

# **LIBRARIES AS ENABLERS OF OPEN SCIENCE**

Miriam Conteh-Morgan  
DVC, IPAM-USL

# AGENDA

Defining “Open” and “Science”

Selected Policies and Initiatives

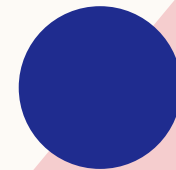
Libraries as Enablers

A Call to Action for HEIs and Academic

Libraries in SL

# UNPACKING THE TERM

- ‘Open’ = easily/freely accessible, not behind paywalls, democratic, transparent, collaborative
- Here, the term ‘science’ is somewhat of a misnomer as it encompasses more than what we generally think of science



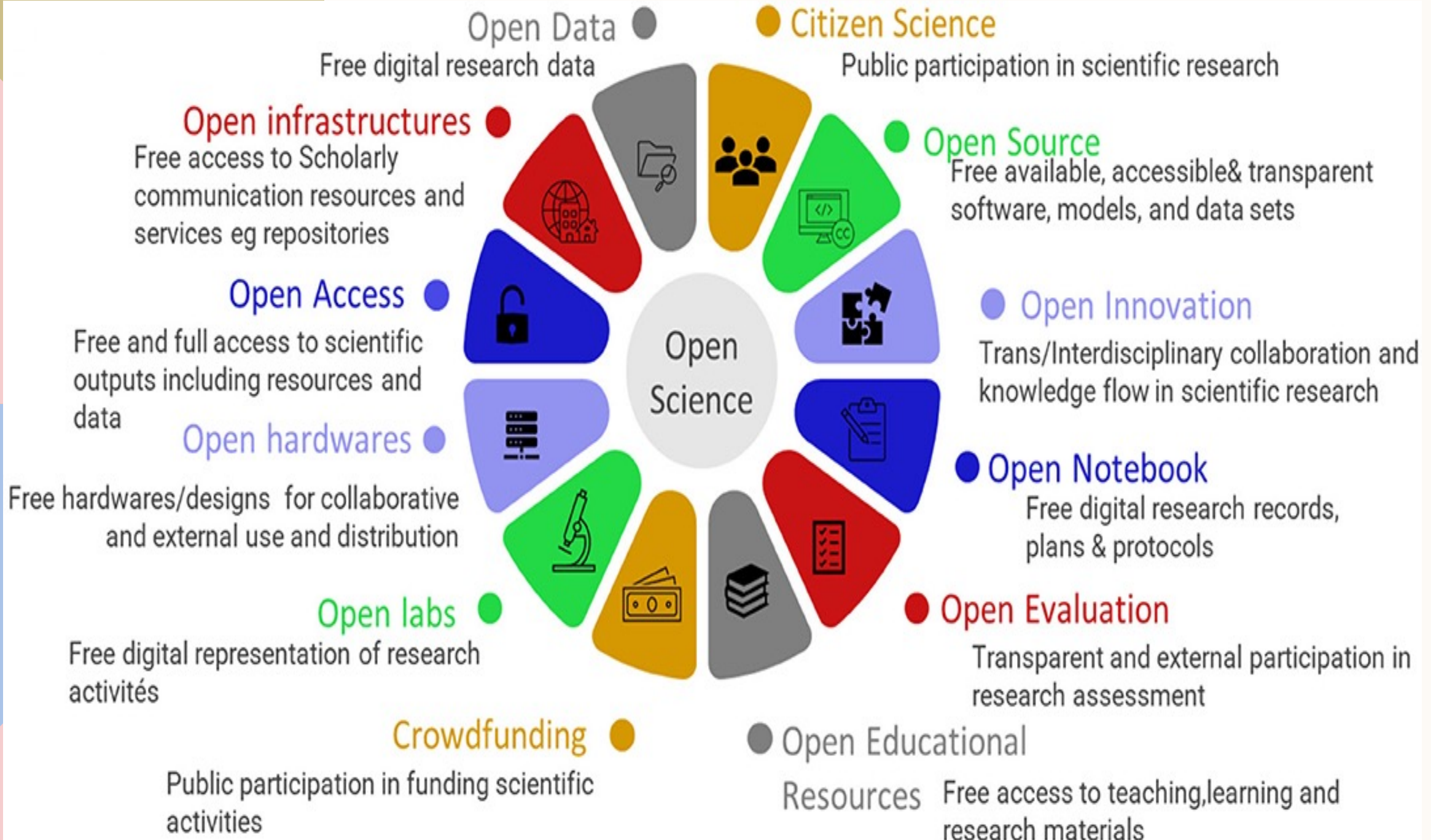
OPEN SCIENCE IS THE MOVEMENT  
TO MAKE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH,  
DATA AND DISSEMINATION  
ACCESSIBLE AT ALL LEVELS OF AN  
ENQUIRING SOCIETY.

[Ayrís & Ignat \(2017\) “Defining  
the role of libraries in the Open  
Science landscape: a reflection on  
current European practice”  
\(\[degruyter.com\]\(#\)\)](#)



# **12 ELEMENTS OF OPEN SCIENCE**

UNESCO 2021



# **OPEN AFRICA?**

- DOAJ --- 136 journals indexed
- DOAR – 16 countries with repositories
- DOAB – only a handful of publishers (e.g. ABC, African Minds)

THE CHALLENGE IS NOT THE TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITY OF SUCH REPOSITORIES BUT RATHER THE CREATION OF ADEQUATE METADATA AND POLICIES ENSURING SUSTAINED ACCESS TO THE DATA.

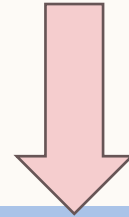
**STEFKA TZANOVA: OPEN SCIENCE: AN ACADEMIC LIBRARIAN'S PERSPECTIVE – OPEN @ CUNY**



# SHIFTS IN KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

- From Gutenberg to WWW
- From Open (17<sup>th</sup> c invisible college of science) to Secret (via nationalized academies) to Open (open science)
- From Laboratory to Collaboratory
- From Consumers to Prosumers
- From Social Asymmetries to Social Justice (“commons thinking”)

# FRAMING OPENNESS



AUGUST 2015

MAY 2016

2016

NOVEMBER 2021

AUGUST 2022

OECD Report *Making Open Science a Reality*

EU Report *Open innovation, open science and open to the world*

**WACREN's LIBSENSE Initiative**

UNESCO's *Recommendation on Open Science*

WH OSTP mandates open access for tax-funded research



# **LIBRARIES AS ENABLERS OF OPEN SCIENCE**

**A PHILOSOPHICAL SHIFT**

# LIBRARIES' FOCUS

- **open data**
- open infrastructure
- **open access (OA)**
- open hardware
- open laboratories
- open-source
- open innovation
- open notebook
- open evaluation
- **open educational resources (OERs)**
- crowd funding
- citizen science

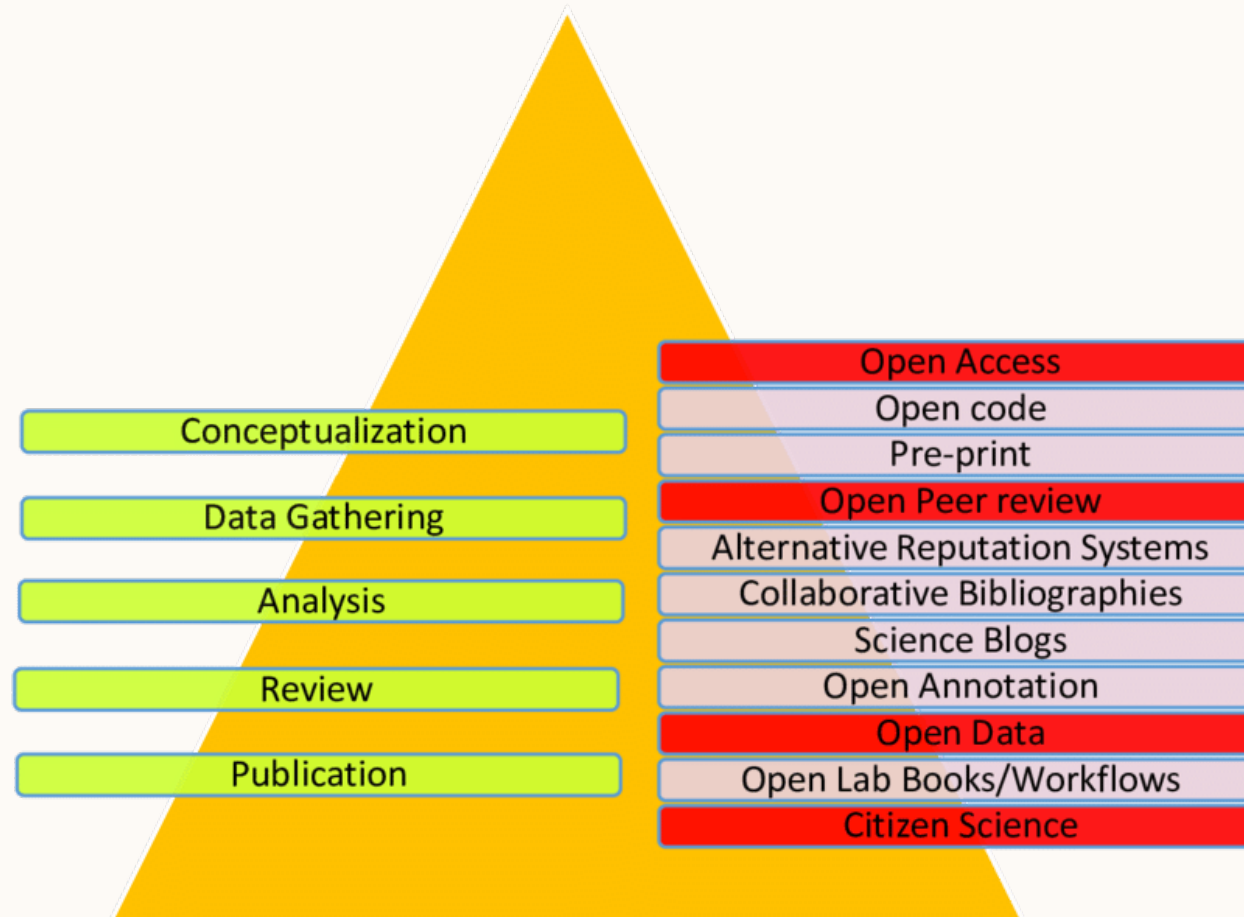


# EX-GATEKEEPERS LEAD THE CHARGE

- Early promoters of open access publishing: ETD repositories; institutional repositories (breaking the tyranny of journal publishers)
- Libraries as publishers (e.g. Highwire from Stanford, UCL Press) – an extension of traditional knowledge dissemination service; adding high value OA materials esp those passed over by commercial publishers
- Promoters of alternative copyright protocols -- Creative Commons licences (breaking restrictive copyright prohibitions)
- Paying APCs for researchers

# OS IN THE RESEARCH CYCLE

(Ayrís & Ignat, 2017)



# OTHER ROLES

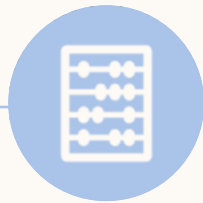
- ❑ Librarians Re/upskilling  
e.g. IT, Data Science degrees
- ❑ Advocacy and Training (engaging HEI leaders, leading campus-wide initiatives etc)
- ❑ Policy development

**“ BUSINESS LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES  
ARE LIKE BUSES. THERE'S ALWAYS  
ANOTHER ONE COMING. ”**

(Adapted from Richard Branson)



# HOW WE CAN GET THERE



## ROE (RETURN ON ENGAGEMENT)

- Rethinking and Prioritising Libraries



## NICHE LIBRARY SERVICES

- Assist researchers organize their data
- SDI of new tools and services



“

**RESEARCH LIBRARIES, GUIDED BY THE  
VALUES OF OPENNESS AND EQUITY, HAVE  
A CRITICAL ROLE TO PLAY IN  
STRENGTHENING OPEN SCIENCE**

”

**PRACTICES...**

**INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS  
APPLAUD UNESCO OPEN SCIENCE  
RECOMMENDATION IARLA**



# THANK YOU

Miriam Conteh-Morgan

Miriam.conteh-  
morgan@usl.edu.sl

+23278.612.314