Guideline Open Access policy of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna

As a signatory of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities and an endorser of Paris OER Declaration the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna recommends its faculty, staff and students to make their publications, research data, objects of cultural heritage as well as teaching and learning materials open and free of charge accessible via the Internet to maximize the visibility of their artistic and scholarly achievements as well as those of their art collections, to promote scholarly communication, teaching and education, and to allow the public a free and equitable access to these information resources, as far as there are no ethical, legal or economic objections.

The Academy advises its faculty, staff and students strongly to assume their copyright and not to assign their exploitation rights to their scholarly and artistic works exclusively to third parties (e.g. publishers etc.) but rather to ensure that they retain them themselves. If this is not possible for any legal or financial reasons, it is recommended either to divide the exploitation rights, so that both parties hold the right to exploit, or at least to seek assurance for the right for (possibly delayed) self-archiving in an Open Access repository.

Following the Green Road to Open Access the Academy encourages its faculty, staff and students to publish their artistic and scholarly works, research data as well as teaching and learning materials (possibly after a vesting period) on its institutional repository. Furthermore, it supports Gold Open Access – that means initially Open Access publishing (e.g. an article in an OA journal or edited volume, an OA monograph etc.) – and emboldens its faculty, staff and students to distribute their works in this way, to act as editors of and/or reviewers for OA publications, as well as to become Open Access publishers themselves. To faculty, staff and students who are working in academic disciplines, where the mainly focus lies on the publishing of stand-alone and/or printed publications, the Academy strongly recommends to distribute their works increasingly digital and Open Access, as far as there are no ethical, legal or economic objections.

Moreover, the Academy encourages its faculty, staff and students to participate actively in national and international activities which aim at the further dissemination and embedding of the idea of Open Access.

Additionally, the Academy supports initiatives for digitizing analog objects of cultural heritage as well as teaching and learning materials to make them available – online and free of charge – for research, teaching and the interested public as long as there are no conflicting ethical, legal or economic interests.

Supporting measures

Contact persons regarding "Open Access at the Academy" are the members of the Open Access working group. They advise and support faculty, staff and students in all organizational, legal and technical issues related to the publishing and editing of Open Access publications.

For the promotion of Gold Open Access, the Academy will launch publishing fund in accordance with its financial resources to cover the incidental costs (author processing charges, in short APCs). About
the funding eligibility of the respective publication will be decided by the Vice-Rectorate Art I Research by applying transparent criteria. The ex post "redemption" of scholarly works that have been initially published under a toll access model, e.g. an article in a subscription journal or a traditional monograph (so called Hybrid Open Access) will not be supported by the Academy on principle. Regarding the editing and publishing of their "own" Open Access publications, the Academy advises and assists its faculty, staff and students in connection with the acquisition of necessary financial resources as well as in the context of the ongoing operation and provides them the necessary technical infrastructure, e.g. the publication management software OJS (Open Journal Systems).

For the promotion of Green Open Access and to ensure the durable and visible proof of the artistic and scholarly achievements of its faculty, staff and students, and the art works of its collections as well as to provide a "low-threshold" online access to educational resources and research data, the Academy runs an institutional repository, called J[a]:repository. Responsible for the ongoing optimization of services, infrastructure and processes in this context are the members of the Open Access working group. For the purpose of digitization and processing of relevant analogue and digital material and content the Academy will provide the required personnel, infrastructure and financial resources.

Open Access-related activities (authorship, editorship, publishership etc.) will be explicitly accentuated in the annual intellectual capital report and will be given a special consideration in the context of evaluation procedures, especially in connection with appeals, the extension of employment contracts and habilitation procedures.

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