Scholarly Communications, Academic Publishing & Open Access
Topics

- Scholarly Communications
  - Why scholars communicate?
  - How they communicate?
- Academic publishing
  - Who’s involved?
  - Business model?
- Open Access
  - Different forms
  - How to evaluate journals
  - Legitimate publishers obfuscate
  - Discovery of OA content
Scholarly Communications
The formal and informal networks used by scholars to create, evaluate, communicate and preserve research and other creative scholarly outputs.

Canadian Association of Research Libraries
Why do scholars communicate?

Research only has value if it becomes known and accessible to others.

It becomes even more valuable if it can be:

- Discussed widely with direct feedback
- Shared with others
- Used in teaching
- Preserved for future scholars
How are scholarly outputs shared?

- **Twitter** – announce work, report on others work, follow disciplinary discussions
- **ResearchGate / Social Sciences Research Network / Academia.edu** – post content, connect with colleagues, discover papers, measure impact
- **Pre-print servers, blogs, websites**
- **Conference presentations** and speaking engagements
- **Publishing** (books, journal articles)
Academic Publishing
Who’s involved?

- **Scholars**: want rigorous review and widespread circulation
- **Funding agencies**: want to facilitate good research and demonstrate the value to society
- **Publishers**: focus on efficient production of good scholarship and make that scholarship available to individuals and to libraries
- **Libraries**: enable discovery of high quality content and curate content for future generations of scholars
Researchers create content
- Salaries and research paid by universities and granting agencies.
- Content is reviewed by peers (other researchers) for free.
- Copyright is signed over to publisher for free.

Publisher sells content
- Publisher overhead
- Production costs (layout, copyediting, editorial)
- Profits

Pay to read
- Libraries, universities and other institutions ($7 billion/year)
- Businesses
- Individuals
• Publishers use their copyright in the work to limit access and generate revenue after content is released.
• Academic publishing is profitable for publishers.
• Governments are insisting on change. Many have Open Access mandates that require researchers to make the results of publicly funded research available to the public for free.
Open Access
Promotes broader access to academic research by scholars, students, professionals and the general public.

Works such as peer-reviewed journal articles, books, data, or other types of scholarly information are made available free of charge, and in a permanently accessible, online format. It represents a fundamental shift away from reader paywalls and copyright restrictions.
Green Route (Online Repositories):

- Usually involves publishing in a regular journal
- Signing over copyright
- Getting back the right to self-archive in an online repository
- Often an embargo of 6 months to 2 years involved (Canada requires 1 year)
**Institutional:** DalSpace

**Disciplinary:** arXiv.org, PubMed Central

- Free to post & download
- No registration required to view or download
- Not owned by commercial enterprises
- Primary purpose is to preserve and provide access
DalSpace Institutional Repository

DalSpace is a digital service that collects, preserves, and distributes digital material produced by the Dalhousie community. To learn about content guidelines, policies, and how to deposit, view the Help documents.

Contact us to get started submitting content to DalSpace at dalspace@dal.ca

Communities in DalSpace

Select a community to browse its collections.

Adoptive Repository
Centre for Learning and Teaching
College of Sustainability
Dalhousie University Libraries
Faculty of Agriculture
Faculty of Architecture and Planning
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Faculty of Computer Science
Faculty of Dentistry
Faculty of Engineering
Unacceptable Repositories

**ResearchGate, Academia.edu, SSRN**

- All of the above are scholarly social networking sites.
- No mandate for long term preservation and access.
- Some sites allow publishers to charge for downloads.
- Some require registration to view/download content.
Gold Route (Journals):

- Publishing in an Open Access journal
- Relies on authors (or their funders) to pay an Author Processing Charge (APC)
- Content available immediately for free to the widest possible audience
- Authors often retain copyright and therefore overall control over their work
- OA journals are much the same as their traditional counterparts (peer review still happens, quality varies, costs vary, impact varies)
Predatory Journals

- Spam early career faculty with requests to publish
- Exist entirely for the purpose of collecting fees and boast quick publication turn-around times.
- Often share some common characteristics:
  - Low quality websites directed at authors rather than readers
  - List editors and editorial board members who cannot be verified.
  - Lack of clarity around copyright
  - No strategy for preserving content
International Publisher for Advanced Scientific Journals (IPASJ) Publication House

APPROVED BY: GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS & ISSN Authority

Website: http://www.ipasj.org, email id: publisher@ipasj.org

To,
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List of Journals:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.no.</th>
<th>Title of Journal</th>
<th>ISSN No.</th>
<th>Impact Factor</th>
<th>Email id &amp; Website</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>International Journal of Application or Innovation in Engineering &amp; Management (IJAIEEM)</td>
<td>2219-4047</td>
<td>7.319</td>
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<td>2221-6442</td>
<td>4.972</td>
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</table>
How to Assess a Journal

- **Review several issues of a journal**
  - Check for writing quality, relevance to discipline and copy editing.

- **Review the journal website. It should contain:**
  - An appropriate scope (e.g. "World Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities")
  - An editorial board with current contact information
  - A description of the peer review process
  - A transparent account of article processing fees or any other author facing fees

- **Check any for reputable and recognized impact metrics**
  - ISI Journal Impact Factor, H-Index or Eigenfactor

Additional Points to Consider

- Is the journal or publisher listed in DOAJ (the Directory of Open Access Journals)?
- Does the publisher belong to the Open Access Scholarly Publishers’ Association (OASPA)?
- Are articles indexed in services that you use?

Source: [http://thinkchecksubmit.org/](http://thinkchecksubmit.org/) a cross-industry initiative led by representatives from ALPSP, DOAJ, INASP, ISSN, LIBER, OASPA, STM, UKSG, and individual publishers.
Some reputable journals are guilty of misleading authors as well …

- Particular problem with hybrid OA journals and with publishers who produce both OA and traditional journals in the same fields.
- Websites tend to emphasize Open Access as the option that includes an Author Processing Charge.
- Green Open Access options are often put elsewhere under a "Self-Archiving"
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Latest News

Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing, version 3
The 3rd version of the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing is published today. Introduction The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA), and the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME) are scholarly organizations that have seen an increase in [...] Read More...

Published Mon, 15 Jan 2018 at 15:30

Open Access Asia
This is a guest post by Vrushali Dandawate (@vrushalisinath), DOAJ Ambassador, India. "Open Access means free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any [...] Read More...

Published Fri, 12 Jan 2018 at 12:38

The SCOS initiative: DOAJ receives first funding, from the University of Alberta Libraries.
- Humanities
  - Open Library of the Humanities
  - Open Humanities Press

- Sciences
  - PLoS
  - Biomed Central
  - PeerJ

- OA initiatives from commercial publishers
Dalhousie Libraries: Find e-Journals

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Journal/Source: Canadian Journal of Bioethics [2561-4665]

Options for electronic Full Text
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Biomarkers of kidney injury

Anja Urbschat, Nicholas Obermüller & Axel Haferkamp

Pages S22-S30 | Received 13 Dec 2010; Accepted 07 May 2011; Published online: 28 Jun 2011

Download citation: [https://doi.org/10.3109/1354750X.2011.587129](https://doi.org/10.3109/1354750X.2011.587129)

Abstract

*Context:* Acute kidney injury (AKI) represents a common serious clinical problem. Up to date mortality due to AKI, especially in intensive care units, has not been changed significantly over the past 50 years. This is partly due to a delay in initiating renal protective and appropriate therapeutic measures since until now there are no
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- Art Institute of Chicago
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Funding

- Government funding agencies providing $$ for journal publishing
- Organizations such as Knowledge Unlatched working with libraries to fund book publishing
- Universities and non-profits funding platforms like OAPEN, Hathi Trust and JSTOR
Discovery Services

- Via services such as OAButton working at webscale
- Libraries providing discovery via catalogues
- Websites like DOAJ / DOAB providing standalone Open Access discovery services
Hosting Services

- Library repositories, disciplinary repositories.
- OAPEN, Hathi Trust, JSTOR and other dedicated OA publishers offering content via their hosting platforms.
- For profit publishers in the mix as well.
OA democratizes scholarship by making it openly available for everyone to use.

OA presents new challenges with misconceptions around quality, author rights and meeting funding agency requirements.

Momentum is shifting as researchers develop a greater understanding of OA and libraries provide discovery tools that present OA content alongside traditional published materials.