

I. Current Environment of Scholarly Communication

What is Scholarly Communication?

Scholarly Communication is the formal and informal processes through which research results and other scholarly work are disseminated to other researchers and scholars, students, policy makers and the public. Information or research is created by scholars, distributed by publishers, and disseminated, organized and preserved by libraries.

What is the crisis with Scholarly Communication?

It is the loss of access to scholarly research, as the rising cost of journal subscriptions exceed institutional library budgets. Each year libraries can afford to subscribe to fewer and fewer journals.

What are the major issues with Scholarly Communication?

- Scholarly communication process/model
- Cost of Journals
- Copyright
- Publishing market
- Academic Promotion

Who are the major players in Scholarly Communication?

- Researchers
- Editors
- Libraries
- Publishers
- Universities

Scholarly Communication Process/Model

The crisis in scholarly publishing was created by the current model of scholarly communication. Scholars and researchers create research and information and write articles. Scholars also provide the quality control in the form of peer review. All of this is done for free. Scholars often give this content to publishers for free and the publishers use the content for journals and other materials which are then sold to academic libraries.

1. A small number of commercial publishers control a large part of the market and commercial publishers charge more for their materials than scholarly societies or university presses. Commercial journal publishers are expanding their market control through acquisitions, mergers, and the purchase of titles from scholarly societies. Some societies sell their journals to commercial publishers, who capitalize by significantly increasing the cost of the journal.

2. Publishers use this control to increase their profit.
3. More online access. This increase in electronic information is not free and publishers often charge more for electronic publications compared to print

Copyright

Publishers require authors to transfer their copyrights as a condition of publication

- You transfer all of your copyrights to the publisher
- Lose control of any subsequent public distribution of your research
- Copyright restrictions may limit personal distribution for teaching and research purposes (through your own personal web page, for example), or restrict posting on publicly available web archives

Journal Pricing

The marketplace for scholarly publishing continues to be marked by high costs and high rates of inflation. According to data from the Association for Research Libraries, between 1986 and 2005:

- Journal expenditures of research libraries increased by 273%
- The average journal cost increasing by 186%. During this same period, the U.S. Consumer Price Index rose by 78%.
- Journals have gone up in price an average of 9% a year, while the consumer price has increased only 3.4% a year.

Each year, *Library Journal* publishes the Periodicals Price Survey that provides detailed information on journals pricing. The 2008 Survey is available online at:

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6547086.html>

Libraries

Library budgets have not been able to keep up with the price increases and inflation for journals. Over the past few years, library budgets have either declined or remained flat.

1. Due to price increases, libraries are subscribing to fewer journals titles. The decrease in subscriptions has resulted in publishers charging even higher prices to maintain their revenue.
2. Online journals: The large publishers have the resources to fill increasing user demand for online access to journal literature, and market their journals to libraries in "bundles." These bundles or packages and their associated restrictive cancellation policies can inhibit libraries' abilities to select the journals most needed and cancel those that are less needed.
3. The price increases of journals has caused libraries to purchase fewer monographs (25% on average).
4. This creates restricted access to the output of scholars.

Ramifications of Scholarly Communication Crisis

- Libraries cancel journals to pay for the huge increases in cost, thus severely restricting access to the output of scholars.
- Electronic formats, lacking dependable preservation methods, threaten the archival permanence of scholarly work.
- Ownership of copyright by publishers prevents academia the right to preserve future access through storage.

Academic Promotion

- Promotion and Tenure is heavily dependent on prestige of journal
- Quality of work
- Publishing in books is more difficult due to libraries purchasing fewer books
- Need to change culture on campus

*****Enter other options for journal rankings and Links to articles*****

Over the past few years, there have been some projects undertaken to deal with this crisis. Efforts such as SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) and the Open Access movement have gotten underway and begun to effect change.

II. Introduction to the Open Access Movement

What is open access?

The Open Access movement involves making peer reviewed research available free of charge to anyone who needs it in full-text format. Open access articles have limited copyright and licensing restrictions, so any person with access to the Internet may read, download, copy and distribute the article.

The open access movement involves two main resources: open access journals and open access archives.

Open access journals are peer reviewed journals published online, free of charge. Open access archives allows scholars to deposit their research in an online, central database freely accessible to anyone. Open access archives involve either institutional repositories or centralized archives. Institutional repositories are online storehouses created by specific universities or research organizations in which researchers at the specific university can deposit their scholarly work. These works may include books, journal articles, conference papers, pre- and post-prints, etc. Centralized archives are often referred to as subject archives. These archives are similar to institutional repositories, but are created for specific disciplines and are open to scholars from any institution.

Open access sources provide a vehicle for researchers to distribute their results freely for educational or research purposes and allows the researchers to retain copyright of their work.

Open access is free to everyone, but it still involves costs associated with producing the journal. Fees are sometimes covered through publication fees or “author fees,” where authors are charged for publication of their article. In many cases, the cost can be absorbed by the funding agency and in some cases, publishers are willing to waive the fee. Some fees are covered through institutional fees, for example *BioMed Central*.

Why publish open access?

Open access provides free information access and anyone with an Internet connection can read scholarly information in an open access resource. Several studies have recently shown that journal articles published via open access have higher impact measures than journals published through traditional (subscription) avenues. Below are two examples:

<http://opcit.eprints.org/oacitation-biblio.html>

<http://www.nature.com/nature/focus/accessdebate/21.html>

Studies have also been recently conducted about Thomson's citation impact factor calculations. These studies have shown that the citation impact factor is not necessarily a representation of research impact and that this calculation has many flaws associated with it. One example is in the British Medical Journal (<http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/334/7593/568>).

Journal Rankings

There are other methods besides ISI's Journal Impact Factor for journal rankings that have come to fruition over the past several years (<http://mulibraries.missouri.edu/guides/rankings/journalranking.htm>) and include the H-Index, Eigen Factor and the Scimago Journal Rank.

Examples of Open Access

Directory of Open Access Journals (<http://www.doaj.org/>)
DSpace (<http://www.dspace.org/>)

Additional Information

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
(<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/scholcomm/openaccess.html>)
Peter Suber's Blog (<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>)
Create Change (<http://www.createchange.org/modes/openaccess.shtml>)
Sherpa/RoMEO (<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/projects/sherparomeo.html>)
Budapest Open Access Initiative (<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/oajguides/index.shtml>)

III. Copyright

What is Copyright?

According to the United States Government, Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States ([title 17](#), U. S. Code) to the authors of “original works of authorship,” including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works.

Why worry about Copyright?

Your research is a result of your hard work, study and research. As a tenure-track professor, the more your article is read and cited....thus greater value. Copyright impacts both access to and impact of your work.

Copyright: Bundled Rights

Copyright affects use of your own work.

- Reproduce the work in copies
- Prepare derivative works based upon the work
- Distribute copies of the work to the public
- Display the work publicly

Managing Copyright

When you write an article for a scholarly journal, you are typically asked to sign a publication agreement or a copyright transfer agreement. The purpose of this document is to transfer your ownership of copyright to the publisher. Copyright is a bundle or package of the rights cited above. Scholars (creators) can “unbundle” these rights and transfer only some of them to publishers. For example: the creator transfers ownership of the copyright, but retains the right to do certain things like include articles in course packs, or place articles on a personal web site or an institutional repository or the creator retains ownership of the copyright and grants a non-exclusive license to the publisher, typically for the right of first formal publication

- Understand Your Rights: Copyright Agreement
- Negotiate: Alternative Agreements
- Alternative Publishing

Author Resources

- SPARC <http://www.arl.org/sparc/author/>
- Creative Commons <http://creativecommons.org>
- Know Your Copyrights <http://www.knowyourcopyrights.org/>

- Scholarly Communication Toolkit from ACRL
<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/scholarlycomm/scholarlycommunicationtoolkit/toolkit.cfm>
- Purdue University Copyright Center (<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/uco/>)

NIH Mandate

Beginning on April 7, 2008 any author who publishes an article based on research funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH) must submit an electronic version of their final, peer reviewed manuscript to PubMed Central, which is the free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature. For more information on this, please visit <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/FAQ.htm#a1>

Additional Resources

Scholarly Communication Sites

Libraries & Scholarly Communication (<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly/>)
 Reshaping Scholarly Communication (<http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/>)
 Transforming Scholarly Communication & Libraries
 (<http://www.library.cornell.edu/scholarlycomm/index.html>)
 Scholarly Communication (<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/scholarlycommunication/>)
 Scholarly Communications: Knowledge Without Barriers
 (<https://openaccess.jhmi.edu/?SMSESSION=NO>)
 Scholarly Publication: MIT Libraries (<http://info-libraries.mit.edu/scholarly/>)
 Digital Scholarship & Publishing Center (<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/dspc/>)
 Scholarly Communication (<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/scholcomm/>)
 Scholarly Communication Services (<http://www.lib.utk.edu/scholar/index.html>)
 Transforming Scholarly Communication (<http://www.lib.umn.edu/scholcom/>)
 Winning Independence (<http://www.library.upenn.edu/scholcomm/>)

Associations

Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Council (<http://www.arl.org/sparc/>)
 Association of Research Libraries Office of Scholarly Communication (<http://www.arl.org/sc/>)