ARCADIA

OPEN ACCESS SUMMARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

The current academic publication system, placing the majority of publications behind paywalls, requires spending a significant amount of taxpayers' money to access research that the same taxpayers have already paid to create. The lack of free universal access to publications is a major factor contributing to educational, social and economic inequality. Journal subscription fees, which have increased by several hundred percent since the early 1990s, are a major burden on the budgets of universities, which need to buy access to research they themselves produce.

Efforts to address this situation have been increasing since the late 1990s. Major international statements on open access to research publications have been issued: the Budapest Open Access Initiative in February 2002, the Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing in June 2003 and the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities in October 2003. These statements defined the two major routes for achieving open access:

Gold Open Access designates publication in an open-access journal, or a traditional journal that gives an option of open access. Usually the author needs to pay an article processing charge. There is no embargo period.

Green Open Access designates self-archiving, where authors deposit articles, pre-prints or post-prints, in an institutional or a subject repository. Most frequently the archived version is the final author version – the peer-reviewed, accepted manuscript without the publisher's final edits. Access may be subject to a publisher embargo period.

In 2011 in the UK, David Willetts, the Minister of State for Universities and Science, set up a Working Group on Expanding Access to Published Research. The report produced by this group, the Finch Report, was accepted by the Department for Business Innovation & Skills in July 2012.

The Finch Report recommended Gold Open Access relying on article processing charges. This recommendation was included in Research Councils UK's policy on open access. While having the positive effect of securing open access to research, it placed an additional financial burden on universities. *Transition to Open Access*, a report to Universities UK released in August 2015, shows that subscription costs have not declined and that article processing charges for Gold Open Access constitute additional costs, making the overall expense nearly prohibitive.

The operation of the market for academic journals is likely to be ultimately improved by Gold Open Access compared with the traditional subscription model, not least because of greater market transparency. Nevertheless, a lack of effective monitoring leads to the abuse of the system by publishers, who charge article processing fees for open access to articles in journals, for which they also require subscription fees.

Several recent studies, most notably a study supported by Max Planck Society, suggested that an internationally concerted shifting of subscription budgets to an open access system based on article processing charges is possible, at no financial risk and with a possibility of lower overall costs. Such a shift would necessarily require the cooperation and consent of publishers to set more realistic profit margins. For example, Elsevier, the world's largest publisher of academic journals, had an operating-profit margin of 39% in 2013, 34% in 2014.

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http://www.intact-project.org/ - Transparent Infrastructure for Article Charges

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https://unlockingresearch.blog.lib.cam.ac.uk/ Unlocking Research blog, University of Cambridge, Office of Scholarly Communication

http://tagteam.harvard.edu/hubs/oatp/items Harvard Open Access Tracking Project

https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/ - blog on scholarly publishing

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http://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/ - Budapest Open Access Initiative

OPEN ACCESS ORGANIZATIONS

Authors Alliance http://www.authorsalliance.org/ Founded in 2014, Authors Alliance is a nonprofit organization which assists and represents authors who want to disseminate knowledge and products of the imagination broadly.

Creative Commons https://creativecommons.org/ Founded in 2001, CC is a nonprofit organization devoted to expanding the range of works freely available for others to build upon and share legally.

Internet Archive https://archive.org/ Founded in 1996, the Internet Archive is a nonprofit digital library with the stated mission of "universal access to all knowledge".

Public Library of Science https://www.plos.org/ Founded in 2000, PLOS is a nonprofit open access scientific publishing project aimed at creating a library of open access journals and other scientific literature under an open content license.

Public.Resource.Org https://public.resource.org/ is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to publishing and sharing public domain materials in the United States and internationally.

SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) Based in the USA http://sparcopen.org/open-access/ with chapters in Europe http://sparceurope.org/ Japan http://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/ and Africa http://sparcopen.org/people/sparc-africa/

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Open Society Foundations https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/about/programs/information-program An international grantmaking network, supporter of open access.

Right to Research Coalition http://www.righttoresearch.org/ - Focuses on students and early-career researchers. Founded by **SPARC.**

Force 11 https://www.force11.org/ Organization focuses on transforming scholarly communication, including support for OA. The name stands for "Future of Research Communication and e-Scholarship 2011".

Open Humanities Alliance http://openhumanitiesalliance.org/ A volunteer project, a community of people committed to furthering open access to scholarship and learning in the humanities.

International Federation of Library Associations Open Taskforce http://www.ifla.org/news/ifla-open-access-taskforce-established

Knowledge Exchange http://www.knowledge-exchange.info/ A collaboration between five national organizations in Europe tasked with developing infrastructure and services to enable the use of digital technologies to improve higher education and research: CSC in Finland, DEFF in Denmark, DFG in Germany, Jisc in the UK and SURF in the Netherlands.

Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association http://oaspa.org/ A non-profit trade association representing the interests of open access journal publishers