Action Plan Open Science for Tilburg University Strategy 2018-2021
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Short description	Develop activities to stimulate Open Science
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DOI	10.5281/zenodo.1182436
Objective: Contribution to the realization of the Strategic Plan	Open Science is the movement to make scientific research, data and dissemination accessible to all levels of society, not only academic, but also amateur and professional. To be a frontrunner in the international Open Science movement, Tilburg University aims to develop activities to stimulate researchers to bring Open Science into practice. As Open Science is a very diverse movement with a broad range of activities and large differences between research disciplines, we have identified a number of smaller projects that take these differences into account. All of them, however, will lead to an increase in Open Science awareness and uptake. Researchers from all the Schools and all levels of seniority (from PhD candidates to full professors) can benefit, and best practices will be shared university-wide. Also, the Open Science movement believes in diversity and inclusiveness. Therefore, these activities will contribute to the university's goals regarding staff diversity. Last but not least, opening up our research results to society at large will contribute to Tilburg University's (inter)national visibility in research rankings and will increase our societal impact, thereby contributing to Understanding and Advancing Society.
Proposal	This project consists of several actions: 1. **Experiment with Open Science Labs** To allow Open Science to be an integral part of Tilburg University, we need to develop activities that go beyond Open Access. Therefore, we propose to start four Open Science Labs. These labs aim to experiment with innovative methods of Open Science. Each will be piloted in cooperation with one or more Schools. The results will be shared within the university so that more of these experiments can be started by other Departments.

a. Self-publishing journals

Whereas research articles are traditionally published in journals published by one of the large publishers, there is an increase in universities that publish their own journals. In this lab we will experiment with a (small) number of specialized journals entirely run by Tilburg University (academic) staff, offering peer-reviewed publication at no cost for authors and readers. In this way Tilburg University can take full responsibility in active dissemination of research findings and thus improving societal impact. Under this model, TILT (Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology, and Society) will launch a Law & Technology Open Access journal aimed at competing with the US (student run) journals in the field, as well as the European commercial journals, opening up Open Access for Law & Technology scholars in Europe. To allow this lab to succeed, a journal editor will be hired. Other Departments with similar plans are invited to come up with their own ideas.

b. Open Books

In some academic disciplines (e.g. Humanities and Law) research findings are published in books or book chapters instead of journals. Funding models for this type of research output, are very different from those for journals. Also, Open Access to books is not a part of the national negotiations with the big publishers, thereby remaining a rather closed form of research output. In this lab we will conduct experiments with publishing Open Books at Tilburg University. We will look at initiatives such as SpringerOpen and Open Book Publishers, and will use innovative publishing platforms such as Apple iBooks Author and Adobe. The Department of Culture Studies has already expressed interest in this lab and other Departments are invited to join.

c. Open Educational Materials

Teaching and research faculty at Tilburg University are continuously developing teaching material for use in their own classes. Some of this material will lend itself suitably for release to the wider public, and, once realized, will contribute to the societal relevance and visibility of Tilburg University. This lab proposes to transform selected teaching material to be released under an open source license (e.g., data sets, cases, assignments), and to promote the dissemination of such material. Various researchers have already expressed interest in participating in this lab.

d. <u>Tilburg University preprints</u>
A preprint is a draft version of a research article that has not yet been peer reviewed for formal publication. In various academic disciplines (e.g. mathematics) it is already common to share preprints and we see an increase in other disciplines. Preprints allow a researcher to get his/her ideas out in an early stage, which allows other academics and the general public to give input and suggestions, thereby stimulating the academic debate and possibly increasing the quality of the article. It is also a good way to get early access to research results, for example when Open Access is not an option. At Tilburg University preprints are not yet valued as much as they should be. We will therefore start the discussion within our university about the value of preprints and look into (technical) ways to make more preprints available.

2. **Start a Tilburg University Open Access Fund for publishing in gold Open Access journals**
Notwithstanding all the good work that the VSNU is currently doing regarding negotiations with the big publishers, when a journal is not part of one of the deals, publishing Open Access can be very expensive for the researcher. In the near future it is foreseen, however, that the majority of the journals will offer open access to all Dutch researchers. However, this system of hybrid Open Access keeps the system of large sums of money flowing to large, commercial organizations in place. Full Open Access journals inherently do not have this problem as researchers only pay for the actual costs of the processing of their article and not for the profits of the publisher. At Tilburg University, a minority of the researchers publish in these gold Open Access journals. To stimulate this, we propose to start an Open Access Fund for publishing in gold Open Access journals. Also cooperation with gold Open Access publishing platforms (e.g. PeerJ) will be investigated. The exact details of the fund (who can apply, when, and for what) will be worked out in a procedure.

3. **Develop Open Science skills training**
To make Open Science a true success, it is important that students and researchers take note of Open Science practices early on in their careers. To stimulate this, LIS will coordinate two open training projects for students, PhD candidates, and early career academics: Open Science literacy and Research Data literacy. We will combine freely available sources on the internet (e.g. Foster) with self-developed material, to come up with digital training material that will be open to anyone who is interested. These resources are then available as

	Open Educational Materials in collaboration with the Open Science Labs
	4. Start a Tilburg University Open Science Network To stimulate junior researchers to share experiences and skills, LIS will start an informal Open Science Network. Every two months, this Network will meet and discuss anything 'Open' in an informal setting. The main goals are raising awareness, sharing best practices, and creating a breeding ground for Tilburg University researchers. The Network will focus on junior researchers, as they are the future of academic research. Anyone interested in Open Science, however, is welcome to join. To carry out these new activities, a policy advisor will be hired for the period of four years. The advisor will coordinate all projects and works closely together with LIS and the Schools. Besides these new activities, LIS already offers support to researchers regarding Open Access publishing. These activities will be continued as usual and include, amongst others, the proposals of the Open Access working group regarding support for self-archiving of postprints. No additional funding is requested for these activities.
Regular part of work after the end of the project/activity	Funding for these projects will end after four years. At that time, activities are to be adopted by individual researchers and implemented within their Departments and Schools. Best practices will be shared within the organization to allow others to profit from the lessons learned. LIS will continue to monitor Open Science uptake and the long term effects of the projects.
Results and returns	We expect an increase in the number of Open Access publications from Tilburg University researchers and, thereby, reaching our goal of complying with national policy. Furthermore, these projects help to position Tilburg University as a university that is a frontrunner nationally and internationally in the Open Science movement.
Additional remarks	This project is carried out as a cooperation between LIS and the Schools. LIS will coordinate the funding, and staff will be appointed at LIS. However, all the benefits of this project are for the Schools. Input for this proposal has been received from a.o. Ronald Leenes (TLS), Ad Backus (TSH), Jelte Wicherts (TSB), Frank Bosman (TST), Chris Hartgerink (TSB), Floortje Mols (TSB), Bart van der Sloot (TLS), Piia Varis (TSH), Jan Klein (TiSEM), Hannes Datta (TiSEM).