A NEW PUBLISHING LANDSCAPE: OPEN ACCESS

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Curiosities, Opportunities, & Pitfalls of Open Access Publishing

- Curiosity
  - Origin story of Open Access (OA)
  - Models through which OA does(not) work

- Opportunities
  - Pros associated with OA publishing

- Pitfalls
  - Cons associated with OA publishing
  - Stakeholder perspectives
  - Definition and identification of outlets
  - Mandates

- Best Practices

- Discussion/Q&A
CURIOSITIES

What is the history of Open Access?
What kind of models are used to foster Open access publications?
Open Access History

- Governmental databases or repositories (Public Access)
- Project Gutenberg (1971)
- Early online journals or EJournals (1987)
- “Serials Crisis”
- E-prints and Pre-prints (arXiv= 1991)
- “Self-Archiving” and Institutional Repositories

More Open Access History found at: http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Timeline
The Three B’s: Declarations in Support of Open Access

- **Budapest Open Access Initiative** (February 2002)
  - “An old tradition and a new technology have converged to make possible an unprecedented public good.”

- **Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing** (June 2003)
  - “…stimulate discussion within the biomedical research community on how to proceed, as rapidly as possible, to the widely held goal of providing open access to the primary scientific literature.”

- **Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities** (October 2003)
  - “The Internet has fundamentally changed the practical and economic realities of distributing scientific knowledge and cultural heritage.”
Open Access Defined

“Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.”

Peter Suber, Director, Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication

"The creation of new knowledge lies at the heart of the research university and results from tremendous investments of resources by universities, federal and state governments, industry, foundations, and others. The products of that enterprise are created to benefit society. In the process, those products also advance further research and scholarship, along with the teaching and service missions of the university. Reflecting its investments, the academy has a responsibility to ensure the broadest possible access to the fruits of its work both in the short and long term by publics both local and global."
Open Access Vehicles *(models through which it works)*

- **Open Access Journals**
  - **GOLD** = Gold Open Access
    - Publisher provides immediate open access to all of the articles
    - Examples = Journal of Information Policy, Journal of Copyright in Education and Librarianship
  - **HYBRID** = Hybrid Open Access or Paid Open Access
    - Publisher provides open access only for those individual articles for which an APC (Article Processing Charge) or a fee has been paid.
    - Examples = Taylor & Francis Open Select and Routledge Open Select, Online Open (Wiley).

- **“Bronze Open Access”**
  - Articles made free-to-read on the publisher website, without an explicit open license (see https://peerj.com/preprints/3119/)
Open Access Vehicles

- Open Access Repositories or Archives
  - GREEN = Green OA
    - An author archives a version of their work in an open access repository (pre-prints, post-prints).
    - Examples = Subject repositories such as arXiv or PubMed Central, Institutional Repositories such as Cornerstone (Minnesota State University, Mankato) or other repositories found in OpenDOAR (Directory of Open Access Repositories).
Open Access Publishing

- No Single, Uniform Publishing Model for Open Access
- Best Practices and Recommendations for Publishing
  - Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing developed by The Committee on Publication Ethics, the Directory of Open Access Journals, the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association, and the World Association of Medical Editors.
  - Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) publishing best practice and basic standards for inclusion
OPPORTUNITIES

What are the advantages of Open Access?
What kind of models are used to foster Open access publications?
Opportunities

- Benefits of OA publishing
  - Widespread dissemination
  - Shorter review time
  - Potential for higher quality
  - Tenure and promotion review criteria
Benefits: Widespread Dissemination

- Therefore . . .
  - Freely available and downloadable in full text to all
  - More likely to be indexed in databases & listed in search engines
Benefits: Widespread Dissemination

- . . . and reduced privilege
  - *Journal of Pedagogic Development* is an open access journal with the aim of “disseminating research outputs beyond the traditional journal publication route” in order to “promote to the wider national and international research community.”
  - *Journal of Educators Online*: mission in accordance with the BOAI (*Budapest Open Access Initiative*), which is an international effort to make research articles in all academic fields freely available on the internet.
Benefits: Widespread Dissemination

- ... and access for researchers in developing countries
- 11,564 journals in 127 countries represented in DOAJ
Benefits: Review Process

- Shorter publication processing time
  - Shorter review time but similar level of feedback
  - Faster publication online
Benefits: Potential for Higher Quality

- Easier to detect quality of open access articles

- Tom Olijhoek - Editor-in-Chief of Directory of Open Access Journals:
  - DOAJ avoids questionable journals with low publishing quality, low scientific quality, & malpractice
  - Investigate suspicious cases, thorough & detailed procedures, measures for keeping bad journals out
Benefits: Tenure & Promotion

- Higher citation impact
- Similar acceptance rates
- Potential for more publications in time for review
- Increased interdisciplinary conversation
PITFALLS

What are the dis-advantages of Open Access?  
How might different stakeholders perceive the publications?
Pitfalls

- Cons associated with OA publishing
  - impact factors
  - tenure and promotion review criteria
    - (Lack of) recognition as publication for promotion

- Stakeholder perspectives
  - a librarian’s perspective
  - the university/institution’s perspective
  - a tenure and promotion review committee’s perspective
  - your own perspective as a scholar
  - …others…?
Is open access publishing where you want to see your work?

Ask yourself:

- **#1 What are my publishing goals?**
- How will I assess the respectability of the open access outlets available?
- How do I feel about paying for my work to be published?
- How will I pay for the potential fees associated with open access publishing?
- Will there be repercussions on my academic reputation?

Ask others:

- **Librarians:**
  - Is this a respectable and honorable outlet for my work?
  - Will the library system honor it? Recommend it?

- **Discipline Colleagues:**
  - Will my work be respected and acknowledged?
  - Are other colleagues in my discipline publishing in this or similar types of outlets?

- **Dean & University Administration:**
  - How will the administration perceive my work?
  - Will it earn me my next promotion?

- **Business Office:**
  - Who will pay for the processing fees that may be associated with open access publishing?
Defining Outlets & Mandates

- Definition and identification of outlets
  - https://doaj.org/

- Mandates of OA publishing by granting institutions
  - Registry of Open Access Repositories Mandatory Archiving Policies (ROARMAP)
    - university examples - Harvard, MIT
    - institutional examples - NIH
BEST PRACTICES
Open Access Publishing Key Best Practices

- **Peer-Review**: Open Access is about removing barriers to **access** NOT bypassing Peer-Review. Peer-Review should and must remain a key component of any form of publishing.

- **Copyright**: Clearly described on the journal’s Web site, and licensing terms shall be indicated on all published articles, both HTML and PDFs.

- **Time table**: Clear, Established Publishing Schedule

- **Who?**: Clearly identified Governing Board or Editorial Committee and an Editorial Team and ways to Contact them.

- **Author fees**: Clearly stated in a place that is easy for potential authors to find prior to submitting their manuscripts for review or explained to authors before they begin preparing their manuscript for submission.
Author Fees and Predatory Publishing

- Some Open Access Journals charge Article Processing Charges (APCs) or author publishing fees ranging anywhere from $8 to $3,900 (Solomon, 2012).

- 67% of journals listed in Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) have no charges (Morrison, 2014)

- Predatory publishing = publishers that lack transparency and use deceptive websites to attract manuscript submissions and the accompanying author fees (Beall, 2013)

Open Access Publishers are not automatically Predatory Publishers!


Beall, J. (2013). Predatory publishing is just one of the consequences of gold open access. Learned Publishing, 26(2), 79-84. doi:10.1087/20130203
How to Determine a “Good” Open Access Publication?

- Does it meet the 16 Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing?

- THINK! CHECK✓ SUBMIT> = https://thinkchecksubmit.org/

- Ask your colleagues if they have heard of the publication that you are considering.

- Is it found in the Directory of Open Access Journals?

- "Dear Esteemed Author:" Spotting a Predatory Publisher in 10 Easy Steps

- Beall’s List of Predatory Journals and Publishers

DON’T RELY ON JUST ONE THING! DO YOUR HOMEWORK!
Additional Food for Thought

- Read the publishers’ agreement and/or copyright agreement carefully.
- Open Access does allow us to rethink copyright in forms of Author Addendum or Creative Commons Licenses.
- What does SHERPA-RoMEO say that you can do in regards to Self-Archiving?
- Talk to your friendly academic librarian or scholarly communication librarian for help.
- Not US vs. THEM – Need for all of us involved (authors, publishers, librarians, Open Access advocates) to work together
Discussion

Questions?

Comments?

Personal experiences?

Standpoints not covered?
“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes.”

- Marcel Proust