Using PCI, COAR Notify and EPrints to Re-Invent the Publication Workflow

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Overview

- Context – CoSector, COAR and PCI
- EPrints and PCI Integration
- PCI Publication Workflow
- Challenges
- Links and References

CoSector Repositories

- CoSector, University of London provide hosted institutional repositories for HE institutions
- We mostly use either EPrints or Samvera/Hyku for our hosted repositories catering for all types of research outputs
- In partnership with the COAR Notify Initiative and Aston University, we've been providing the technical solution for facilitating a new publishing workflow

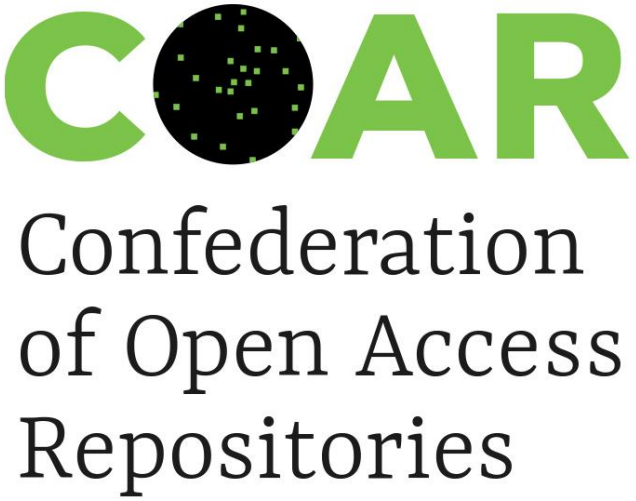
Peer Community in

- “a free recommendation process of scientific preprints based on peer reviews and a journal”
- 2000+ recommenders, 20 PCIs, and 100+ PCI friendly journals
- “allows scientists to regain control of the scientific publication process and disconnect it from financial issues” … “wants to refocus on scientific quality […] rather than on journals”

https://peercommunityin.org/

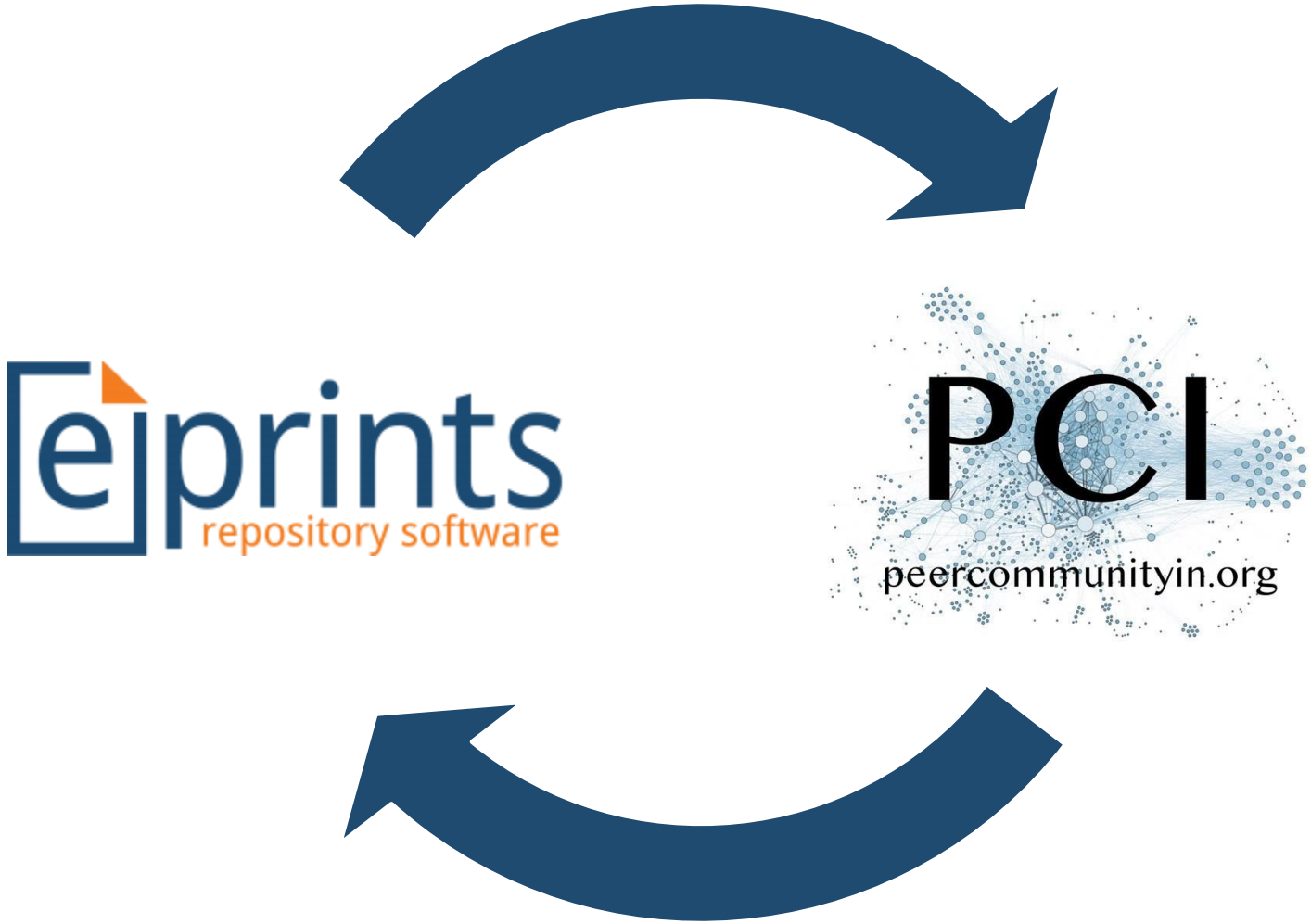
COAR Notify

- “bi-directional linking between peer review services, overlay journals and repositories”
- “based on two well-established W3C technologies/standards: linked data notifications and activity streams”
- Supported by the COAR Notify Initiative which is funded by Arcadia
- COAR Notify have developed the standard, provide technical resources, foster the growing community and illustrate with use cases

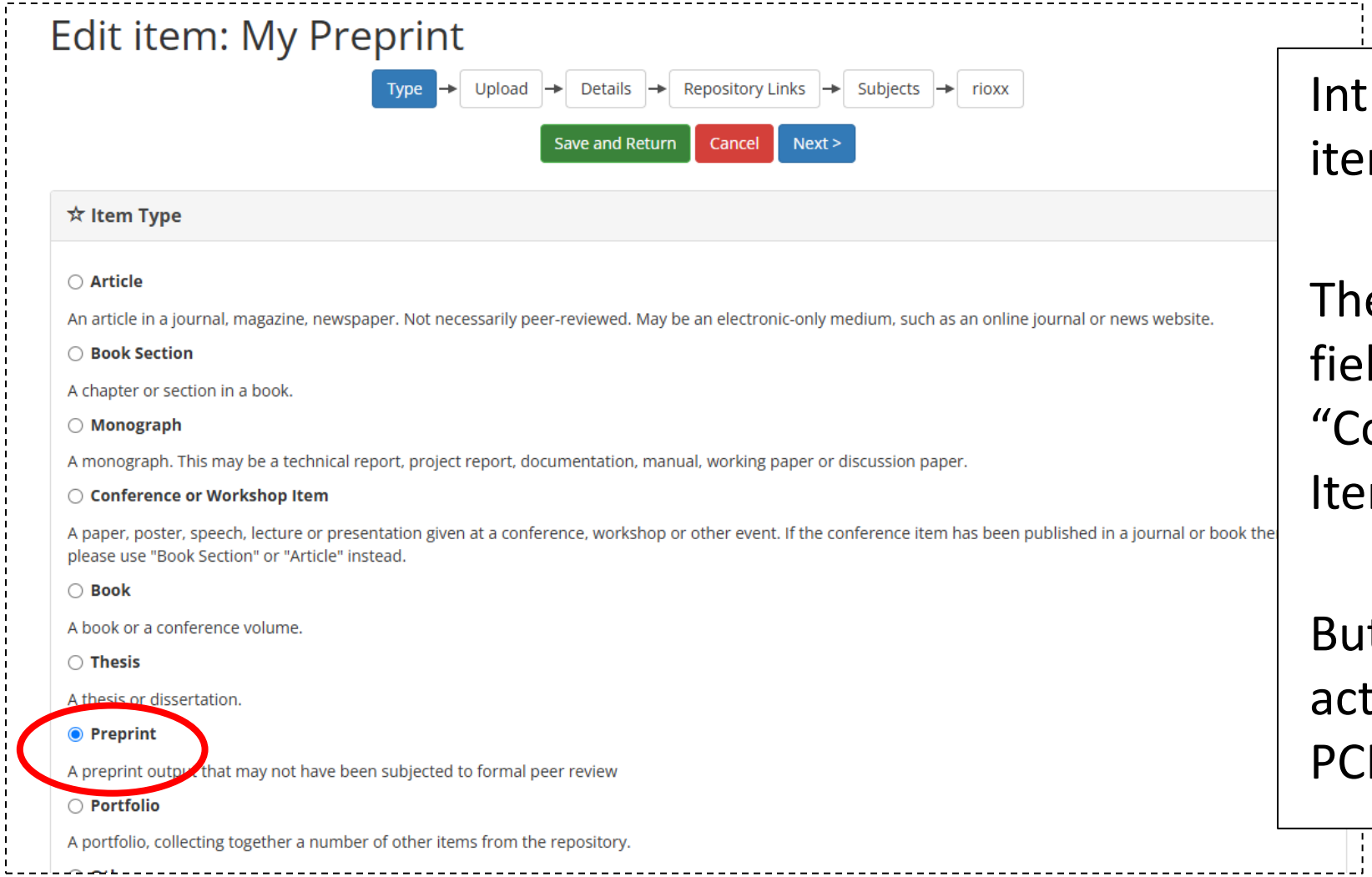


https://coar-repositories.org/what-we-do/notify/

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories



Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 1. Preprint Item Types

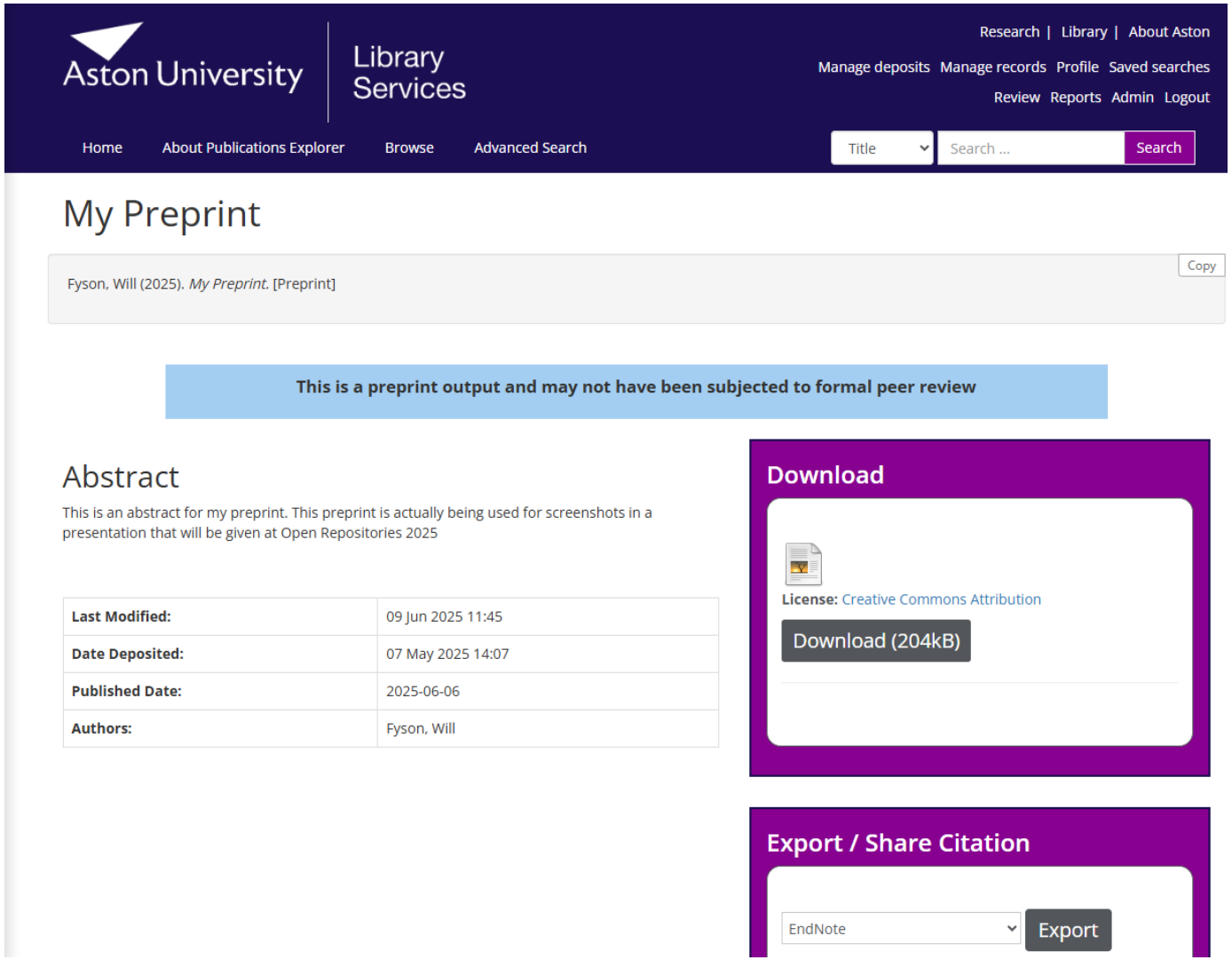


Introduce a new “Preprint” item type.

These have many of the same fields as “Articles” or “Conference or Workshop Items”.

But will also have special actions available related to PCI…

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 1. Preprint Item Types



Preprint summary pages will at first display a box stating the preprint has not been peer reviewed.

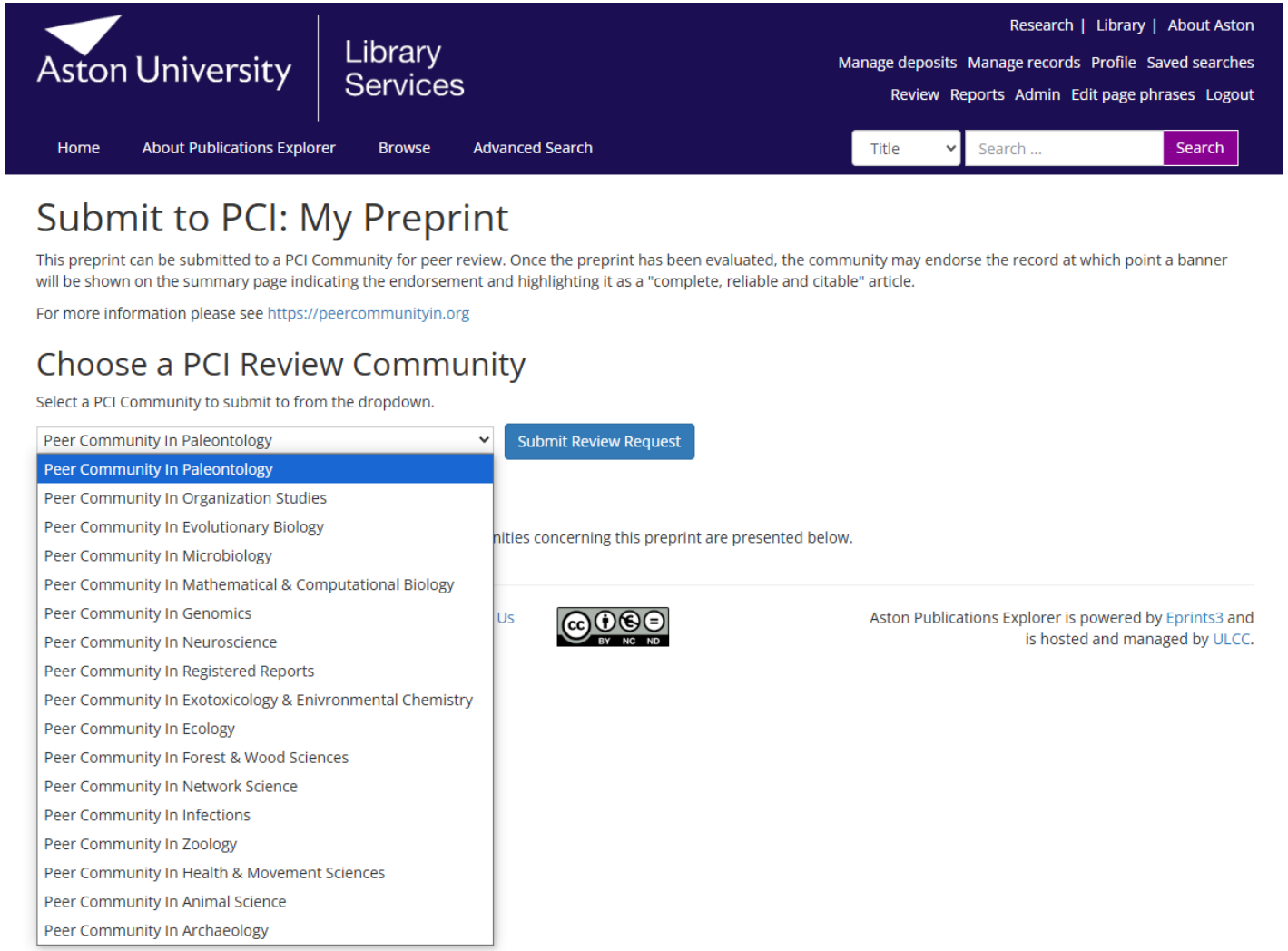
It's important to be clear about the nature of the output to any readers who may wish to cite the output or use it in their research.

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 2. Request Endorsement

Preprint items have a screen for managing PCI interactions.

This is where a “Request for Endorsement” can be initiated.

The user selects an appropriate community from the drop-down top and submits the request.



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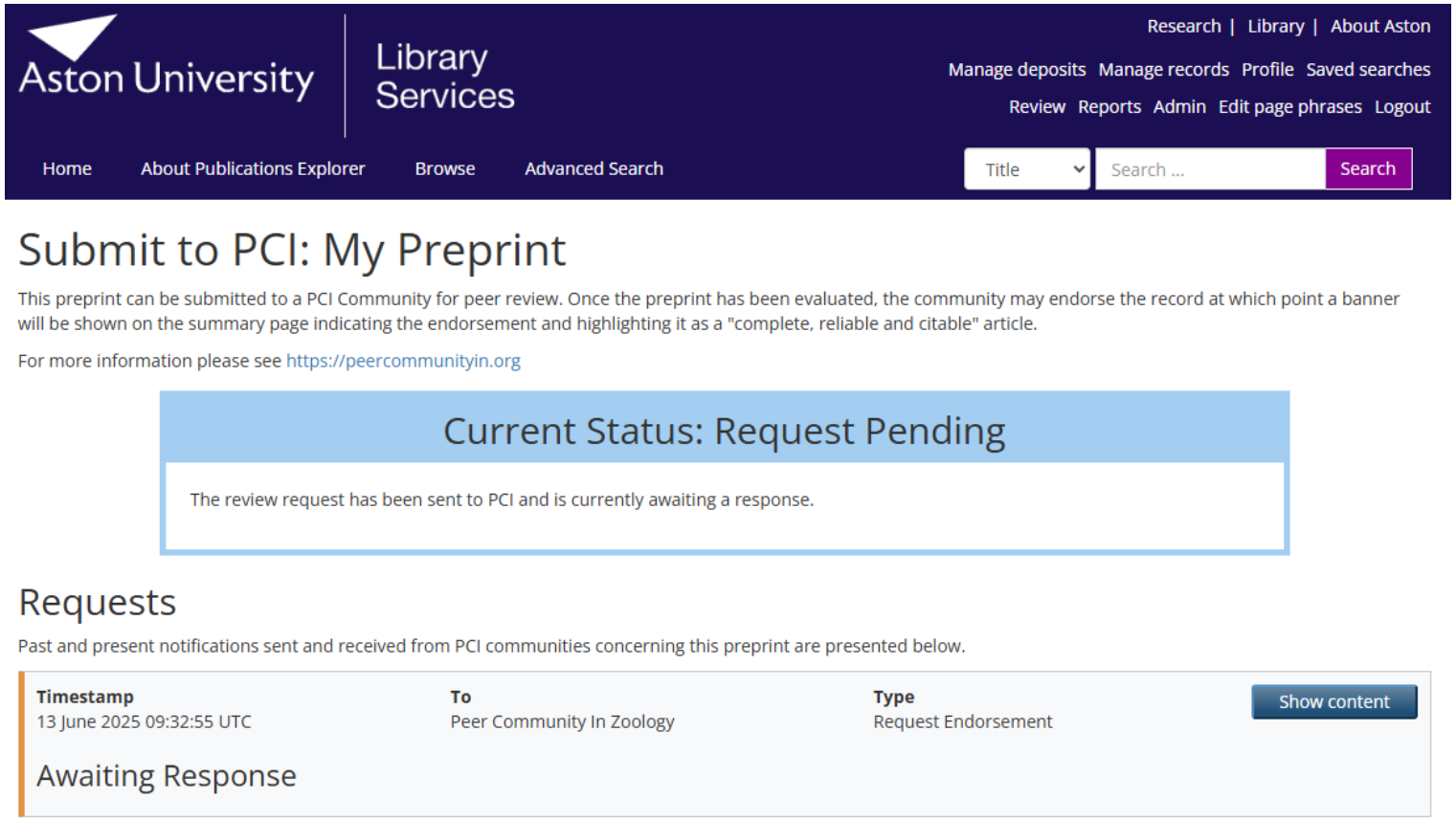

Once the request has been sent a message is displayed to alert the user.

Now we wait to see if the PCI…

✓ will review

✗ will not review

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 3. First Response

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Dealing with rejection…

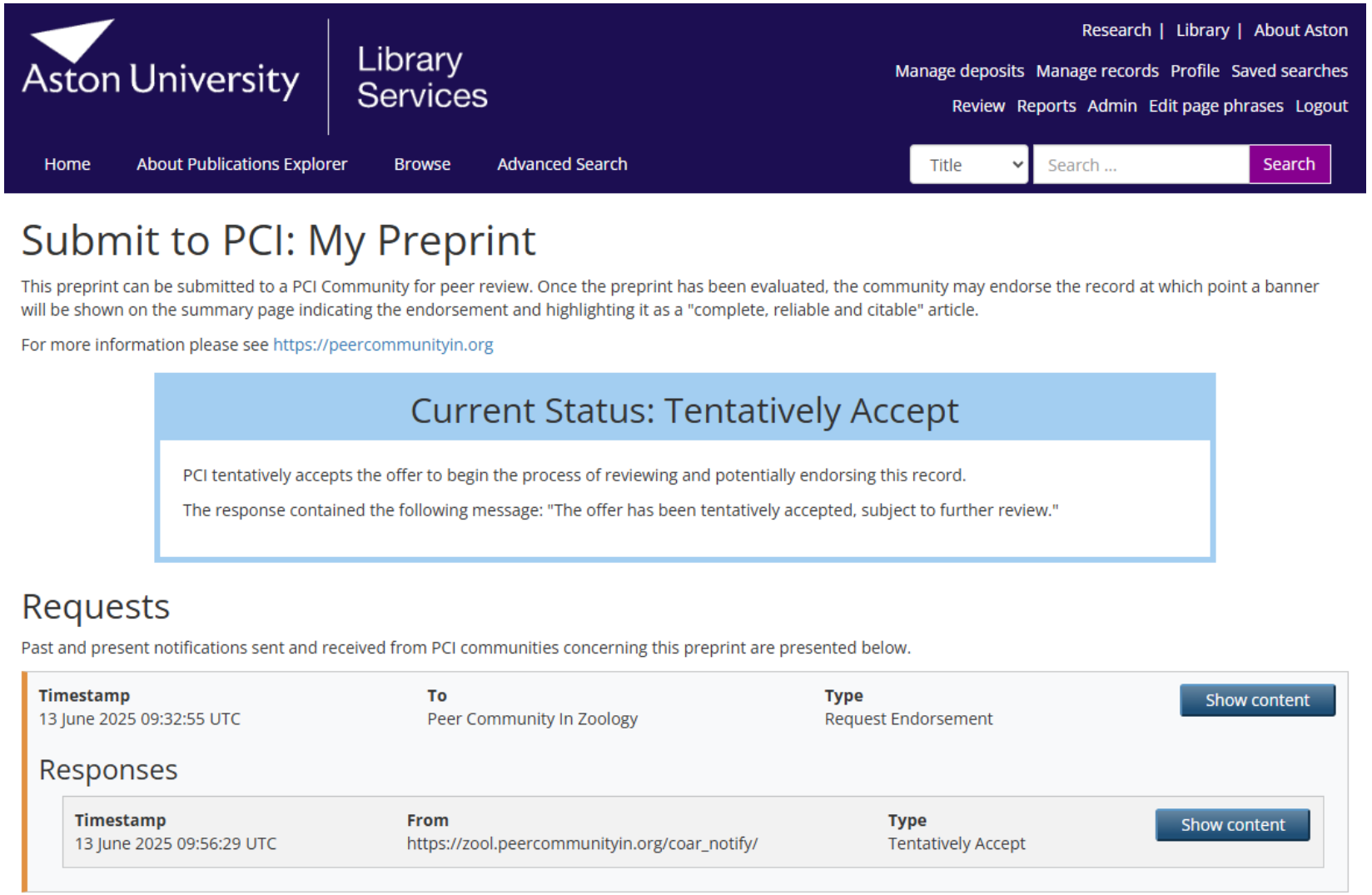
- Up to the author to decide what to do next…
- Perhaps there's a more appropriate PCI community to send it too?
- The option becomes available to re-start the cycle.

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 3. First Response

A "**Tentative Accept**" - good news, but more waiting….

At the bottom of the screen we see the chain of requests and responses start to build along with timestamps.

And the option – if needed – to look at the LDN payload.



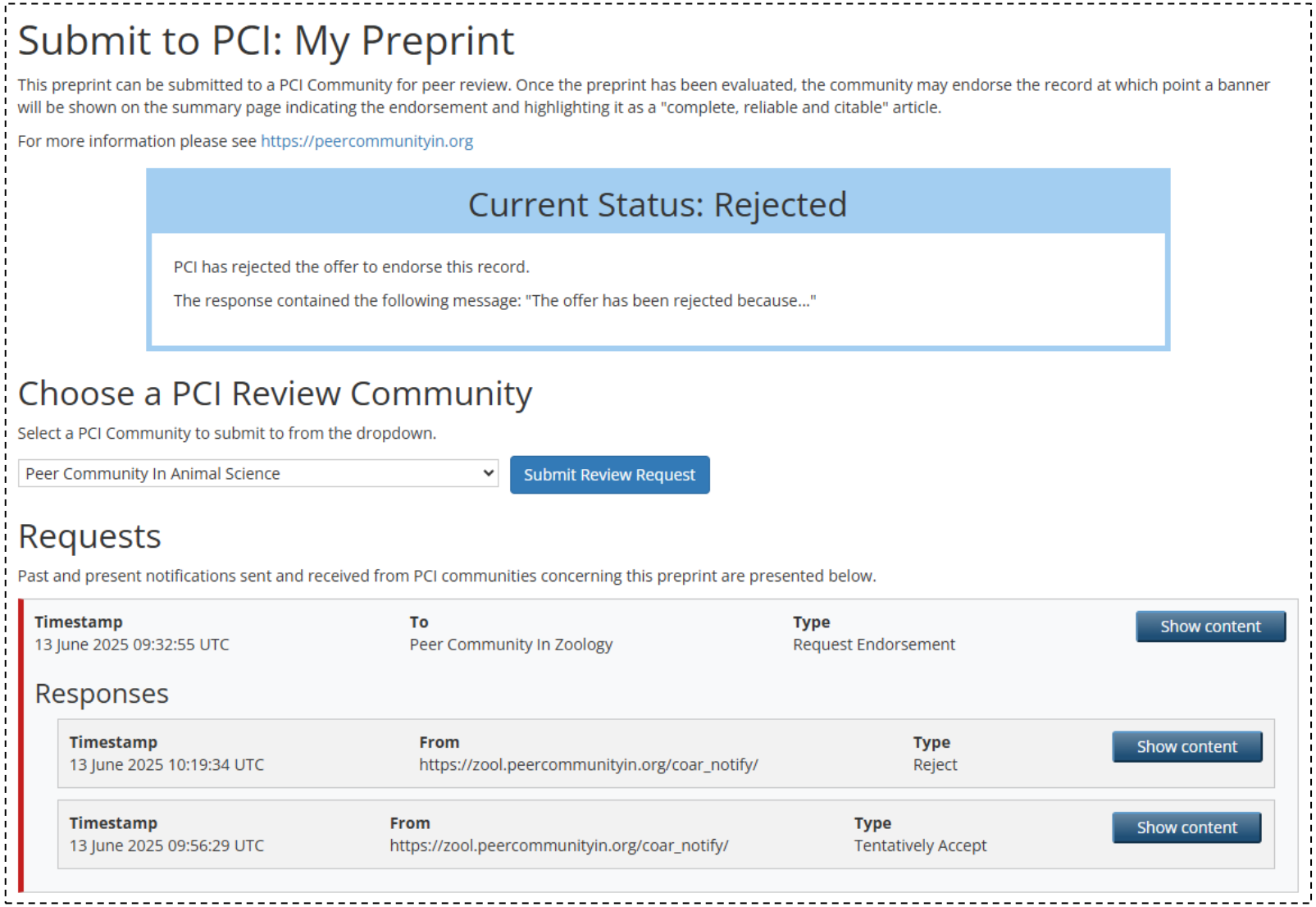
Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Rejection

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Rejected

- The end of the workflow
- Negative reviews are not published
- Up to the author and institution about how to proceed next



Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Rejection

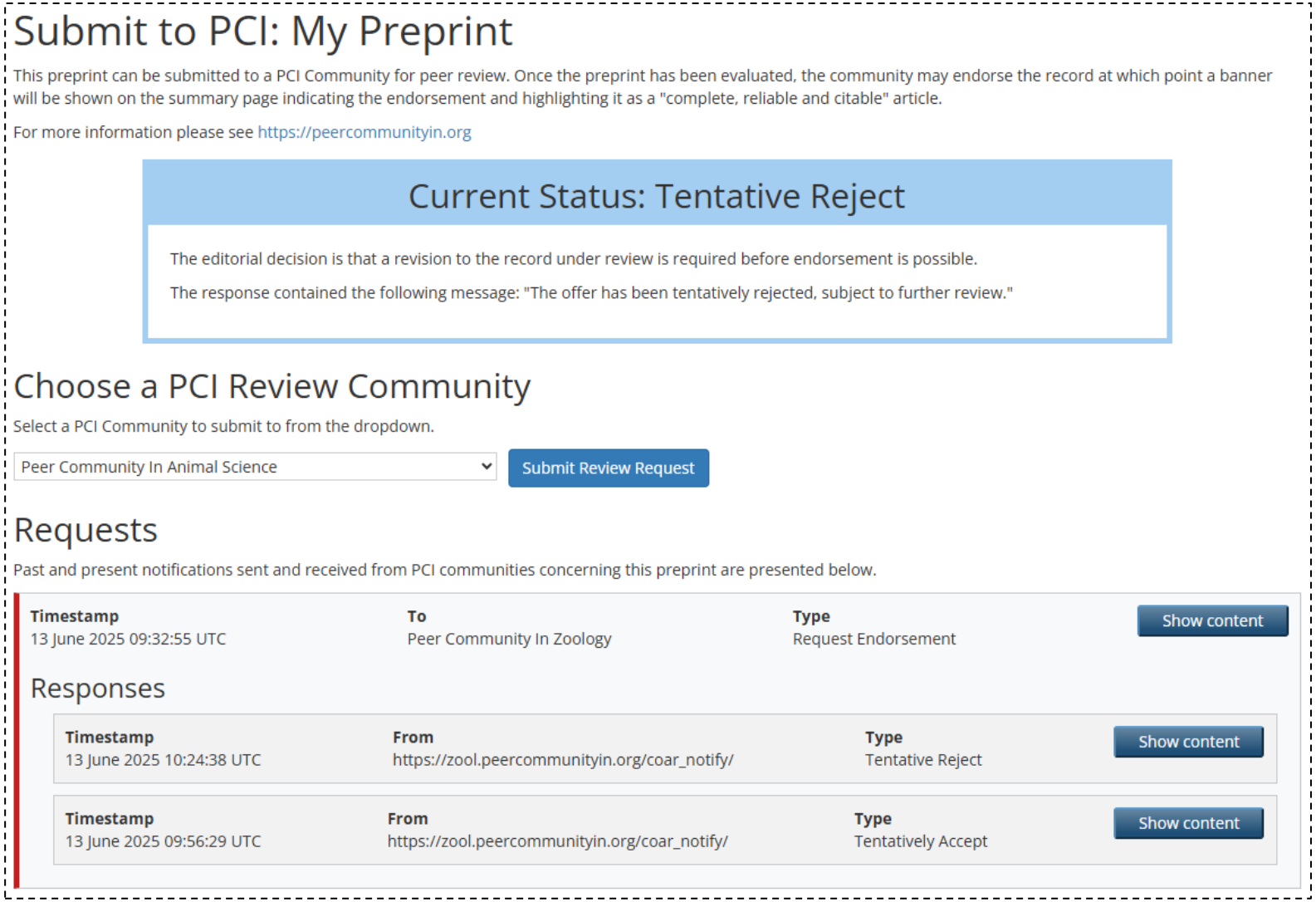
Or....

Tentative Rejection

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Tentative Reject

- Reviewer recommends some changes
- The process starts again, but the initial request includes a reference to this first attempt



Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Rejection

Or....

Tentative Rejection

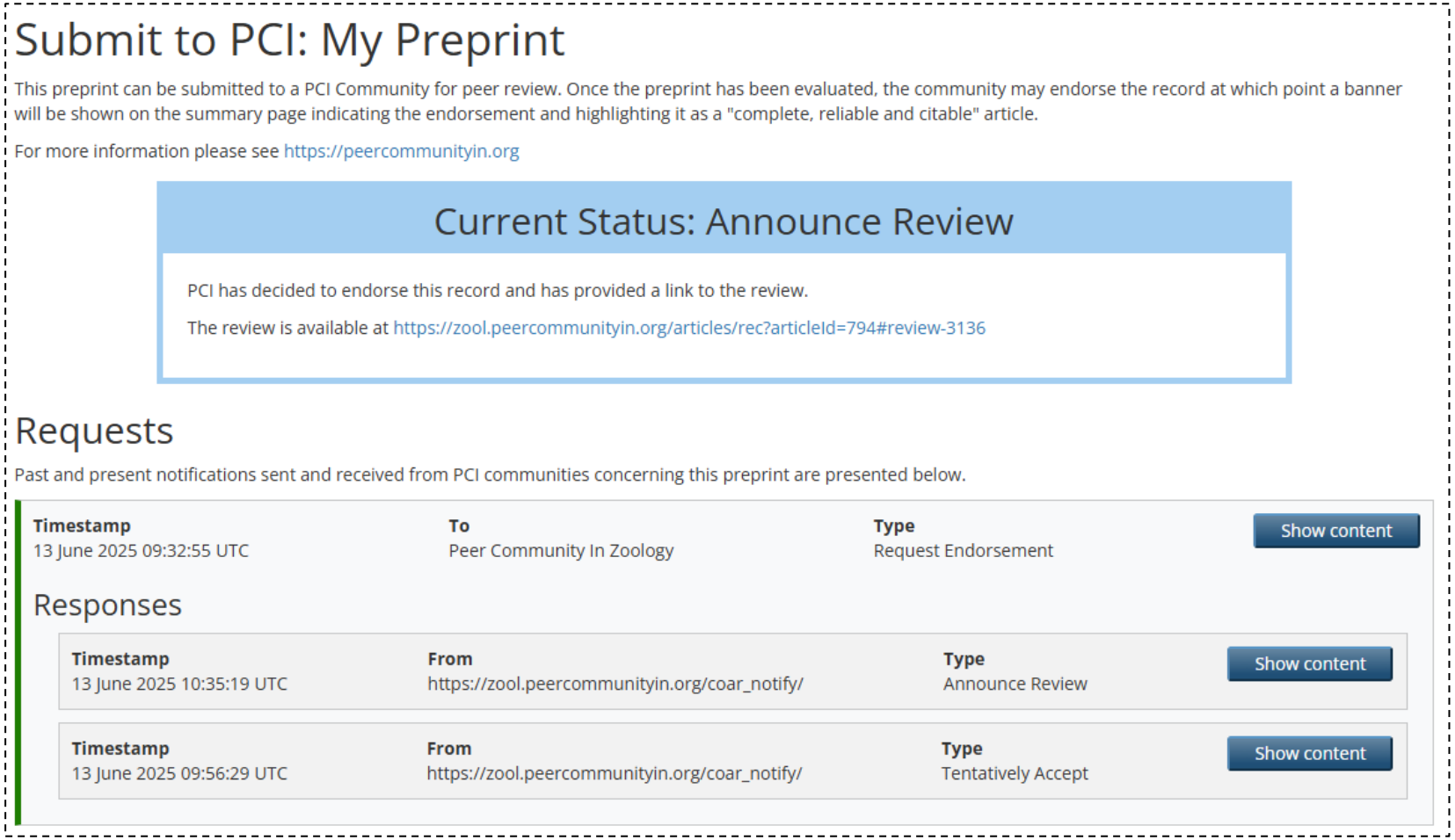
Or....

Endorsements and Reviews

Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Announce Review

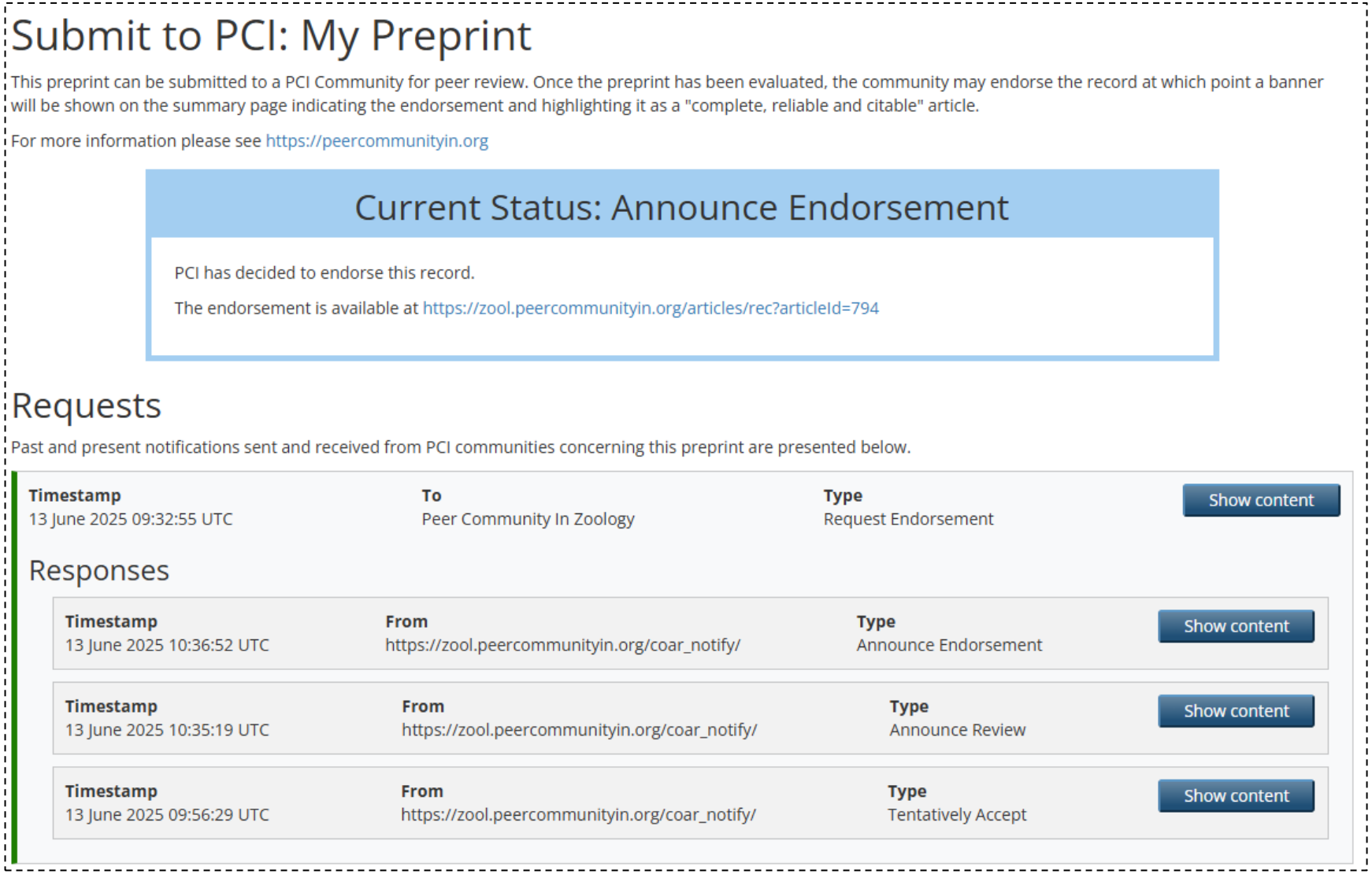
- A single item may receive several reviews
- A link to the latest review is displayed to the user



Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

Announce Endorsement

- The final stage at the end of a successful workflow.
- No more actions required by the user

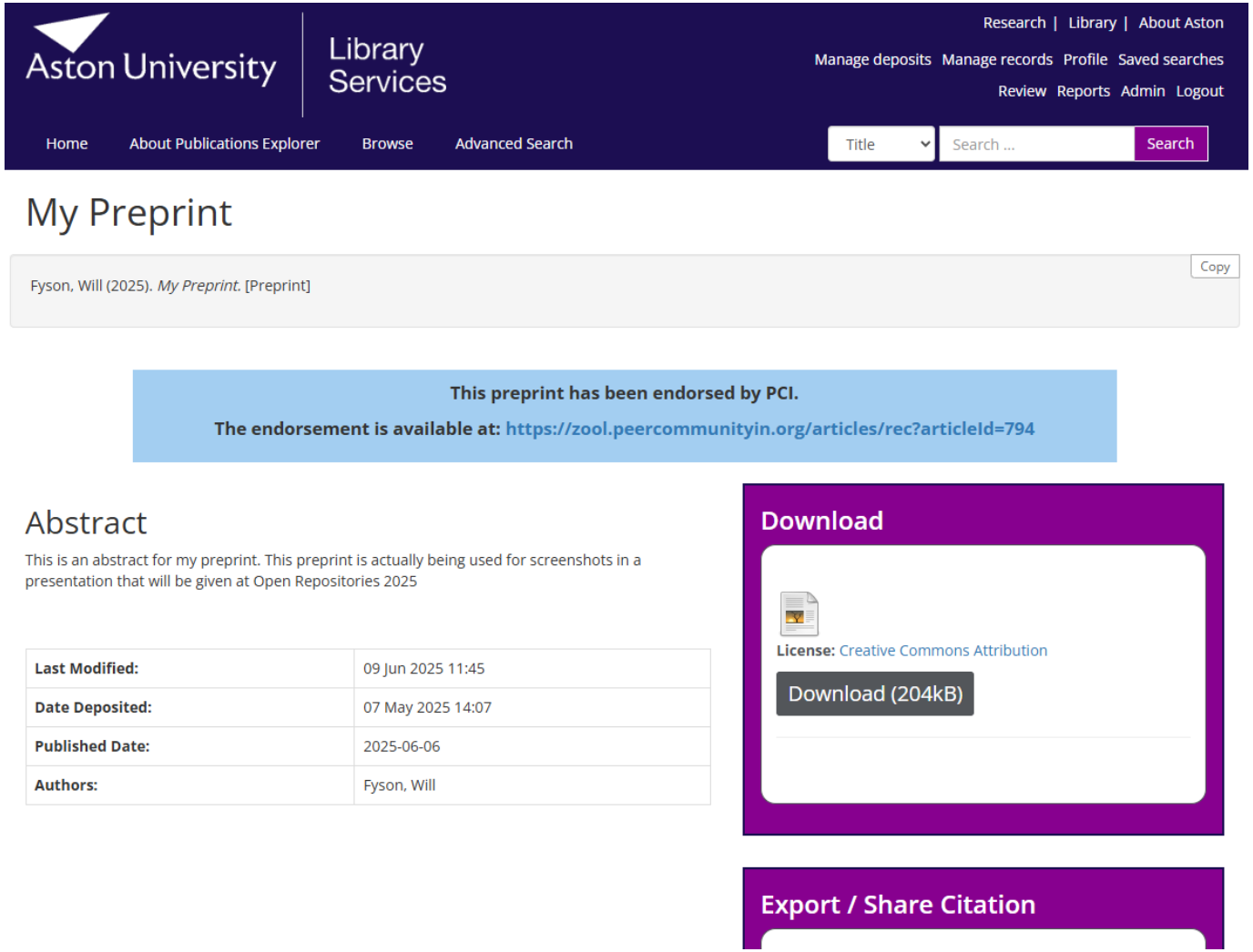


Integrating PCI with EPrints Repositories – 4. Secondary Response

The endorsement is displayed on the summary page, with a link.

Readers can follow the link and read the reviews…

…and ultimately know the output is reliable and has been reviewed by a community of peers.



Technical vs Social Challenges

- The role of technology vs. the role of individuals and organisations in changing established systems
- A bigger and more complex problem is researcher engagement
- Lots of questions…

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Q. Does a community exist for my subject?

Q. Why should I take a risk?

Links and References

Code

- COAR Notify EPrints Plugin: https://github.com/eprintsug/coar_notify
- PCI EPrints Plugin: https://github.com/eprintsug/pci_review
- EPrints Repository Platform: https://github.com/eprints or https://files.eprints.org/

Useful Links

- COAR Notify: https://coar-repositories.org/what-we-do/notify/
- COAR Notify Examples: https://coar-notify.net/catalogue/workflows/
- PCI: https://peercommunityin.org/
- Arcadia: https://www.arcadiafund.org.uk/