

Open Access – What is it ?

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Contents

- Definition of Open Access (OA) research literature
- Legal basis of OA
- Motivation *or* What do we all get out of it ?
- Roads towards OA
- OA @ DESY



Definition

- “*Open Access* (OA) is free online availability of digital contents” (Wikipedia)
- *OA literature* is digital, free of charge, immediate and permanent online access to the full text of **research articles** for anyone, worldwide made possible by consent of author and copyright holder
- OA is compatible with
 - peer review
 - publishing in non-OA journals
- OA is not free to produce
 - There is much debate about the economics of funding
 - Business models depend on the way OA is delivered (see below)
- International statements on OA
 - Budapest Open Archive Initiative (2002)
 - Berlin Declaration (2003) (signed e.g. by Helmholtz Gemeinschaft)



Legal Basis

The legal basis of OA is usually the consent of the copyright holder

- OA is no abolition, reform, or infringement of copyright law. OA does not require that copyright holders waive all the rights and assign their work to the public domain

- Consent to OA may be expressed by using e.g. one of the Creative Commons licenses

(see <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.5/>)

- This includes: Unrestricted reading, downloading, copying, sharing, storing, printing, searching, linking, and crawling of the full-text of the work.

Most authors retain the right to block the distribution of mangled or misattributed copies

- Essentially, these conditions block plagiarism, misrepresentation,... , and authorize all the uses required by legitimate scholarship

- NB: For copyrighted works, OA is always voluntary

(<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>)



Motivation

The „taxpayer argument for open access“

If the research papers based on taxpayer-funded research are locked away in conventional journals that require payments for access, then taxpayers will end up paying twice for the same research

- Objection: Tax payer may use a library
 - ▢ This is free access to a paid copy (library gets paid by tax-payer as well)
- Objection: Why OA only for research papers?
 - ▢ OA should at least be used for research papers
- Objection: Journal charges for value it adds
 - ▢ True, but tax payer already paid for primary value. Access to primary value should not be held hostage to secondary expenses



Motivation For Authors (Researchers)

(see e.g. Wikipedia)

*The published article is the report of the work **researchers** have done and got paid for, not a commercial gain*

- OA gives authors a worldwide audience and increases the visibility and impact of their work
 - Good for the career
- Self-archiving achieves rapid communication
 - The more, the faster and the broader the distribution and use the better for the author and the community
- OA helps authors as readers to access the information they need
 - All researchers benefit, since no library can afford to subscribe to all scientific journals



Motivation For Publishers

Over 90% of journals have already given their green light to author/institution self-archiving

- Articles are more visible, discoverable and usable
- Permitting e.g. post-print archiving attracts authors
- Permitting OA for e.g. all back-issues after a certain period etc. increases visibility and results in more subscriptions
- Sponsoring models result in a long term relationship

NB: Physicists value their journals: „American Physical Society“ and „Institute of Physics publishing“ report that the subject repository arXiv (<http://arxiv.org>) has had no effect on journal subscription



Motivation For Libraries

Providing their users with access to information is one of the main goals of the profession. Price and access barriers undermine that effort


- Pricing crisis
 - Journal prices rise faster than inflation since 1970's (4 times faster than inflation since 1986)
 - The volume of published knowledge grows exponentially and always faster than the library budget
 - **OA scales with the growth of knowledge**
- OA allows (research) libraries to provide information their users need
 - This increases impact of research at the laboratory
 - increases laboratory funding
 - more sponsoring of journals possible



Roads Towards OA

- „Golden“ Road: Open access publishing

OA Journals make their articles available immediately on publication (see e.g. <http://www.doaj.org/> for a list of \approx 2500 OA journals)

-  Processing fees (Page charge, author charge, ...)


-  Sponsoring


-  ...

- „Green“ Road: Open access self-archiving

Authors make copies of their own (published) work

-  pre-print (before peer-review)

-  post-print (after peer-review with revisions; content as published)

-  publishers version (the version, that is published in a journal, incl. layout etc.)

accessible on an institutional or subject repository

(see the SHERPA/RoMEO list at <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php> for publisher copyright policies & self archiving)



Open Access @ DESY

In accordance with the *Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities*, signed by all German research organizations, the Helmholtz Association among them, the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron supports the open access movement

All scientists at DESY are asked to

- transfer preprints of their approved publications to OA print archives
- preferably publish in open access journals
- see to it that DESY retains the right for OA self archiving in an institutional repository, when submitting work for publications in other journals



Open Access @ DESY

DESY follows a mixture of “green” and “golden” road

- Sponsored journal
 - Physical Review Special Topics – Accelerators and Beams
- Transfer of preprints and internal reports to arXiv
- Author annex for publications in non-OA Journals
- And institutional repository
 - via publication database (<http://pubdb.desy.de>)
 - SPIRES / a Web Server (with link to full-texts)
 - Provide data via OAI-PMH (**O**pen **A**rchive **I**nitiative-**P**rotocol for **M**etadata **H**arvesting) interface
 - 🖥 ... for Google
 - 🖥 ... for meta-search engines
 - 🖥 ...



Resources

- Open access self-archiving: An introduction May 2005 (<http://eprints.ecs.soton.ac.uk/11006/01/jiscsum.pdf>)
- Open Access site (<http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/>)
- Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access)

