

## **Recommendation 1:**

### **OPEN RESEARCH AND LEARNING**

The evidence base indicates that openness benefits universities and the public that supports them. Data from the European Commission's Community Innovative Surveys and from other sources show that the innovative industry sector struggles to find basic research information on which to innovate, yet when it succeeds universities who supply that information can enjoy increased research income and collaboration as a result. Research funders increasingly require Open Access to the material they fund, but at the same time may encourage conflicting behaviour by requiring exploitation of intellectual property. These positions must be reconciled, leaving the universities to pursue basic research with intellectual freedom and for the innovative industries to freely access information from university outputs.

#### **Case Studies:**

The Pinball and the Cloud: information discovery, access and evaluation.

The Open Notebook: educational open resource sharing

Cultural Heritage, Wikipedia & OLPC: encourage creativity and sharing

## **Recommendation 2:**

### **IP MANAGEMENT**

Harmonisation of intellectual property laws would enable universities to better use and disseminate knowledge. It is recommended that, perhaps mediated by an ad hoc network of COMMUNIA members, copyright laws in different jurisdictions are examined and mapped, with the objective of establishing model practice and catalysing discussion and progress. This process of screening would help to discover commonalities between nations, identify gaps and signpost potential routes forward. The European Commission has copyright and information ownership marked as part of its 2020 Vision, in particular in pushing for better policies at Member State level to sustain digital preservation and the protection of the public domain, and this if this recommendation were implemented it would add important information to the debate.

### **Case Studies:**

Draft Code of Fair Use Best Practices for the higher education institutions in Israel

### **Recommendation 3:**

## **JOINING-UP FOR BETTER-FUNCTIONING INSTITUTIONS**

Better mapping and linking what is within the institution.

### **Case Studies:**

ShelfLife: Bringing web 2.0 to the library

## **Recommendation 4:**

### **Competition**

Encourage the establishment of a mechanism to enable convergence between universities, encourage common points of knowledge exchange to lever each others' expertise, mitigate the growing costs of information and benefit each while avoiding duplication. The mechanism should provide for a continuing dialogue and debate across the university community on these issues, and find ways of incentivising participation.

### **Case Studies:**

Competitiveness between universities: Competition vs. Openness?