

# Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

## A discussion with ASERL Libraries



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES



- Introductions
- Remarks from John Burger, ASERL Executive Director
- Overview of the DOAJ Service by Lars Bjørnshauge, DOAJ General Manager and Founder
- General Discussion Facilitated by John Dove, DOAJ Ambassador



Overview of the service

Prepared for the ASERL webinar March 9th 2021

by Lars Bjørnshauge, DOAJ Managing Director and Founder

# What is the DOAJ?

- DOAJ is a list of peer-reviewed open access journals covering all disciplines and more than 50 languages. Journals are listed after a detailed evaluation based on the application from journals/publishers.
- All services (including evaluation) & metadata are free to use and reuse.
- Serves as a reference point for good open access journals.
- 700 applications received per month (up 25% from 2019).
- Rejection rate: 50%.
- 16,020 journals listed.
- Article metadata for 12,000 journals & 5,750,000 metadata records.
- Data harvested and downloaded with an API and integrated into all major discovery and indexing databases.

# Mission & History

- To increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation, usage and impact of quality, peer-reviewed, open access scholarly research journals
  - globally, regardless of discipline, geography or language.
- We want to help journals and publishers to do a better job; we are not in the business of stigmatizing journals.
- Launched 2003 by Lund University Libraries, Sweden.
- Re-launched Jan 2013 by Infrastructure Services for Open Access (IS4OA – a non-profit registered in the UK) based on an agreement with Lund.
- Community curated services: 18 core DOAJ staff, 15 DOAJ ambassadors and 120 voluntary editorial staff who review applications.

# Stakeholder benefits

- **Search service:** for good open access journals = avoids use of unethical or questionable journals
- **Infrastructure service:** Find proper publishing channels that comply with funder policies and mandates
- **Reference point:** for research funders and others providing grants to check whether publications are published in good open access journals, and an increasing number of research funders are referring to DOAJ in their lists of accredited publishing channels
- **Metadata integration:** DOAJ metadata cascaded into the major discovery services to increase visibility and impact of the open access journals across disciplines, languages and continents

# Funding

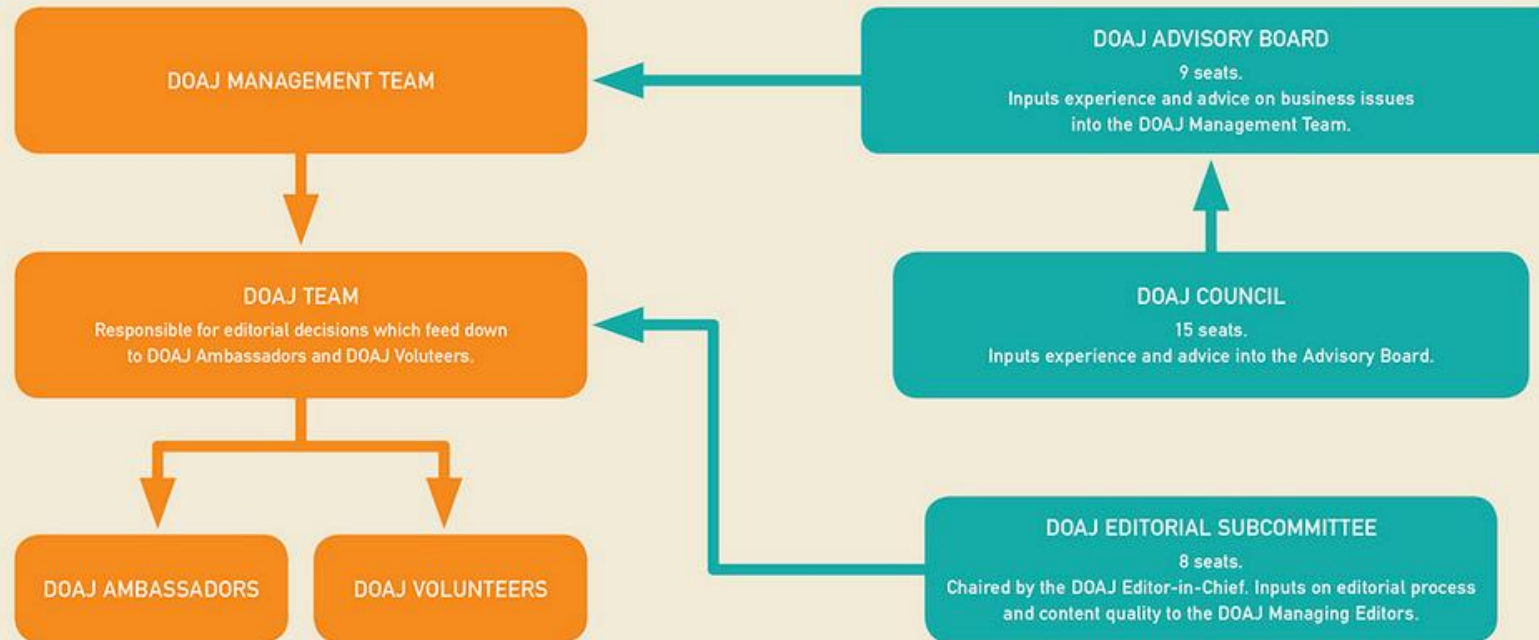
- DOAJ is independent and entirely dependent on funding from the community
  - Universities, university libraries and library consortia can support DOAJ with a yearly contribution or a three year commitment, significant discounts for institutions signing up via a consortium
  - Smaller publishers can as well support DOAJ via a yearly membership fee
  - Larger publishers and aggregators can contribute based on a three tier benefit model

# Funding

- 600 University libraries from 36 countries
  - 17 Library Consortia from 13 Countries
  - 10 Research Funders/Academies of Science
  - 30+ smaller publishers
  - 25+ larger publishers and aggregators
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- 80% of income from the community
  - 20% of income from publishers

# Governance

## DOAJ GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE





# How we work with Consortia

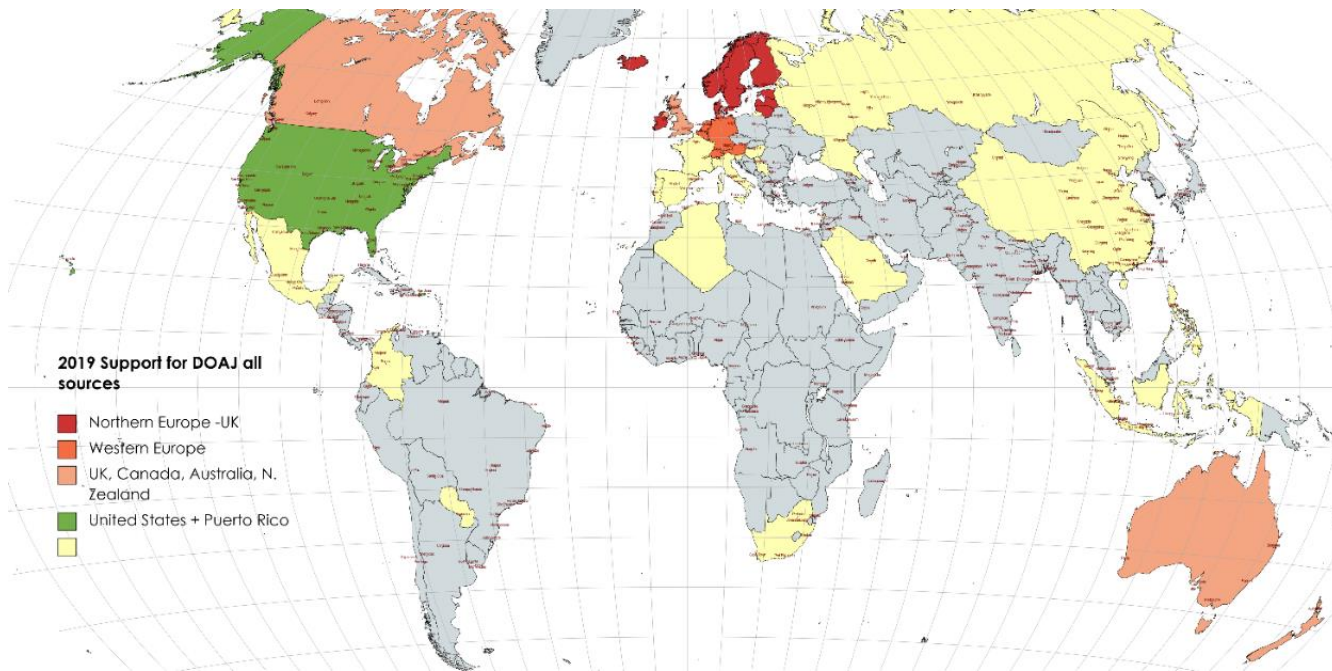
- We try to keep things simple:
  - No written agreements – all services DOAJ provide are, after all, free for all, no charges
  - A sheet from the consortium listing the take-up is all we need to produce the single invoice
  - That's it!
- Pricing same world-wide, payable in these currencies
  - Euros
  - British Pounds
  - Dollars

# **CONSORTIA IN THE U.S. AND CANADA GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**John G. Dove, DOAJ Ambassador**

# DOAJ's Consortial Agreements in the U.S. and Canada

- Orbis Cascade (Washington and Oregon) 2008
- OCUL (Ontario) 2016
- VIVA (Virginia) 2016
- California Digital Library 2019
- Canadian Research Knowledge Network(CRKN) 2019
- Colorado Alliance for Research Libraries 2020
- Great Western Library Alliance (GWLA) 2020
- Big Ten Library Alliance 2020
- Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) 2020
- To be announced soon:
  - Amigos Library Services
  - Partnership for Academic Library Collaboration & Innovation (PALCI)

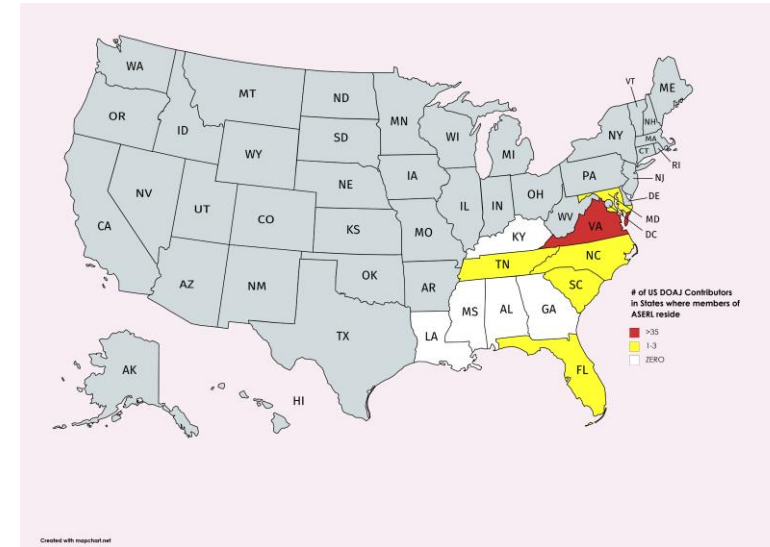
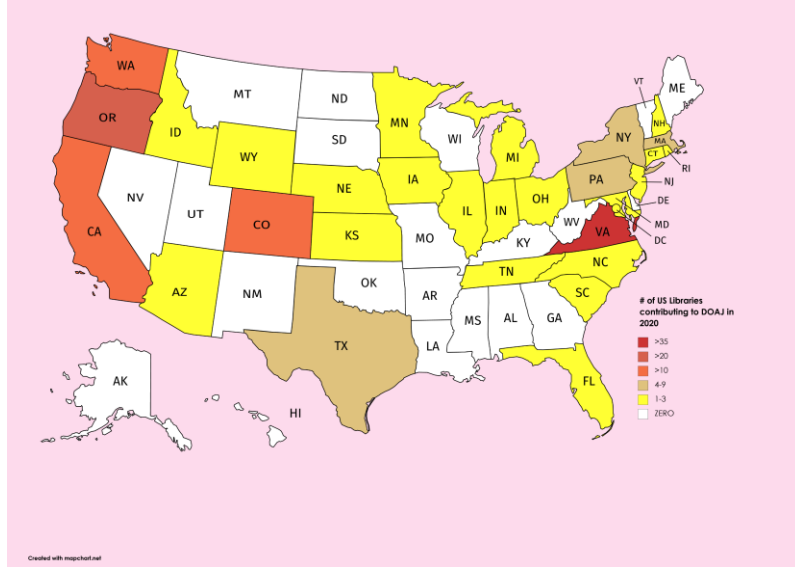


2019 Support for DOAJ from all sources:

- Yes, the U.S. provides more support to DOAJ than any other country.
- But when measured by per capita support, Canada, Australia, Western Europe contribute 2 to 7 times as much as the US.
  - And proportional to GDP, the US is out-contributed by 3 to 8 times by other research-intensive areas of the world

Region from UN Statistical Commission	2019 Funding of DOAJ	Population (2020 Estimates)	GDP [Nominal--IMF Wide GDP]	% of World GDP	Per Capita DOAJ funding proportional to US's	DOAJ Funding per \$million GDP proportional to US's
USA	126,831	333,721,226	20,681,354	22%	1.0	1.0
Western Europe	122,449	130,432,364	6,652,234	8%	2.5	3.0
Northern Europe - UK	103,736	38,437,521	2,149,991	3%	7.1	7.9
UK	43,500	66,796,807	2,855,297	3%	1.7	2.5
Canada	35,611	38,218,882	1,712,562	2%	2.5	3.4
Australia and New Zealand	30,222	25,685,662	1,453,871	2%	3.1	3.4





## Support across the US is uneven.

At the beginning of 2020:

- 22 States had ZERO supporters
- Another 15 had only 1
- Then in June the Colorado Alliance did an “opt-in” plan and >93% of them signed up as DOAJ Supporters

**Zero is the wrong number.**

## The example of VIVA

- 57% percent support DOAJ
- 86% of their R1/R2s support DOAJ
- 2/3's of those at a Sustaining level
- 100% of their Oberlin Group libraries are basic supporters
- 27% of their Community Colleges are DOAJ supporters

## What Can ASERL members do?

- Support DOAJ through ASERL
- Encourage other libraries in your states to support DOAJ through State-oriented consortia like VIVA, FALSC, TennShare, etc.
- Introduce DOAJ's Ambassador to consortia in your state.

# Your support matters

**The future of Open Science,**

**\*though promising**

**\*is not certain!**

In recent years, as Open Access and Open Science have gained momentum, a vital infrastructure of non-commercial services supporting and enabling OA and OS has evolved. But many of these services we've come to rely on are not financially stable.

**If we are to continue moving toward a future of science and research that is truly open, this infrastructure must be secured. And we need your help securing it.”**

[\[https://scoss.org/help-sustain-open-infra/\]](https://scoss.org/help-sustain-open-infra/)

# Summing up

- Did you learn all you needed to know from this presentation?
- Any feedback on how we structured this Overview?
- Thank you for your attention.
  
- Follow-up:
  - Questions to ASERL: John Burger, [jburger@aserl.org](mailto:jburger@aserl.org)
  - Questions or input to DOAJ strategy and direction: Lars Bjørnshauge, [lars@doaj.org](mailto:lars@doaj.org)
  - Questions or suggestions about DOAJ's consortial strategies and opportunities: John Dove, [dove@doaj.org](mailto:dove@doaj.org)



Thank you for your attention

And for your past and future support to  
DOAJ

# 2021 Consortial Pricing in US \$\$

<b>Sustaining /Basic</b>	<b>Annual or 3-year up-front</b>	<b>Price 2021</b>
Sustaining	Annual	2,730
Sustaining	3-year up-front	6,962
Basic	Annual	683
Basic	3-year up-front	1,740

Note: These are consortial rates. These prices are all 30% discounted from List Prices.