The Open Science training hub FOSTER Plus - new resources and courses

Tuesday, 9 October 2018 16:15 (15 minutes)

The EU-funded project FOSTER Plus (2017-2019) (www.fosteropenscience.eu) offers different training opportunities to support researchers to move beyond simply being aware of Open Science (OS) approaches to being able to apply them in their daily workflows. The existing FOSTER portal is becoming an OS training hub, where users can find training materials, advanced-level and discipline-specific courses and resources that build capacity for the practical implementation of OS and promote a change in culture.

The project developed a Toolkit consisting of ten new OS online courses (https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/toolkit) addressing key OS topics to enable researchers putting OS into practice. The courses do not provide comprehensive coverage of all possible issues that may fall under a given topic but rather provide focused, practical and, where relevant, discipline specific examples to try and answer some of the burning questions researchers may have about practicing OS. Courses include interactive content to ensure the training is engaging and that capability can be assessed for issue of a badge upon completion.

The courses developed include: What is OS?; Best practices; Ethics & data protection; Open access publishing; Open peer review; Managing & sharing research data; Open source software & workflows; OS & innovation, Sharing preprints and Licensing. In addition to these stand-alone courses, there are learning pathways (www.fosteropenscience.eu/badges) through the content to help researchers to hone their skills in specific areas, such as the reproducible research practitioner, the responsible data sharer, the open peer reviewer, the open access author and the open innovator. Furthermore, the project provides a learning management system to facilitate moderated OS courses.

We are reusing and reshaping training content deposited within the FOSTER portal during the first phase of the project (2014-2016) and working with our discipline specific partners representing the arts and humanities, social sciences, and life sciences to provide relevant examples. All content is openly licensed and easy to download.

Apart from creating new courses, FOSTER follows a train the trainer approach to multiply training forces. The project provides trainings, infrastructure and materials to support people seeking to organize OS training in their own institutions. We initiated an OS trainer bootcamp and the writing of an OS training handbook to equip future trainers with methods, instructions, exemplary training outlines and inspiration for their own OS trainings. Additionally, the project gives recommendations for OS training, provides the infrastructure to conduct moderated courses and to upload or download materials for re-use. Users can also promote their training events in a calendar and maintain their trainer profiles. These profiles are discoverable via a trainers directory and enable users looking for a speaker or advice to contact OS trainers from their region or with a specific expertise directly. The FOSTER portal is a hub for people who want to learn about OS as well as for people delivering OS training.

Type of abstract

Presentation

Summary

The EU-funded project FOSTER Plus offers different training opportunities to support researchers to move beyond simply being aware of Open Science approaches to being able to apply them in their daily workflows. The project developed ten new, interactive online courses that provide focused, practical and discipline specific content where relevant. Additionally, the project provides training, resources and the infrastructure to equip and support users who are delivering Open Science training in their own institutions. The existing FOSTER portal is becoming an Open Science training hub for people who want to learn about Open Science or are delivering training themselves.

Primary author: BRINKEN, Helene (Georg-August University Göttingen)

Co-authors: Mr RODRIGUES, Eloy (Univ. do Minho); Mrs CORREIA, Maria Antónia (University of Minho)

Presenters: BRINKEN, Helene (Georg-August University Göttingen); Mrs CORREIA, Maria Antónia (University of Minho)

Session Classification: Open Science

Track Classification: Area 2. Data science and skills