



ASERL Open Access Survey — Fall 2012 Summary of Results

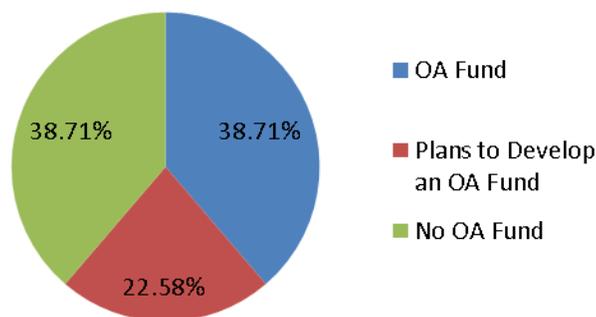
In the fall of 2012, ASERL surveyed its members to determine the level and variety of engagement in open access activities at their campuses; thirty-one members responded. The survey results demonstrate that ASERL members are active participants in open access publishing and archiving, funding, and advocacy. A directory of activities is available on the ASERL website -- <http://www.aserl.org/programs/scholcomm/>

Open Access Publishing and Archiving

In their responses, members indicated a high-level of participation in open access publishing and archiving. Most respondents indicated that they were either currently involved in some form of open access publishing or had plans to do so in the near future. Eighteen libraries currently engage in publication of open access journals, and six libraries have published open access monographs. These publications are hosted through one or more of several platforms, including the Open Journal System, bepress Digital Commons, and locally developed platforms. Additionally, seven libraries indicated that they also host open access databases. Members are even more involved in the publication of faculty works (24) and student theses and dissertations (29) through institutional repositories or other local archival hosting. Members also reported archiving in open access repositories of technical reports, conference presentations, data sets, and video and audio from campus events.

Open Access Funding

Slightly more than 1/3 of the ASERL members responding to the survey indicated that they currently support, through funding, open access publishing by faculty and students. Half of those with open access funds support publication in hybrid open access journal. The number of ASERL members with open access funds is poised to increase with seven indicating plans to launch a fund.

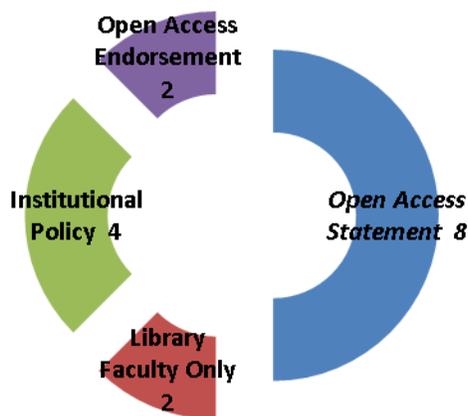


Open Access Advocacy

Survey respondents indicated a wide range of open access advocacy initiatives and activities ongoing at their campuses. Most members (26) indicated that they currently add open access titles to their catalog or search utility; ten members indicated that there are members or otherwise direct supporters of the Directory of Open Access Journals. Additionally, half the

libraries responding include scholarly communications or open access advocacy as part of the roles and responsibilities of their liaison/reference librarians, while eighteen members have a scholarly communications officer or similar professional dedicated to such activities.

Support of open access publication is also evident on an institutional level at several ASERL Libraries. Eight members indicated formal adoption of an open access statement. At four institutions, this open access statement takes the form of a policy applying to all university faculty; at two institutions, the open access policy only applies to library faculty, and the remaining two adopted a formal endorsement of open access as opposed to an institutional mandate.



On a more global scale, seven respondents reported that their institutions had taken steps to become signatories to the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. This is significant given that, to date, only twenty-six U.S. institutions of higher education have signed the Berlin Declaration.

A review of the survey responses reveals a high percentage of participation in the annual Open Access Week celebrated in October each year. Twenty-three respondents reported hosting activities to commemorate the event, including guest speakers, panel presentations, workshops on copyright and open access publishing, and distribution of promotional materials such as banners, bookmarks, and other campus décor. Other notable scholarly communications activities reported by survey respondents include distribution of Peter Suber's Open Access book to new faculty, institutional memberships with open access publishers such as BioMedCentral, and creation of scholarly communications committees at both the library and university levels.