

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

October 2018

### Publication policy and debate

#### [The European Union Promotes Open Access Amid Concerns Over Publishing Industry and International Policy Implications](#)

As the European Commission seeks to obtain broad international support for its Plan S, such as in the United States, publishers may be significantly affected by the elimination of Open Access embargo periods on which Green and hybrid Open Access models critically depend for economic sustainability.

#### [Plan S\[how me the money\]: why academic-led initiatives represent a more equitable, less costly publishing future](#)

Plan S, announced last month, represents an exciting example of the scholarly community mobilising to create funding requirements that could lead to an open access future. However, the plan has also raised a number of legitimate concerns, not least the absence of any incentive for publishers to lower journal costs.

#### [Journal editors share their views on the future of open-access publishing](#)

As Open Access Week kicks off, Physics World talks to editorial board members of IOP Publishing's open-access journals about their views on the future direction of open-access publishing.

#### [Do authors comply when funders enforce open access to research?](#)

The first large-scale analysis of compliance with open-access rules reveals that up to one-third of articles are not free to read, report Vincent Larivière and Cassidy R. Sugimoto.

#### [As the United Kingdom Embraces Open Science, its Academic Network Signs an Agreement to Boost Open Access Journals](#)

In the framework of the agreement between Jisc and De Gruyter, research universities and institutes of the United Kingdom (UK) will be receiving access to De Gruyter journals, while transitioning their article publishing processes to Open Access.

#### [Open Access: A Look Back](#)

### [ScholarLed collaboration: a powerful engine to grow open access publishing](#)

The rise of open access publishing has created an opportunity for the scholarly community to have greater influence over how the research it produces is disseminated, by enabling the growth of a diverse group of publishers beyond the handful of large, powerful, commercial players currently dominating the academic landscape.

### [You can find a wealth of Open Access links and materials via Twitter using the #OAWeek18 hashtag](#)

### [First analysis of 'pre-registered' studies shows sharp rise in null findings](#)

Logging hypotheses and protocols before performing research seems to work as intended: to reduce publication bias for positive results.

### [Publishing peer review materials](#)

Publishing peer review materials alongside research articles promises to make the peer review process more transparent as well as making it easier to recognise these contributions and give credit to peer reviewers.

### [Credit for Peer Review: What is it Worth?](#)

## International publishing

### [Architect of bold European open-access plan heads to Washington to garner US support](#)

Robert-Jan Smits takes Plan S to the White House to seek support from US funders and policymakers.

### [Finland joins Europe's bold open-access push](#)

Finnish national funder is the first to join Plan S, which aims to make all scientific works free to read on publication, since its launch.

### [China awaits controversial blacklist of 'poor quality' journals](#)

But some researchers say the policy won't succeed in improving research quality.

## Metrics

### [Could it all be much ado about nothing? A tragicomic perspective on research impact](#)

The contemporary drive to understand exactly how academic research has had an impact on society represents a major undertaking, with significant resources being expended. However, researchers acknowledge there may be occasions where no amount of time, effort, or funds will identify the impact arising from certain research.

## Copyright and licencing

### [Major publishers sue ResearchGate over copyright infringement](#)

Elsevier and the American Chemical Society say that the academic-networking website violates US copyright law.

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