Edinburgh Diamond
Launching and Growing a Library Hosting Service

BACKGROUND

- 2009: journal hosting service is launched to support one internal journal
- 2021: launched a book hosting service & rebranded as Edinburgh Diamond
- 2023:
  - Two full-time members of staff: one for publishing support & one for technical support
  - 23 journals, 3 conference proceedings & 9 books
- Free of charge for staff & students of the University of Edinburgh
- Promotes excellent projects & research coming out of the University of Edinburgh
- Service board in place to help shape the service
- Fully Diamond Open Access & Creative Commons licensed

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THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

SERVICE INCLUDES

- Hosting platform & workflow management system via Open Journal Systems (OJS) & Open Monograph Press (OMP)
- Workflow training
- Ongoing technical support, migrations & upgrades
- ISSN, ISBN, DOI allocation
- Digital preservation
- Indexing submissions
- Annual reports & metrics
- Publishing best practice guidance. advice & policies

FEEDBACK FROM SERVICE USERS

❝This service benefits the University by reducing textbook costs, staff by providing access to easily customisable open textbooks, and students by providing free, high quality digital learning materials.❞

❝Very flexible and can accommodate a wide range of formats. The downside is having to generate all the different formats manually.❞

THE FUTURE

- Develop service strategy & policies according to publishing best practice & user need
- Promote & grow service
- Seek involvement in teaching & learning

SERVICE DOESN'T INCLUDE

- Workflow management (users retain full editorial & workflow control)
- Lack of internal resource means we don't currently offer copyediting & typesetting services

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Works needs done on raising awareness & perceived prestige of Diamond Open Access within UK academic communities
- A hosting service needs to be fully supported in the areas of publishing & tech – whether internally or via outsourcing
- Be transparent about what your service does and doesn't offer
- Don't grow too quickly or the service won't be sustainable and can leads to users leaving
- Keep quality in mind to ensure content can be indexed
- Remember a service needs to be robust and a viable alternative publishing route
- Talk to your fellow librarians, academics, researchers & students to determine their needs. Shape the service around this!