

Preparing for Public Access Policies

INVITATION - Institutional Responses and Workflows Project

In August 2022, the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy issued a memo, [Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research](#) (“Nelson Memo”). Since that time, institutions that receive funding from U.S. federal agencies have been working to prepare their local infrastructures and researchers to meet the policy compliance expectations that will accompany future federal awards.

[Invest in Open Infrastructure \(IOI\)](#) has been funded by the National Science Foundation to study and document the workflows and processes that are emerging in these institutions, including what campus units are involved, what they are doing (solo or together) to prepare, and how they are estimating or planning for the costs associated with providing free, immediate, and equitable access to federally funded research outputs of all types, including articles, data, and software code.

During the crucial window between the release of the memo and the policy implementations it heralds, IOI will work with 30 institutions, including independent labs, universities, colleges, and community colleges, in order to reveal the spectrum of practice. We will aim to identify common practices while also noting any differences or gaps that are emerging for specific institutional types, tiers, and disciplines. We will use this information to produce guidance documentation that will help raise awareness in and readiness of institutions nationwide.

We invite members to participate as a representative of the HBCU Library Alliance. Participation steps:

1. Identify at least three groups who are involved in research workflows on your campus (e.g., OSR, library, repositories, IT, administrators, faculty senate).
2. In spring 2024, circulate a brief survey (provided by IOI) to each of these groups to help IOI capture initial information asynchronously.
3. Between April - November 2024, members from those groups will participate in two IOI-facilitated, 90-minute virtual meetings to map their workflows.
4. By January 2025, validate and refine a set of workflow diagrams authored by IOI to represent what we've heard about your campus plans to date.
5. Invite campus groups to attend 1-2 working group sessions with peer institutions to cross-compare and learn from each others' plans/practices.

To indicate your interest, please send an email with the name and contact information for an individual who can serve as your institutional representative on the

project to swillis@hbculibraries.org and cc katherine@investinopen.org and lauren@investinopen.org by March 8th.