

Open Access Concept in Libraries

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Abstract

The traditional library was transformed into a web-based library as a result of the shifting ICT paradigm, web centric architecture, and applications of web 1.0 and web 2.0. Economic crises are a major issue for all nations in the era of globalization. Since many libraries cannot afford to subscribe to the e-resources at this time due to the high cost of subscription-based journals, the open access concept was developed. There are no restrictions on cost, limited usage, or authorization to use electronic resources in an open access environment. This essay discusses the idea of open access, its definition, and its advantages. It also discusses the role that libraries play in an environment where access to information is freely given.

Keywords: Open access, Free journals, E-Resources

Introduction

The open-access project is a ground-breaking scholarly communication movement that has gained significant traction in recent years. Because it promises to lower the cost of scientific publications, slow the commercialization of intellectual communication, and increases the accessibility of scholarly information, open access has a fervent following. Since open access holds the potential to revolutionize scholarly communication, it has been at the forefront of innumerable discussions about its future. Libraries will also be impacted by this change because they are essential to the flow of intellectual communication.[1]

Libraries that want to make scientific knowledge accessible cannot afford to ignore open-access publications. A closer look at the existing and upcoming developments is essential if libraries are to be proactive rather than reactive to the changes open access will bring. The writers of this study are aware that open access has the potential to have an impact on every step of scholarly communication, but they primarily examine how open access affects libraries in this article.

OA is the only solution to the current global economic crisis and exorbitant cost of e-resources. There are a lot of libraries and institutions in the open access ecosystem nowadays. Open Access refers to unrestricted user access to knowledge. Open access literature is defined by Peter Suber (2007) [2] as literature that is digital, online, free of charge, and exempt from the majority of copyright and license restrictions. It is an elegant notion. Access to information is a core principle of librarianship, and open access is essential to creating a successful, cost-efficient scholarly communication system.

Conceptualize Open Access Term

Lack of access to the most recent scholarship in their field, much of which may be published in journals with high annual subscription prices and are thus prohibitively expensive for many libraries, is one of the main obstacles for academics and researchers. By advocating for the "free availability of literature on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself," the open access environment addresses this barrier.

For the purposes of this paper, the term "open access" refers to full-text scholarly articles that are made completely free [3] and without limitations to all users to read, copy, download, and distribute over the Internet, despite the fact that various definitions of open access have been proposed by interested groups and entities. There are several approaches to obtain open access.

Open access (OA) is the practice of providing unrestricted access via the Internet to peer-reviewed scholarly research. It is most commonly applied to scholarly journal articles, but it is also increasingly being provided to theses, scholarly monographs and book chapters. Peter Suber characterizes the core concept that open access removes "price barriers" (e.g., subscription fees) and "permission barriers" (e.g., copyright and licensing restrictions) to "royalty-free literature" (i.e., scholarly works created for free by authors), making them available with "minimal use restrictions" (e.g., author attribution).

Advantages of Open Access Contents

- Boost the visibility of your research citations, as doing so will make it easy for people to read, cite, and share your work.
- Make it simpler to manage your publishing list on both your personal website and the website of your organization.
- Make it possible for items that were previously exclusively accessible in print, such as theses and dissertations, to be easily accessed.
- So that you can quickly read and understand the work of your coworkers and others, encourage others to do the same.
- Have a location to save your scholarly works that is safe, secure, and backed up.
- Increase your awareness of your rights, your knowledge of copyright, and how to get the most out of your efforts.

Changing Roles: Libraries as Publishers

The primary responsibilities of libraries have historically been to serve readers, including "writers as readers," with an emphasis on the purchase and/or licensing of works that are tailored to the regional or more specialized discipline needs of their users. One of the fundamental laws of library science, specifically in relation to books, is based on the proverb "every book its reader, every reader its book" (Ranganathan). Libraries have a clear commitment to enhancing information access and ensuring that this material is kept accessible in the future given this focus on researchers.

Challenges of Open Access

- The most popular measurement doesn't always show OA journals to be robust, even when they are. Impact factors (IFs) penalize new publications, while the majority of open access journals are new
- The problem is that over 85% of open access journals now listed in the DOAJ do not use any form of CC license
- Some of them might make use of comparable non-CC licenses, and others might employ original language with a comparable legal impact
- The majority of open access journals do not provide free OA
- concerns regarding preservation
- honesty is questioned
- Questions regarding publication fees
- Concerns of sustainability
- Concerns with redirection
- Concerns concerning the plan

The Difficulty of Assessing Open Access Impacts

There is disagreement about whether the removal of price barriers is sufficient to achieve open access or whether, as is more commonly believed, the removal of permission barriers is also required. In the self-archiving and open access journal discussions, we saw that, in reality, digital works commonly characterized as "open access" could be under a wide range of copyright and licensing arrangements. For example, many journals listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (a widely recognized and used finding tool) do not remove permission barriers and neither do many e-print authors.

Looking solely at journals for a moment, the information environment is even more complex because there is a further distinction between free access to the entire contents of a journal and some subset of those contents. With this in mind, I have suggested the following taxonomy for journals, reserving the term "open access" for those journals that meet the highest level criteria:

- Open Access journals: These journals provide free access to all articles and utilize a form of licensing that puts minimal restrictions on the use of articles, such as the Creative Commons Attribution License. Example: Biomedical Digital Libraries.
- Free Access journals: These journals provide free access to all articles and utilize a variety of copyright statements (e.g., the journal copyright statement may grant liberal educational copying provisions), but they do not use a Creative Commons Attribution License or similar license. Example: The Public-Access Computer Systems Review.
- Embargoed Access journals: These journals provide free access to all articles after a specified embargo period and typically utilize conventional copyright statements. Example: Learned Publishing.
- Partial Access journals: These journals provide free access to selected articles and typically utilize conventional copyright statements. Example: College & Research Libraries.
- Restricted Access journals: These journals provide no free access to articles and typically utilize conventional copyright statements. Example: Library Administration and Management. (Available in electronic form from Library Literature & Information Science Full Text and other databases.)

Conclusion

Several organizations work to grow this trend in the OA environment. Many OA green, gold, gratuit (read for free), and libre (free to read and reuse). On a worldwide scale, open access has grown in nothing short of remarkable ways. Almost 3,700 full open access, scholarly journals and a million open access items are already available in institutional and disciplinary repositories. Universities, departments, and research funders are developing open access policies. In this ongoing context of free access, libraries play a changing role in enhancing and developing this process for the long-term growth of the next generation.

References

- [1] Pritpal S. Tamber, Fiona Godlee, and Peter Newmark, "Open Access to Peer-reviewed Research: Making It Happen," Lancet 362, no. 9395 (Nov. 8, 2003)
- [2] Peter Suber, "Open Access Overview: Focusing on Open Access to PeerReviewed Research Articles and Their Preprints," <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview>.
- [3] Some examples include the Berlin Declaration (<http://www.zim.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html>)
- [4] <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/bethesda.htm>
- [5] <http://creativecommons.org/about/licenses/meetthe-licenses>.
- [6] Suber, "Open Access Overview: Focusing on Open Access to Peer-Reviewed Research Articles and Their Preprints."