UCB Mid-year Progress Report

Kiera McNeice & Meng Liu

Overview

The initiative proposed by Kiera McNeice at CUP&A and Meng Liu at University of Cambridge is named "Promoting Open Scholarship in Applied Linguistics". Our main activity is a two-day online symposium in June 2022 targeting applied linguistics researchers on the topic of open research and its surrounding infrastructures. We also hope to use this event as a springboard for the building and maintenance of an international research network dedicated to the promotion of open scholarship in applied linguistics.

Initiative-related activities

1. Set up the initiative website: http://openappliedlinguistics.org/

    To facilitate the promotion of our initiative, we built an official website with up-to-date information regarding our main event - the two-day symposium in June 2022, as well as the research network named Open Applied Linguistics.

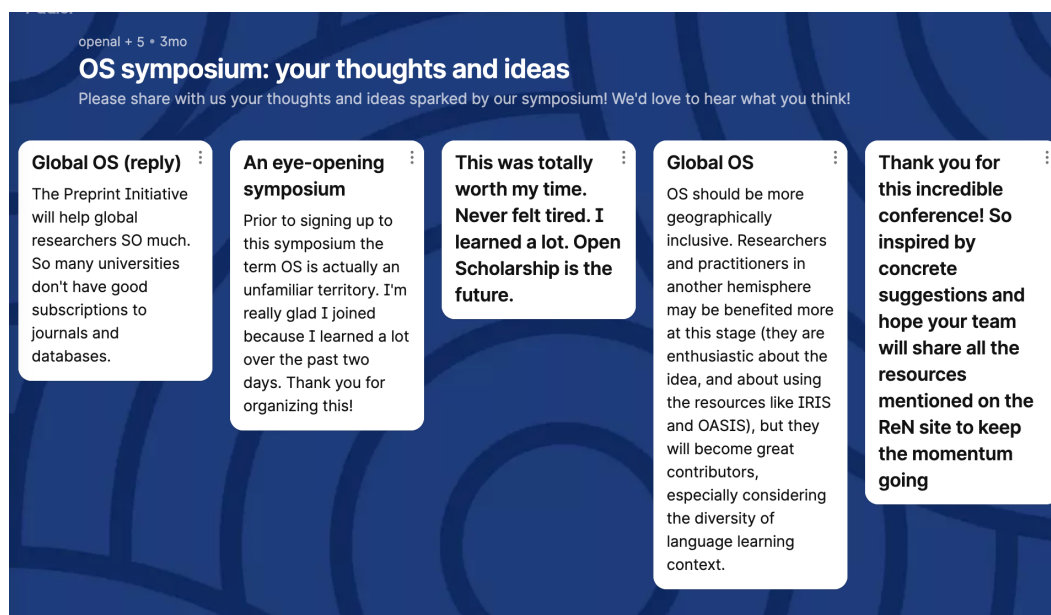2. Main activity: a two-day online symposium

    As planned in our proposal, we successfully held a two-day online symposium on open scholarship in applied linguistics. Our event had 467 registered participants, 31 speakers and presenters who contributed to 19 sessions over the two days.

(Note: the CUP&A logo is displayed with permission, which will be removed at the end of 2022)

It is particularly worth noting that Kiera McNeice and her colleagues from CUP&A contributed a panel session entitled "Publishing qualitative outputs: Challenges and opportunities" where issues regarding open qualitative research and initiatives to promote open qualitative research were discussed. The symposium was well-received by our audience, who not only shared their appreciation with us but also on social media.

Below is the screenshot of the padlet we created to collect feedback during the symposium:

Expenses:

Purchase of the website domain: $88.10

End of year update / Post-initiative plans

The network has been preparing for a symposium at the 56th British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL) annual conference. The convenors of the network surveyed our membership and sought opinions on our social media platforms regarding what topics of open scholarship they are most interested in and what they would like to contribute (if any). The survey results show that open access is the most popular choice. Based on this input, we decided to focus on the concept of accessibility for our symposium. We hope expand the concept of accessibility in applied linguistics research beyond open access publishing and include relevant topics such as inclusive research practices and open and collaborative peer review. Our proposal has recently been accepted and the title is "Towards accessible applied linguistics research: open access and beyond". We will promote this event across our social media platform soon. The call for abstracts can be found here. We welcome contributions to our symposium.

We would like to express our gratitude again to UCB at CUP&A for their support of our initiative and we hope what we have done can be of some value to applicants for future projects.