



(숙명여대 문헌정보학, 정보관리위원)

Open Access Open Archives

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1. What is Open Access?

“Open access” (OA) is free online access. OA literature is not only free of charge to everyone with an internet connection, but free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. OA literature is barrier-free literature produced by removing the price barriers and permission barriers that block access and limit usage of most conventionally published literature, whether in print or online.

Definition of Open Access Publication

(from the Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing)

An Open Access Publication¹ is one that meets the following two conditions:

The author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible

purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship², as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.

A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in a suitable standard electronic format is deposited immediately upon initial publication in at least one online repository that is supported by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organization that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving (for the biomedical sciences, PubMed Central is such a repository).

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¹ Open access is a property of individual works, not necessarily journals or publishers.

² Community standards, rather than copyright law, will continue to provide the mechanism for enforcement of proper attribution and responsible use of the published work, as they do now.

2. Why Open Access?

- Scientific authors do not receive any financial compensation for their papers. They donate their works to Journals
- Reviewers in Scientific Journals are not paid either.
- Most scientific journals are currently very expensive, and prices continue to rise.
- Only the wealthiest Universities can currently afford those subscription prices.

The paradox: the intent of scientists is that anybody should be able freely read their papers, and yet most of the world cannot access their papers.

Alternatives are being proposed by the scientists themselves: Open Access Journals and Open Archives.

The transition from current subscription-based journals to Open Access Journals and Open Archives would actually save money in advanced countries, and would let the whole world access scientific knowledge for free. This is a win/win situation.

3. What is Open Archives?

Open Archives (OA), Open Access Resources, Open Access Journals

Online repositories of Open Access Journals

To enhance the value of works that might already be openly accessible, preservation and deposit are important.

The open archives initiative (OAI) is a network of distributed archives. It is highly desirable that the OAI distributed archives could interact together. The technical breakthrough is agreement on metadata tagging standards (OAI-compliance) that make the contents of distributed archives interoperable, hence harvestable into one global virtual archive, all papers searchable and retrievable by everyone for free. In that scenario, each Open Access Journal becomes its own Open Archive to become a part of a worldwide Open Access resource.

4. Major Open Archives (Open Access Journal Repositories)

- PubMed Central <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/>

The U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature. Launched in February 2000 with content from the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and Molecular Biology of the Cell.

Participation by publishers in PMC is voluntary, although participating journals must meet certain editorial standards. A journal may deposit its material in PMC and make it available for public release as soon as it is published, or it may delay release in PMC for a specified period after initial publication. Copyright remains with the journal publisher or with individual authors, whichever is applicable.

Participating publishers must physically give the content of articles to the PMC archive, under certain constraints: Storing all articles in a uniform and well defined (tagged) structure allows other features, e.g., searches focused on the Methods section of articles, or links from the literature to existing resources such as sequence databases and structure viewers, to be applied consistently across the entire collection.

Experience to date suggests that participation in PMC may actually improve the quality of the journal's electronic archival record, because PMC conducts an independent check of the SGML/XML for syntactical correctness and the ability to generate an accurate reproduction of an article from the supplied data.

- BioMed Central <http://www.biomedcentral.com/>

Commercial publisher that has adopted an Open Access business model.

Publishes more than 150 peer-reviewed open access journals covering all areas of biology and medicine.

- Public Library of Science (PLOS) <http://www.plos.org/>

A non-profit organization of scientists and physicians committed to making the world's scientific and medical literature a freely available public resource.

seeks to catalyze a change from traditional subscription-based scientific and medical journal publishing to open access publishing.

- arXiv <http://www.arxiv.org/>

Open access to 360,456 e-prints in Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science and Quantitative Biology

References

arXiv

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"Open Access: The facts"

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Open Archives Initiative (OAI)

<http://www.openarchives.org/>

"OAI for Beginners: Overview"

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"Open Access Publishing"

<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/about/openaccess.html>

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

<http://www.plos.org/>

PubMed Central (PMC): A free archive of life sciences journals

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