



UCL Library Services
Gower Street
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To whom it may concern

This letter is written in support of my application to be appointed a member of the SPARC Europe Board. As a former President of SPARC Europe, I have an understanding of the issues facing the consortium and how to work in a pan-European setting. This understanding is enhanced by my former Presidency of LIBER and as current chair of the LERU INFO community, which oversees the League of European Research Universities' approach to Open Science.

In terms of experience in Open Science, I chaired the LERU Working Groups which have produced 3 advice papers – on Open Access, Research Data Management and Open Science. I was also a member of the European Commission's first High Level Expert Group on the European Open Science Cloud. I also led the EC-funded LEARN project on research data management.

As a member of the SPARC Europe Board, I would represent the interests of UK members, in a landscape that may well be dominated by arrangements post-Brexit. As a Board member I would seek to:

- Enlarge the UK membership
- Strengthen and nourish links with related European bodies in the Open Science space, particularly university bodies such as LERU, EUA, UNICA and YERUN
- Participate in advocacy meetings and events in Brussels to the Commission and the European Parliament
- Help to build soundly-based Open Science services which will support academics in their transition to Open Science practices
- Contribute to pan-European advocacy and training events aimed at researchers, educators and professional service staff to embed Open Science principles and practice

SPARC Europe has an important role to play in bringing different stakeholders in the Open Science space together as the European academy transitions to an Open Science future. I look forward to contributing to this work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Ayris'.

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