Dear Michael,

Please allow me to introduce myself as the Services Development Officer at the Centre for Research Communications (CRC) at the University of Nottingham.

As you will be aware from your conversation with Bill Hubbard at the Wellcome Trust Publishers Panel meeting on 15/02/2013, the CRC is working with Research Councils UK (RCUK) and the Wellcome Trust to develop a SHERPA Funders’ & Authors’ Compliance Tool (SHERPA FACT) to aid with the launch of the RCUK Open Access policy on 01 April 2013.

SHERPA FACT will interpret data from SHERPA RoMEO, JULIET and other sources to provide guidance to RCUK and Wellcome Trust funded authors on compliance with their Open Access (OA) policies and advise on the options available. Checking SHERPA FACT will be an integral part of the author compliance workflow and RCUK and the Wellcome Trust will be advising their funded authors to check SHERPA FACT for information on journal compliance and guidance on how to comply with their OA policies.

As part of this work we are currently reviewing and updating the policy information we hold in SHERPA RoMEO. From recent conversations with publishers we know that many have plans to amend and launch policy updates before or on 01 April, as a result we expect to receive an influx of updates to SHERPA RoMEO policies on the 1st of April which will take some time to process.

To help us ensure that we have current and proposed policy information ready for upload on 01 April, we would be grateful if you could please ask members of STM to:

- Visit www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo and review the policies listed against their entry and let us know of any changes required by using the ‘Suggest an Update for this Record’ button or e-mailing us on romeo@sherpa.ac.uk
- Inform us of any proposed policy changes prior to 01 April, this information will be held under strict embargo in SHERPA RoMEO and will only be made available after the 01 April RCUK OA policy launch

Please note that the CRC will be closed over the Easter holidays 29th March to 2nd April, so our first working day after the 1st April will be Wednesday the 3rd April.

Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jane H Smith
BSc (hons), MSc, MCLIP
SHERPA Services Development Officer
(RoMEO, JULIET, OpenDOAR & JoRD)