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Dear Inasi and Vanessa,

NOMINATION FOR SPARC EUROPE BOARD

I am writing to nominate myself, with the support of my University Librarian, Susan Ashworth, to join the SPARC Europe Board as a member from the United Kingdom. I was formerly a member of the board from 2013-16 but with the advent of Plan S and the growth in engagement and challenges around Open Science this would be an exciting time to rejoin the SPARC Europe Board. I have been active nationally and internationally with open access and institutional repositories over the last 18 years and I would bring my passion, expertise and experience to the board.

UK HE system: Opportunities and challenges

With my experience working in a research intensive, UK Russell Group university I am very familiar with the opportunities and challenges in the UK HE system and the broader Open Access agenda. Research Libraries and the UK Higher Education sector faces several challenges (and opportunities) in Open Science around:

- Reasserting responsibility for research generated by their own researchers and students through engagement with initiatives like Plan S and the UK Scholarly Communications Licence (UK-SCL)
- Supporting the delivery of the Research Excellence Framework (REF2021) in particular around research outputs and knowledge exchange/impact – and open access compliance
- Working with research data and implementing the FAIR data principles

Commitment to Open

In my current role as Assistant Director, Academic Engagement and Digital Library at the University of Glasgow, I provide strategic and operational leadership for our digital library services including the library management system and repository infrastructure (Enlighten) which supports our scholarly communications and open research work. I am actively engaged in dealing with new initiatives which arise and update our Library Committee on Open Access initiatives like Plan S. This work has enabled me to build strong relationships with senior colleagues, inside and outside the university.

A key focus of my wider contribution to the university is the strategic direction and management for open research through Enlighten, the University of Glasgow's institutional repository service. Enlighten is a key part of the University's open research infrastructure and supports a wide range of mission critical activities including the management of open access compliance and REF readiness. Publications in Enlighten are used to populate online staff profiles and the annual performance review cycle. Enlighten, using the open source EPrints software, also provides the infrastructure for theses, research data and knowledge exchange/impact.

International Engagement

I am currently a member of the international Open Repositories Steering Committee and have been a past member of the CERN Workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication. I have provided leadership for the Open Repositories series of conferences as Chair of the Steering Committee and have been both host and programme

committee co-chairs at annual conferences in Edinburgh and Indianapolis. Most recently I have been part of the OR2019 programme committee in Hamburg. These roles have provided me with valuable influencing and leadership skills working with colleagues across different institutions and countries.

I am currently co-authoring a book chapter on a case study on Jisc, open access and UK universities which I was invited to write by colleagues from Jisc. It will be published in a new monograph "Technology, Change and the Academic Library", edited by Jeremy Atkinson.

In 2017 I was awarded university funding for a study tour in Australia to focus on 3 core areas: open access policies, Institutional repositories and teaching and learning spaces. These visits to universities including New South Wales, Queensland and Sydney enabled me to measure our work and benchmark it against international best practices and to identify, promote and embed measurable improvements at Glasgow. It was also an opportunity to showcase our progress and achievements at Glasgow (and in the UK) and to consolidate contacts based in strategic, research intensive partner institutions.

With this strong national and international profile, I would represent SPARC Europe in the UK, and explore opportunities for the UK to work more closely with SPARC Europe and to help realise its vision to make "Open the default for Europe".

I would be privileged to join the SPARC Europe Board as a representative from the United Kingdom.

Yours sincerely,



William J Nixon