

Scholarly Communication & Open Access

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AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library



What is Scholarly Communication?

The ability to produce, distribute, provide access and preserve scholarly output within the academic community.

What is Open Access?

The ability to distribute
and access scholarly
research without
restriction.

Why is So Much Attention Given to Open Access & Scholarly Communication?

- Costs are rising to acquire scholarly research produced by our faculties.
- Declining budgets and increased journal costs hamper the ability to acquire research created by faculty.
- Improved technologies exist to produce, distribute, access and preserve scholarly research at a sustainable level.

Factors affecting an author's ability to distribute research ...

- Publishing contracts
- Copyright / Fair use
- Technology

What are Alternatives to the Traditional Model?

- Open access – The ability to distribute and access scholarly research without restriction.
- Alternative publishing & licensing agreements – Creative Commons licenses and author addenda
- Online open archives – Institutional repositories (IR) contain scholarly research of academic institutions including online journals, monographs, theses and dissertations

How Do We Benefit from Open Access?

- Increases exposure and access to research activities of institution
- Research suggests that OA publishing
 - May positively influence journal and article impact factors
 - May positively influence immediacy index factors
- Creates a model for sustainable publishing of peer-review journals

Resources on Open Access

■ Journal Articles

- [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)
- [Highwire Press](#)
- [PubMed Central](#)
- [The Free Library](#)

■ Theses & Dissertations

- [NDLTD \(Networked Digital Library of Theses & Dissertations\)](#)
- [IUPUI ScholarWorks](#)
- [OhioLink ETD Center](#)
- [Canada Theses Portal](#)

■ Books & Government Documents

- [Google Books](#)
- [FDsys](#)
- [Internet Archive](#)
- [GPO Access](#)

■ Other

- [All Academic](#)
- [Defense Technical Information Center](#)
- [OpenDOAR](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. If I publish in an open access journal or repository doesn't that mean the article won't be peer reviewed?
 - Articles published in open access journals can have the same review process as those published in more traditional journal models.
2. If I publish an article in a journal can I also post that article to a repository?
 - You may be able to post to a repository if you have retained the rights to redistribute / republish your work
3. . What are my rights as an author?
 - Your rights as an author are important. The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition ([SPARC](#)) has information to help authors understand their rights.
4. What are the benefits of using an open access publisher?
 - Research is freely available for distribution and openly accessible.
5. What is the Library &/or AUC doing about open access?
 - The Library Advisory Committee has undertaken open access as an agenda item for discussion with AUC faculties.
 - The Library has formed a working group on scholarly communication & open access.

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