

# Introduction to Open Access

*ASERL Summertime Summit Preconference, July 30*

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Open Access:

What is it?

Where did it come from?

How is it being achieved?

# What do we mean by open?

Open to contribution & participation

Open & free to access

Open to use & reuse with few or no restrictions

Open to indexing & machine readable

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**Open access literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.**

**- Peter Suber**



# Gratis vs. Libre

- **Gratis:** You can read it for free. Anything else, you better ask permission.
- **Libre:** With credit given, OK to text-mine, re-catalog, mirror for preservation, quote, remix, whatever.
- Most OA is gratis. You get to “libre” via Creative Commons licensing, usually.



# Open Access Publishing (aka, Gold OA)

- Publication that is free & open for anyone to access on internet
  - Journals & books!
  - 9972 OA journals according to Directory of Open Access Journals (as of July 24, 2013)
    - Journals across all disciplines
    - Share common features with toll access journals
  - Supported by variety of models
    - Institution / funder supported *or* author-supported
  - Generally allow authors to retain copyright or license under Creative Commons
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# Issues & Questions

- Has taken time for impact factors & reputation to build
  - Misconception that all OA publications levy fees to publish
  - Misconception that authors are paying out-of-pocket when fees are charged
  - Author pays model has better traction in the STM community
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# Open Archiving/Repositories (aka, Green OA)

- Literature published through traditional channels that is made openly available through deposit in a repository or placing on web site
  - Institutional, departmental, or discipline based repository
  - Supported by a range of business models
  - Range of publisher policies on deposit
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# Issues & Questions

- Sustainability sometimes an issue
  - Participation of faculty (particularly for institutional)
    - Discipline based repositories often rooted in cultures used to sharing
  - Often include a range of material including student work, grey literature, theses and dissertations, etc.
  - For published literature, what can be deposited confusing (preprint, postprint, published version?)
  - Copyright issues murky and (often) frustrating
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# Hybrid models

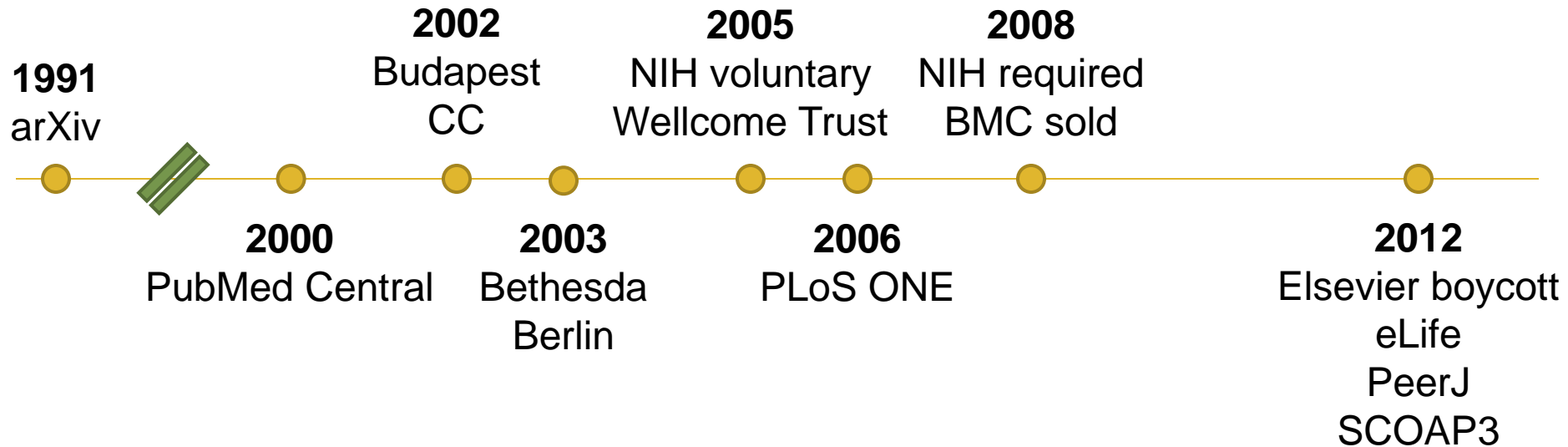
- Article-level optional OA in traditional journals
  - Fees always charged
  - Fees typically higher than in full OA publications (routinely upwards of \$3000)
  - Starting to see hybrid models in book publication
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# Issues & Questions

- Mixed business model – subscriptions and author pays on an article by article basis – uncomfortable for many
  - Relatively low adoption (generally around 1-2%)
  - What impact on subscription prices?
  - Many libraries with funds for faculty to publish in OA journals will not fund these articles
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# Select highlights of OA history



# Public Access

- Generally refers to access required by a funder
    - Especially government funding, for which accountability to taxpayers is sought.
  - Private funders
  - UK Research Councils
  - National Institutes of Health
    - Public access deposit required in 2008
      - PubMed Central
      - Compliance rate jumped
      - In 2013, enforcement became more strict
        - Compliance rising again
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# New efforts on Public Access

- White House directive
    - 20+ federal agencies working on plans for requiring public access.
      - CHORUS v. SHARE (and PMC!)
  - FASTR Act in Congress
    - Fair Access to Science & Technology Research
      - (Successor of FRPAA)
    - Public access has become a bipartisan “bandwagon” in Congress
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# Institutional support -- Libraries

- Help with NIH deposit process
  - Advise about © and publication issues
    - Authors' rights addenda
  - COPE (Compact for Open-Access Publishing Equity)
    - Helps authors pay Gold OA fees
    - Debate about hybrid fees
    - Purpose is to even the incentives
    - Often shared funding
  - Memberships in OA journals, PeerJ
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# Library support -- Repositories

- Many publishers allow Green OA for final author's manuscript.
    - Increases visibility, impact.
    - Likely that these repositories will be increasingly important
      - Many be used for WH Directive compliance plans
        - SHARE
  - Often part of a broader digital collections program
    - ETDs
    - Special Collections materials
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# Institutional support for OA

- Multiple offices may provide COPE funds
  - Advocacy efforts
    - Provost's & President's letter re. public access
    - Support for organizations like ARL, AAU APLGU
  - Institutional Open Access policies
    - Usually must arise from the faculty
    - Opt-In v. Opt-Out
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# Institutional OA Policy (Opt-out)

- Creates license to institution for repository deposit
  - License exists immediately, prior to any transfer of copyright
    - Law review analysis of Harvard policy by Eric Priest
  - Normal implementation in accordance with publisher policies
  - Waiver option is normal part of policy
    - Waiveable but irrevocable
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# Attribution

## Sources:

- ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit: <http://scholcomm.acrl.ala.org/>
- Open Access Directory: [http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main\\_Page](http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main_Page)
- Suber, Peter. (2012). *Open Access*. MIT Press. Available in paper or OA ebook at <http://mitpress.mit.edu/books/open-access>

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