Open Access and the Future of Publishing

Dr Lauren Cadwallader
Office of Scholarly Communication, Cambridge University Library
lc340@cam.ac.uk
Open access publishing today

82 funders with Open Access policies
For this academic year the University of Cambridge has been awarded £2.6 million. That’s the equivalent of 69 postdoc salaries for 1 year.
The real cost of open access?

We spend this on:

**Fully open access journals**

e.g.
BMC Neurology £1370
PLOS Medicine $2900
Nature Communications £3150
PeerJ $1095
eLife (from 1st Jan 2017) $2500

https://elifesciences.org/elife-news/inside-elife-what-it-costs-publish
We spend this on:

**Hybrid journals**

e.g.
The Lancet (Elsevier) $5000
Hippocampus (Wiley) $4100
Neuroimage: Clinical (Elsevier) $1500
Cell (Cell Press) $5000

About 75% of the APCs we pay are for hybrid journals

£1.95 million

**In addition** the University spends

£4.8 million/year

subscribing to hybrid journals.
But I have to publish in journals with high impact factors!
There are a whole host of problems with the JIF.

- Not fit for purpose
- Some disciplines badly represented
- Not transparent
- North American bias
- English language bias
- Measures the vessel not the contents
- It can be gamed....

This has being recognised...
Problems with the JIF

Hate journal impact factors? New study gives you one more reason

By John Bohannon | Jul. 6, 2016. 4:30 PM

Citation lists are key to calculating journal impact factors.

Scientists have a love-hate relationship with the journal impact factor. It is used to rank technical journals by prestige. They hate it for judging where to submit research papers, but for judging the quality of research papers it is widely used. The idea is that papers published in more prestigious journals are of higher quality.

But the journal impact factor has never fully explained why a particular article was published in a particular journal. A new study from PLoS Medicine reveals that a journal's editorial practices matter more than its impact factor.
But your PI might not agree...
Publish all your research openly and ethically.
Alternative publishing options

- arXiv.org
- SocArXiv: open archive of the social sciences
- Cogprints
- bioRxiv: THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY
- PeerJ Preprints - rapid communication & early findings


Kiessling LL, Fernandez LE, Alvisatos AP, Weiss PS.

PMID: 27776406 DOI: 10.1021/acsnano.6b07008

Wellcome Open Research
A new way for Wellcome-funded researchers to rapidly publish any results they think are worth sharing.
OSC

RIO Journal

Publishes all outputs of the research cycle, including: project proposals, data, methods, workflows, software, project reports and research articles together on a single collaborative platform, with the most transparent, open and public peer-review process.

http://riojournal.com/
The data tell the story! Standard data, orphan data, negative data, confirmatory data and contradictory data are all published. What emerges is an honest view of the science that is done, rather than just the science that sells a story.

https://www.sciencematters.io/
F1000Research uses an author-led process, publishing all scientific research within a few days. Open, invited peer review of articles is conducted after publication, focusing on scientific soundness rather than novelty or impact. [https://f1000research.com/]
PLOS ONE new collection to highlight studies that present inconclusive, null findings or demonstrate failed replications of other published work. 
I hereby pledge allegiance to OA

Erin McKiernan, National Autonomous University of Mexico

I am a researcher working primarily in experimental and theoretical neuroscience and cellular biophysics. I like excitable cells, especially ones that burst. Sometimes I poke small animals with electrodes, other times I model neural activity. I also teach math and science. I blog about neuroscience, open access, open science, and women in science.

I pledge to:

- edit and review only for open access journals
- publish only in open access journals
- openly share my working manuscripts
- openly share my code, when possible
- openly share my data, when possible
- openly share my notebooks, when possible
- ask my professional societies to support open research
- speak out in support of open research

OpenCon 2016
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Register here:
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The power is in your hands to change the system.