

The Royal Society of Biology Research Dissemination Committee  
**Research Communication Newsletter**

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## Publication policy and debate

### [Turning DORA theory into practice](#)

#### [In the era of Brexit and fake news, scientists need to embrace social media](#)

Social media can be an intimidating place for academics as not all of them take to it like ducks to water. For many newcomers, a more appropriate analogy is a newborn giraffe - clumsy, awkward and vulnerable to prey.

#### [When to trust \(and not to trust\) peer reviewed science](#)

The words “published in a peer reviewed journal” are sometimes considered as the gold standard in science. But any professional scientist will tell you that the fact an article has undergone peer review is a long way from an ironclad guarantee of quality.

#### [Peer review has some problems – but the science community is working on it](#)

Peer review is the central foundation of science. It's a process where scientific results are vetted by academic peers, with publication in a reputable journal qualifying the merits of the work and informing readers of the latest scientific discoveries.

#### [Peer review ‘works against’ early career researchers](#)

Australian group asks whether costs of ‘gold standard’ assessment are always warranted.

#### [Given frustrations with academic structures, how can we build a more human-centered open science?](#)

Open science has finally hit the mainstream. Alex Lancaster looks at the emerging criticisms leveled against how we publish and disseminate science and argues it may be time to reframe the open science project.

#### [The preprint dilemma: good for science, bad for the public? A discussion paper for the scientific community](#)

## [Despite the Non-Profit Push for Gold Open Access, Publishers' Transition to Open Science Involves Reservations](#)

Vested interests and insufficient sustainability may slow the international progress toward Gold Open Access, as a standard for the publication of scientific articles, despite philanthropic funding, even though in the European Union policy-based mandates may effect a wide-ranging switch from subscription-based models to Open Access and Open Science.

## [Open Access Translates into Revenue Streams, As Scholarly Associations and Funders Enter into Framework Agreements](#)

### [A Global Transition to Open Access May Be Staleated by Standoffs between Publishers and University Libraries](#)

On the background of Springer Nature's stalled stock market launch, global journal publishers, such as Elsevier, could be digging in their heels in their negotiations with university associations over periodical subscription deals, as revenues and profit growth rates sag, while arguably slowing the expansion of the Open Access sector.

### [Dutch publishing giant cuts off researchers in Germany and Sweden](#)

Negotiations with Elsevier have stalled over open-access deals.

### [Elsevier are corrupting open science in Europe](#)

Elsevier - one of the largest and most notorious scholarly publishers - are monitoring Open Science in the EU on behalf of the European Commission. Jon Tennant argues that they cannot be trusted.

### [New Springer Nature report shows value of hybrid journals to research community and beyond](#)

A report from Springer Nature shows that OA articles published in hybrid journals attract more downloads, citations, and attention compared with non-OA articles in hybrid journals.

### [A variety of strategies and funding approaches are required to accelerate the transition to open access. But in all, authors are key](#)

More than two decades of work towards liberating scholarly publishing from paywalled constraints has left many within the scholarly community exploring ways to accelerate the transition to open access.

## Open data

### [Thread by @kaitlynmwerner: "So, a few months ago I submitted my first paper with open data. A couple of weeks ago, the paper got rejected because of the data I shared. \[...\]"](#)

So, a few months ago I submitted my first paper with open data. A couple of weeks ago, the paper got rejected because of the data I shared. Let me tell you, this experience has been quite a rollercoaster ride. Thread

### [Country Engagement Reaches New High](#)

The goal of the Open Data Inventory (ODIN) is to help countries improve the coverage and openness of official statistics.

# International publishing

## [New data red tape could hamper international research](#)

# Metrics

## [Using Twitter to measure research impact 'needs quality control'](#)

Large-scale study raises questions about the usefulness of altmetrics for assessing research quality.

## [Has the tide turned towards responsible metrics in research?](#)

A new report takes stock of how metrics are being used and abused in research management across UK universities.

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