Present: Niamh Tumelty (Chair, Engineering), Stephen Dale (JCS Team), Sue Lambert (Moore Lib.), Helen Stevens-Smith (Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology), Nicholas Cutler (Computer Lab.), David Wills (JCS Team), Joanne Farrant (JCS Team)

Apologies: Yvonne Nobis (Moore Lib.)

1. Declaration of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2016 were accepted.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Matters of interest from the UL

JCS web pages. David Wills informed the Committee that these had been moved to the new Cambridge Libraries intranet and thanked the JCS Team for their efforts in this regard. It was noted, however, that technical issues regarding access, via Raven, persisted.

New University Librarian. David told the Committee Dr Jessica Gardner, currently Director of Library Services and University Librarian at the University of Bristol, would be taking up her new post as University Librarian on 18th April 2017.

5. Financial matters

Planning Round 2016. David informed the Committee that he had been tasked with preparing the JCS’s submission to the Planning Round. The submission highlighted the challenges being faced by the Scheme:

- a decrease in funding for the current financial year due to our surplus being removed
- the loss of NHS funding – approximately £90,000 per annum
- unfavourable exchange rates
- the lack of monies for new needs.
The Scheme was predicted to be in deficit by circa £600,000 at the end of this financial year 2016/17 and the University’s Resource Management Committee (RMC) had been asked to cover the predicted deficit and to make some monies (£50,000 per year) available for new needs.

6. Journals working group

David reported that, at the meeting held in Michaelmas 2016, the JCS Steering Committee had taken the decision to sign up to the new Elsevier journal agreement (a 5 year agreement (2017-2021), costing approximately £1.5 million per year). David mentioned that a submission had been made to the University’s Board of Scrutiny regarding how the JCS conducts its affairs.

Also at the above mentioned meeting, it was agreed that a working group with membership from across the University, reporting regularly and directly to the Steering Committee, should be established in early 2017 to ensure that a package of measures be put in place so that the University of Cambridge does not face a similar situation with Elsevier, or any other publisher, when considering a renewal of a ‘big deal’ in the future. These measures would include the development of a robust ‘plan B’ for the University of Cambridge and ensuring that academic colleagues receive advice and information regarding journal choice, refereeing options and editorial board membership.

Membership of the working group: Professor Lindsay Greer (Head of the School of Physical Sciences and Chair of the JCS Steering Committee), the University Librarian, Ms Patricia Killiard (Academic Services Directorate, UL), Dr Danny Kingsley (Office of Scholarly Communication), Mr David Wills (JCS), Professor Jonathan Goodman (Department of Chemistry) and, still to be confirmed, a representative from each of the Schools and a representative from the Colleges. Professor Goodman had agreed to chair the working group.

David informed the Committee that the Royal Society of Chemistry agreement was presently being considered – a ‘town-hall’ meeting open to all members of the University had been held on 22nd February 2017 to discuss the offer – and that the current agreements with Taylor & Francis and Wiley were due to expire at the end of 2017.

7. Open Access

Niamh Tumelty noted that the OA Team and procedures were now well-established and so there was probably less to say on OA matters than previously. Niamh observed that OA compliance rates were still relatively low - currently about 41% in the Department of Engineering.

8. Prioritisation of recommendations

A list of recommendations had been circulated prior to the meeting.

There were no objections to the two cancellations: Management science and Organization science.

After some discussion, it was agreed to put forward International journal of intellectual property management (£680) to the Steering Committee for consideration for purchase.

9. Date of meeting 2016-17

Tuesday 9th May 2017, 10.00 a.m., Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
10. Any other business

None.