OPEN ACCESS
Ethics, Legal, National, and EU mandates

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OUTLINE

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DEFINITION

- Budapest Open Access Initiative (2002) "World-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal literature, completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds."

- Berlin Declaration (2003): "Free, irrevocable, worldwide, 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 authorship."

- "Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions" (Suber, 2008).

*Suber, P. (2008). *Gratis and libre open access*. SPARC Open Access Newsletter.

TRADITIONAL PUBLSIHING

- Traditionally, research is disseminated via journal articles and conference papers;

- The only mean to publish in the past was in print through commercial publishers;

- Scholarly research is not freely accessible under the traditional model of subscription based journals;

- Access is inequitable and based on ability to pay;

- Research is not being disseminated as widely as it could be.

Return on Investment

- Research especially in Europe is funded by the public;
- researchers acquire fund to produce papers;
- Submit their paper to the publisher;
- Transfer copyright to the publisher;
- Articles published in closed access behind a pay wall;
- Libraries subscribe (pay) to access articles (big deals);
- Poor return on investment by the government.

HERMES

Current Funding Cycle for Research Articles
Limited dissemination, economic efficiency and social impact

Government RFPs announced, research grants awarded

Scientific research conducted and papers written

Articles submitted to journals and peer review occurs

Acceptance in journals; authors transfer copyright to publishers

Articles published in mainly closed access journals

Libraries subscribe or public pays per article fee to view on publisher's website

Public granted little or no reuse rights beyond access to read articles

Slow scientific progress, poor return on public investment

DRAWBACK OF THE TRADITIONAL SYSTEM

- Authors not paid for articles or peer review;

- Most publishers required authors to transfer copyright to them;

- Authors had very limited rights as to what they could do with their own articles, such as copying, and posting in institutional repositories or online;

- Authors basically give away their work for free, and institutions have to buy it back via subscriptions;

- The money provided by the government doesn't have the desired impact on the public;

- Diminishing access to knowledge.

MODERN PUBLISHING (OA)

- The internet created a new method of online publishing;

- Via deposit in an open access repository ('Green');

- Via publication in an open access journal ('Gold');

- Some commercial publishers now also offer the option to pay to make an individual article 'open access.'

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

- Online databases, usually institutional (moderated by the university), providing free access to scholarly publications;

- Generally use open source software, e.g. DSpace, ePrints, Fedora;

- Repositories can be subject based (e.g. PubMed Central);

- Originally based on a model of 'self-archiving' or 'self-deposit', but may now offer mediated deposit;

- Can be searched locally, via search engines or via harvesters such as OAIster;

- Associated with protocol for metadata harvesting (OAI-PMH) – from Open Archives Initiative.

OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

- Content is free to end users;

- Some are peer reviewed as traditional journals;

- Uses 'author pays' model (funds provided by research grants);

- Published by universities, societies, not-for-profit publishers, and also by some commercial publishers;

- Example (http://www.doaj.org).

Return on Investment

- Research especially in Europe is funded by the public;
- Researchers acquire funds to produce papers;
- Submit their paper to OA journal for peer review;
- Sign a copyright agreement to retain some or all their rights;
- Articles published in OA mode either with or without embargo period;
- Public can download the article freely;
- Good return on investment.

HERMES
Strengthening Digital Resource Sharing During COVID And Beyond

OA in Europe

SPARC Europe: One of Europe's key and long-standing voices advocating for unfettered access to research and education.

European Commission supports open access specifically in funding programs:

- Horizon 2020 is the Commission's main research and innovation funding programme up to the end of 2020.
- The Commission has set a strong signal by making open access mandatory for all Horizon 2020 projects.
- Open Research Europe is a scholarly publishing platform available to Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe beneficiaries.

OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES

- [Open Access Resources](#) also known as the European Commission library is a database of resources that are accessible to everyone.

- Open Access Search tools: a list of OA search engines, directories, repositories, and data.

OA & Ethics: Arguments Pro

- Sharing of data will lead to more rapid scientific progress and a reduction in unnecessary duplication of scientific effort;

- Obligations of reciprocity. The findings of research funded by the public should, it is argued, be made freely available to those who have paid for it;

OA & Ethics: Arguments Pro

- Subscription-based models of publishing are unfair and exploitative because they require publically-funded academics to submit their work to commercially run journals, to carry out peer review and sit as members of editorial boards, and then to pay to access the fruits of their own intellectual labor;

- Current subscription-based system is inherently conservative and has the potential to lead to a narrowing of intellectual and scholarly life.

*Parker, M. (2013). The ethics of open access publishing. *BMC medical ethics, 14*(1), 1-4.

OA & Ethics: Arguments Against

- Need to develop an evidence-base around which models of publishing are most likely to lead to sustainable high quality research;

- The compatibility of open access with sustainable research collaboration;

- Gold access like the subscription model it may in some cases favor the financial interests of publishers: public continues to pay both for the production of knowledge and for access to it.

OA CURRENT STATUS

The Lens scholarly database (search platform with 245 M references)

– OA represents 17,5% of the whole set;

– 35% of documents published in 2020.

Dimensions (selective scientific database with 125 M references)

– 29% of OA documents overall;

– 53% in 2020.

It is probable that in a few years most scholarly publications will be OA and available through search engines and platforms for everybody to use.

ADVANTAGES of OA for Users

- Free access to the literature they need regardless of the budget for subscriptions;

- Possibility of text mining and other forms of text processing and analysis;

- Users access research literature regardless of the institution they belong too (universal access);

- Professors can make available their own work for students to use.

Illegal (shadow) Projects

Illegal projects or shadow libraries are personal initiatives that are built on hacking contents

from different databases and publishers and providing them for free:

– Sci-Hub

– Library genesis

They are not considered open access content, they are deemed as hacked content. The use of such

content may put the user (personal user or library) in diligent position as copyright infringer.

SELF-LICENSING

- As you will learn in the copyright module, created works are automatically protected by copyright;

- Copyright laws are usually strict and do not encourage wide sharing of materials;

- Some authors prefer to keep some rights and giving other rights to the end user. Thus the need to license the work according to an open license;

- This can be done using a ''Creative Commons'' license.

SELF LICENSING - CREATIVE COMMONS

- Creative Commons (CC) is an internationally active non-profit organization that provides free licences for creators to use when making their work available to the public. These licences help the creator to give permission for others to use the work in advance under certain conditions.

- Creative Commons helps you legally share your knowledge and creativity to build a more equitable, accessible, and innovative world.

http://creativecommons.org/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YkbeycRa2A

SELF LICENSING - CREATIVE COMMONS

LICENSES	TERMS

Attribution
Others can copy, distribute, display, perform and remix your work if they credit your name as requested by you

No Derivative Works
Others can only copy, distribute, display or perform verbatim copies of your work

Share Alike
Others can distribute your work only under a license identical to the one you have chosen for your work

Non-Commercial
Others can copy, distribute, display, perform or remix your work but for non-commercial purposes only.

SELF LICENSING - CREATIVE COMMONS

Share Your Thoughts

- Do you support the Open Access Initiative?

- Do you think that it will advance or hinder research?

- What is your position toward shadow (illegal) libraries? Do you consider them the "Robin Hood" of science or they are "stealers"?

- Would you prefer to publish in open access mode when you grow as researchers or you prefer the traditional model?

Share Your Thoughts