

Playing the (open) publishing game – Top Posts of 2015: Open Access

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*When you edit Wikipedia to include a claim, you are required to substantiate that edit by referencing a reliable source. According to a recent study, the single biggest predictor of a journal's appearance in Wikipedia is its impact factor. One of the exciting findings, writes **Eamon Duede**, is that it appears Wikipedia editors are putting a premium on open access content. When given a choice between journals of similar impact factors, editors are significantly more likely to select the "open access" option.*

Top ten tips for universities seeking to implement Open Access

*With funders requiring open access and researchers increasingly aware of it, now is the time for universities to make significant headway in providing a coherent plan for encouraging wider open access adoption. **Neil Jacobs** from Jisc provides an overview of what actions have been taken around the sector and outlines ten specific areas that institutions should consider further in order to help the entire UK higher education sector adapt to the changing policy landscape.*



Top Tips for Implementing Open Access

1. Encourage REF-compliant policy
2. Assess your current position
3. Get your communication strategy right
4. Implement ORCID
5. Help researchers navigate OA policies
6. Check repository reporting capabilities
7. Record article processing charges (APCs)
8. Share your APC data
9. Add a 'copy request' button
10. Install a tracker code

- Neil Jacobs, Head of Scholarly Communication, JISC

 

Self-archived articles receive higher citation counts than non-OA articles from same political science journals.



Stop shielding early-career researchers from open access – limiting wider involvement won't change a broken system.

*The competitive nature of scholarship and the precariousness of academic employment is what currently hinders early-career researchers, not open access publishing. Rather than warning researchers of the dangers of confronting outdated and proprietary forms of scholarship, all should be engaged in questioning the practices that perpetuate the broken system, argues **Samuel Moore**.*



Gold open access in practice: How will universities respond to the rising total cost of publication?

*Are universities able to shoulder the costs of the open access transition? **Stephen Pinfield** presents findings on the current state of institutional costs. The total cost of publication is defined as existing subscription costs, article processing charges (APCs) and the costs of administering them. So is the total cost of publication rising for universities overall? In the short term at least, the answer is certainly 'yes'. It is becoming increasingly clear that negotiations need to take into account the total cost of publication to enable the academic community to get best value from its research outputs.*



To what are we opening science? Reform of the publishing system is only a step in a much broader re-evaluation.

*The low level of research funding for the social sciences in the US is likely to have a direct and negative effect on researchers' ability to pay the article processing charges associated with the most common Gold OA business model. But there are other options. **Amy Atchison** and **Jonathan Bull** look at the benefits of Green Open Access. Their research indicates self-archived/ Green OA articles, regardless of format, receive significantly higher citation counts than do non-OA articles from the same editions of the same major political science journals.*



*Openness is being invoked as a silver bullet to increase the productivity and cost-effectiveness of academic research. **Sabina Leonelli** and **Barbara Prainsack** argue that openness is more than just a blanket strategy to reduce costs. The failure to recognise neoliberal commodification and the false premise that open science will necessarily save money are two major misconceptions. Openness in science is not an end in itself, but it should always be in the service of something good.*

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