

Open Access Policy Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research (ZALF)

Background

Open Access stands for unlimited and free access to quality-controlled academic information in the Internet. Through the removal of technical, financial and legal barriers, Open Access is instrumental in accelerating academic innovation processes and improving the visibility of research results. This supports those working in academia in their research and publication processes, and maximizes the benefits of publicly funded research. As a member of the Leibniz Association, the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research is committed to Open Access. It thereby adheres to the "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities"¹ and the "Open Access Policy of the Leibniz Association"². Additionally ZALF joins the Open Access financing concept DEAL³ of the "Allianz der deutschen Wissenschaftsorganisationen".

Recommendations and obligations

The Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research advises its academic staff to publish its/their research results in accordance with the principles of Open Access. At ZALF, this is carried out as quickly as possible via publications in Open Access publication media and – within legal limitations – by making the publications accessible via document servers (repositories) either in parallel with publication or retroactively as soon as possible. For immediate Open Access publications, the institute recommends publishing under a free usage licence (currently e.g. Creative Commons Attribution⁴).

In order to assure the option of a parallel or retroactive Open Access publication, the academic staff of the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research is encouraged not to grant exclusive rights of use to publishing companies when entering a publishing contract. Instead, they shall secure their own permanent right of use and transfer non-exclusive rights of use to the ZALF for the institutional and/or a subject-specific repository. This is the only means by which to secure Open Access use in addition to all forms of commercial use by publishing companies. The ZALF recommends to its academic staff that they also apply for third-party funding for open-access publication fees when submitting project proposals to funding agencies which make Open Access mandatory.

The ZALF also views research data as a valuable result of its research activities. For handling of and access to research data there is a separate ZALF Data Policy in effect, dated January 21st, 2019.

Implementation

The Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research promotes Open Access by:

- Identifying publications by its academic staff which are legally eligible for Open Access (e.g. via integration into the publication management system) and making them accessible via the homepage of ZALF.
- Indexing freely accessible publications by its academic staff at LeibnizOpen.
- Providing its academic staff with funding opportunities to meet publication fees for Open Access publication media, e.g. via a publication fund.
- Advising its academic staff on Open Access and supporting them in clarifying issues concerning Open Access publication of their research results. For this purpose, ZALF has the post of an Open Access Consultant (Claus Dalchow, phone: 82-202, E-Mail: cdalchow@zalf.de)
- Joining the Open Access financing concept DEAL³ of the “Allianz der deutschen Wissenschaftsorganisationen”.

Passed and approved

within the meeting of the Board of Directors on February 19th, 2020

.....
¹ http://openaccess.mpg.de/3515/Berliner_Erklaerung

² https://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/fileadmin/user_upload/Bilder_und_Downloads/Forschung/Open_Science/Open_Access_Policy_web.pdf

³ <https://www.projekt-deal.de/https://www.leibniz-gemeinschaft.de/forschung/open-science-und-digitalisierung/open-access.html>

⁴ <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>