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A Brief History of Open Access

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P. Royster, Love Library, March 15, 2016

OPEN

Project Gutenberg

- Founded by Michael Hart, 1971

- free public domain text files

- 50,000 ebooks

- Downloads ~3 million/month

GNU Project (1983)

- Richard Stallman, MIT

- The **GNU** General Public **License** is a widely used free software **license**, which guarantees end users the freedoms to run, study, share (copy), and modify the software.

GNU stands for "Not Unix",
and the G is just for show.

arXiv.org

- Started 1991 by high-energy physicists

- Hosted at Cornell University Libraries

- 1.1 million eprints

- Downloads ~ 4 million/month

arXiv.org

Public Knowledge Project (1998)

- John Willinsky, Simon Fraser University (partners are Stanford University & University of British Columbia)

- Developed **Open Journal System (OJS)** in 2001; open-source software for journals production.

PKP | PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE PROJECT

Software | Research | Services

Take control of your publishing
pkp.sfu.ca

BMC Biomed Central
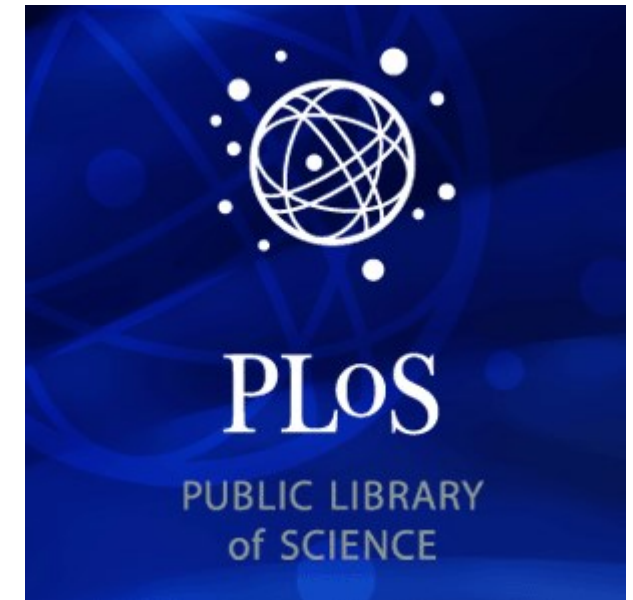
- Early open access APC-funded publisher (2000)

- headed by Jan Velterop.

- Sold to **Springer** in 2008

PLOS (Public Library of Science)

- founded 2001; first journal *PLoS One* launched in 2003

- Michael Eisen, UCal Berkeley

- 140,000+ peer reviewed articles published to date

- 1.9 million downloads monthly

- APCs: $1495 to $2900/article

- Gross receipts in 2014: $62 million

APC: Article Processing Charge

- Publication fee paid by author (or institution) to journal

- Vary from $600 (Hindawi) to as much as $4500 (Wiley)

- Numbers of OA publishers support themselves this way (PLOS, BMC, etc.)

- Subscription journals may also charge "page fees" to supplement subscription income (PNAS, etc.)

- APCs are generally considered to offset the lack of subscription funding for open access journals.

Hybrid journals

- Subscription journals that will make an article free- or open-access on payment of additional fees.

- All the major commercial and many society publishers offer this "service". Fees range from $1500 to $4000.

- Accusations of "double-dipping";
  i.e., subscribers pay for content that
  is already funded via author

МОРСКІЯ СИРЕНЫ.

Creative Commons

- Founded 2001
- Lawrence Lessig, Harvard Law School, et al.
- California-chartered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation
- ~$6 million annual budget
- Supported by grants & donations

Open Society Foundations (nee Institute)

- Established & funded by George Soros "to help countries make the transition from communism."

- https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/

- "The Open Society Foundations work to build vibrant and tolerant democracies whose governments are accountable and open to the participation of all people."
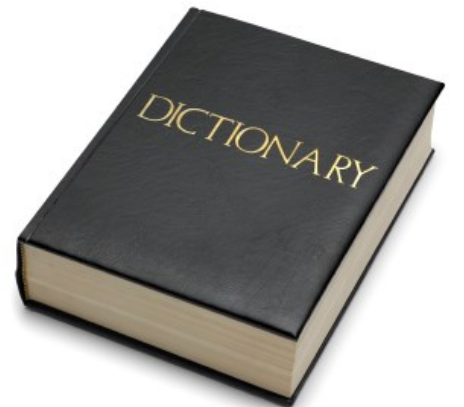
Budapest Open Access Initiative

- February 2002

- Sponsored by Open Society Institute

- 13 attendees included
  Harnad, J-C Guédon,
  Velterop, Eisen, Suber

BOAI definition of open access

- By "open access" to this literature, we (BOAI) mean its free availability 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 ...

Gold OA

- Free open access at point of original publication, either in open-access or hybrid publication.

- Includes re-use licensing, usually CC-BY

- Among advocates, CC-ND, NC, and SA (no derivatives, non-commercial, and share-alike) do not qualify.

- Frequently associated with payment of author processing charges

Green OA

- Free full-text access achieved by (usually secondary) archiving in open institutional or subject repository

- Does not necessarily include re-use licensing to "distribute"

- Seen as 2nd-class or back-of-the-bus OA by some

Platinum OA

- Gold OA without Author Processing Charges (Gold non-APC)

- Free to author; free to user

- Also called "Diamond OA"

- Can it be sustainable?

JISC

- Joint Information Systems Committee (est. 1993) to support higher education digital infrastructure (in the U.K.)

- https://www.jisc.ac.uk/

SHERPA/RoMEO

- University of Nottingham
- Maintains invaluable resource database of publisher archiving policies
- www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php

SPARC

- Scholarly Publishing and Resource Coalition
- Formerly with ARL, but went independent about 2 years ago (or so I believe)
- Heather Joseph, Executive Director
- http://sparcopen.org/
- "Sister" organizations in Europe & Japan
- Promotes paid OA and campus policies/mandates

NIH PubMed Central

- Free full-text archive of NIH-funded peer-reviewed journal articles
- Voluntary deposit 2005—2008
- Deposit required by federal law since 2008
- 103,000 papers author-deposited in 2013
- 3.8 million articles as of Feb. 2016

- Not to be confused with PubMed, which is a citations database
- *Closed during government shutdowns*

DOAJ

- Directory of Open Access Journals
- Founded in 2003
- 7,000+ searchable journals
- 2.2 million articles
- Both APC and non-APC publishers

OASPA

- Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association
- "Trade association" founded in 2008
- Includes commercial, society, & not-for-profit publishers
- Requires peer review and OA licenses
- Includes Wiley, T&F, Springer, SAGE, Macmillan, et al.

COAR

- Confederation of Open Access Repositories

- https://www.coar-repositories.org/

- International umbrella organization

- US members: ARL, bepress, Iowa State, Cornell, SPARC, OCLC, Va Tech, UC-Berkeley Law School

Open Access Policies (Mandates)

- "Harvard model": Institution asserts preemptive stake in faculty publications, allowing permanent exercise of "all rights under copyright" for duration of term (life + 70 yrs)

- Presumptive purpose is to allow deposit in institutional repository, but university rights over content extend much further than that.

- Usually voted by faculty, but sometimes enacted by edict or ukase (last year @ U. California).

Harvard OSC

- Stuart Schieber, Computer Science, Harvard University
- Established 2008 in response to faculty vote to require open access deposit
- Leading proponent of institutional open access "policies" (mandates)

Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions (COAPI)

- US institutions that have passed policies or requirements for open access of faculty publications.

Nebraska will not be joining …

- UN Board of Regents IP Policy:
  "the University <u>encourages</u> all members of the University community to publish their articles, books, and other forms of scholarly communication in order <u>to share openly and fully</u> their findings and knowledge with colleagues and the public."

- "faculty own the copyright to academic, scholarly and educational works resulting from their research, teaching, and writing"

Peter Suber

- Earlham College, Dept. of Philosophy

- Harvard University
  Harvard U. Berkman Center for Internet & Society
  Harvard Open Access Project
  Harvard Office of Scholarly Communication

- http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/~psuber/wiki/Peter_Suber

Steven Harnad

- Université du Québec à Montréal & University of Southampton (UK)
- Cognitive scientist & OA advocate
- Active proponent of mandated immediate IR deposit and Green open access.
- Opposes paid open access.
- Archivangelist blog: http://openaccess.eprints.org/

Jeffrey Beall

- Auraria Library, University of Colorado, Denver
- "Critical analysis of scholarly open-access publishing"
- Beall's List: https://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/
- Warnings about predatory OA publishers

Aaron Swarz   (1986–2013)

- RSS 1.0 (2000), RDF/XML (2001), web.py (2005)

- Open Library (2006), Tor2web (2008)

- PACER (Public Access to Court Electronic Records, 2008)

- anti-SOPA (2012)

- Fellow at Harvard U. Berkman Center for Internet & Society. Arrested for mass-downloading from JSTOR at MIT with authorized guest user account. Faced federal charges on 13 counts wire fraud & computer fraud; possible 50 years in prison & $1 million in fines. Rejected plea deal; committed suicide.

Erin McKiernan

- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (PhD Univ. of Arizona)
- Biology researcher (Drosophila)
- Impassioned advocate for OA among junior researchers
- Pledge to only publish in OA venues
- 🐦 @emckiernan13

Richard Poynder

- Independent journalist (England)

- Moderator of Global Open Access List (GOAL)
  http://mailman.ecs.soton.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/goal

- Open and Shut: http://poynder.blogspot.com/

- View: *OA movement suffers from disorganization and has fallen under influence of commercial publishers who use it for their own ends.*

Sci-Hub

- Alexandria Elbakyan, 2011

- 48 million articles

- Sued by Elsevier in 2015

- Operating outside US jurisdiction

#icanhazpdf

- twitter hashtag to request copy of paywalled article.

- Request for one-to-one sharing

- Probably legal

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CHEEZBURGER?

Visions of the future

- "Flipping" the system from "Back End Paid Access" to "Front End Paid Access"
- Various funding models

Alternate future

- National & institutional "deals"

2 Deal Breakers emerge

1. Publishers' viability (income) must be preserved.

2. Publishing consultants' viability (income) must be preserved.
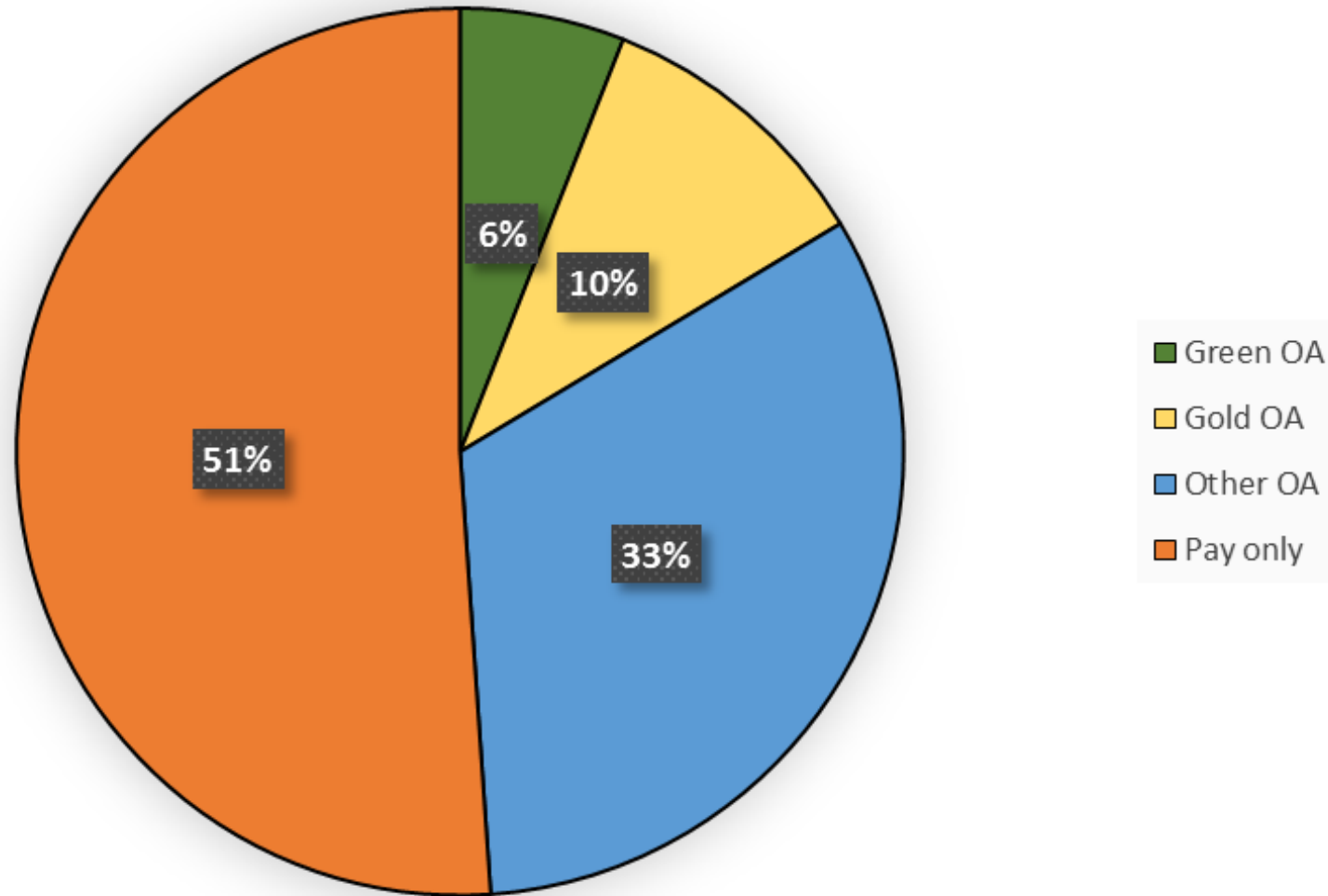
Craft publishing models

- De-centralized grass-roots publishing efforts

- Locally defined and guided

- Reflect the craftperson's taste and art

- Modest but widespread

- Not tied to single IP or business model

- Within the Academy; in library or elsewhere

Whither OA?

Peer-reviewed papers 2008-2013

- 6% Green OA
- 10% Gold OA
- 33% Other OA
- 51% Pay only

Legend:
- Green OA
- Gold OA
- Other OA
- Pay only

Goodbye