (most likely), how likely is it that you would recommend the adoption of Open Research principles, practices and tools to a colleague?	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

19 Why did you give this score to the previous question?

_____

To what extent do you agree with the following statements (Please select which option applies)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
20.a Open Research practices are important in my discipline	○	○	○	○	○
20.b Open Research practices contribute to research integrity	○	○	○	○	○
20.c Open Research practices contribute to research reproducibility	○	○	○	○	○
20.d I am familiar with, and know how to organise my research practice to be open, reproducible and responsible	○	○	○	○	○
20.e My institution supports open, reproducible and responsible research	○	○	○	○	○
20.f The group of people I work most closely with supports open, reproducible and responsible research	○	○	○	○	○

21 What practices should everyone in your academic discipline know about to conduct open, reproducible and responsible research?

_____

9

5) OR opportunities & challenges, barriers & incentives

22   In your view, what are the key opportunities offered by Open Research?

- ☐ Increased visibility and outreach
- ☐ Increased citations
- ☐ Increased public engagement
- ☐ Faster impact
- ☐ Increased interdisciplinarity
- ☐ Improved research quality
- ☐ Improved research transparency and integrity
- ☐ Increased replicability
- ☐ Increased innovation and knowledge transfer
- ☐ Economic benefits
- ☐ I am unfamiliar with open research practices
- ☐ Other

22.a Other oppourtunities:

_____

23   In your view, what are the key challenges preventing you from adopting Open Research practices?

- ☐ Lack of positive incentives
- ☐ Lack of mandates from funders, institutions or other regulators
- ☐ Lack of information or training
- ☐ Lack of supporting infrastructure (e.g. sufficient storage for open data)
- ☐ Lack of time
- ☐ Lack of dedicated funding
- ☐ Lack of support from senior researchers (e.g. supervisors and principal investigators)
- ☐ Lack of interest from junior researchers
- ☐ I don't perceive any barriers
- ☐ The level of adoption of open research practices in my field is already sufficient
- ☐ I am unfamiliar with open research practices
- ☐ Other

23.a Other challenges

_____

How familiar are you with the following University of Reading Open Research resources and activities?

	Very familiar	Familiar	Fairly familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar	Don't know
24.a Funding for Open Access publications	○	○	○	○	○	○
24.b Open Research Statement	○	○	○	○	○	○
24.c Open Research Champions	○	○	○	○	○	○
24.d ReproducibiliTea	○	○	○	○	○	○
24.e UoR Research Data Archive	○	○	○	○	○	○
24.f CentAUR	○	○	○	○	○	○

25   Are there other Open Research resources and activities from the University of Reading that you are familiar with that are not listed above?

_____

6) OR needs, activities, education & training opportunities

26 Which Open Research practices would like to learn more about, if any?

_____

27 What kind of training do you think you or your research would benefit from?

- ☐ Open Access Publications
- ☐ Research data management
- ☐ Data sharing
- ☐ Working with open data
- ☐ Open Source Software (software where the source code is freely and openly available)
- ☐ Open code (e.g, Matlab, Python, R)
- ☐ Open hardware
- ☐ Preprints
- ☐ Open Peer Review
- ☐ Open Licenses
- ☐ Altmetrics
- ☐ Open Educational Resources
- ☐ Collaborative writing tools
- ☐ Preregistration
- ☐ Registered reports
- ☐ Open protocols/proposals
- ☐ Open/electronic notebooks
- ☐ Research integrity
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other

27.a Please specify other Open Research training you think your research would benefit from:

_____

28 From the options chosen above, please could you give us more details about the training you think your research would benefit from.

_____

7) Follow-up (OR communications, future surveys and activities, prize draw)

29 Would you be happy for us to contact you to follow up on any responses given in this survey?

○ Yes
○ No

30 Are you happy to be contacted about future open research opportunities at the University of Reading via the open research mailing list?

○ Yes
○ No

31 Do you want to be included in the prize draw (we will use the e-mail address you have provided to contact you in case you won)?

○ Yes
○ No