Glossary of Scholarly Communications Terms

Altmetrics

Altmetrics – also known as cybermetrics or webometrics – are non-traditional metrics that are proposed as an alternative to traditional citation impact metrics. Altmetrics.org, the organization leading the Altmetrics movement, proposes to create new metrics that includes social web activity, such as:

- Usage, based on the number of downloads
- Peer-review – when a scholar is considered to have be an expert
- Citations – using traditional methodologies
- Alt-metrics – analyzing links, bookmarks and conversations

APC

Article Processing Charge. A fee paid by authors to subsidize the processing and publishing costs for open access journals.

Big Deal

First initiated by Academic Press in 1996, the Big Deal is a structure in which a commercial scholarly publisher sells their content as a large bundle, as opposed to individual journals. A single Big Deal can include hundreds of titles and can cost up to several million dollars per license. When first created, this structure was seen as a solution to the serials crisis, when the prices of institutional subscriptions were rising so quickly that the institutional subscribers could not afford them, and in response cancelled their subscriptions. Today, the Big Deal is declining in popularity due to the fact that purchasing large blocks of content reduces budget flexibility for the institution, absorbing a disproportionately large percentage of the total library budget, and crowding out other purchases such as monographs.

BOAI

The Budapest Open Access Initiative (http://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/) first defined Open Access in 2002. Funding to support the BOAI is provided by the Open Society Foundations (http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/).

INSTITUTIONAL MOBILIZATION TOOLKIT

What Can I Do?
- Be aware that the increasing cost of journals is outpacing the increase of library budgets, putting pressure on your library to do more with less.

- Be open to a conversation with your librarian about your scholarly content needs in terms of your research and teaching, in an environment where tough content retention decisions may have to be made.

What Are Libraries Doing?
- Working through consortia to leverage greater purchasing power.

Tools:
- Introduction
- Evolution of Journal Pricing
- Canadian Economic Environment
- Innovation in Scholarly Communication
- Sustainability Challenges
- Understanding Scholarly Metrics
- **Glossary of Scholarly Communication Terms**
- Selected Bibliography

Learn More:
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COAR

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (https://www.coar-repositories.org/) is a global network of open access repositories.

Creative Commons

Creative Commons (https://creativecommons.org/) develops, supports, and stewards legal and technical infrastructure that maximizes digital creativity, sharing, and innovation. A Creative Commons (CC) license is one of several public copyright licenses that enable the free distribution of an otherwise copyrighted work. A CC license is used when an author wants to give people the right to share, use, and build upon a work that they have created.

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DOAJ
The Directory of Open Access Journals (https://doaj.org/) is an online directory that indexes and provides access to high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals.

HathiTrust
HathiTrust is a large-scale collaborative repository of digital content from an international community of research libraries including content digitized via the Google Books project and Internet Archive digitization initiatives, as well as content digitized locally by libraries. Through their common efforts and deep commitment to the public good, the libraries support the teaching and learning activities of the faculty, students or researchers at their home institutions, and the scholarly needs of the broader public as well. McGill University is the sole Canadian partner.

Hybrid Open Access Journals
A hybrid open access journal is an subscription journal in which some of the articles are open access. This status typically requires the payment of a publication fee (also called an article processing charge or APC) to the publisher.

Elsevier
The world's largest commercial STEM publisher.

Érudit Partnership
The Érudit Partnership is the largest disseminator of French-language resources in North America. Through its research platform, Érudit offers a centralized access to the majority of francophone publications in the social sciences and humanities from North America, including scholarly and cultural journals, books, conference proceedings, theses and dissertations, as well as various research documents and data. Érudit supports researcher-driven initiatives in the creation of news tools for the development of the Digital Humanities, whether for data mining or for exploitation of research results.

Green and Gold OA
Green and Gold OA are the two primary vehicles for disseminating scholarly research through open access. Open Access journals (Gold OA) conduct peer review, while Open Access repositories (Green OA) do not. For more detailed information, see Peter Suber's Open Access Overview at http://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm.

Hague Declaration

The Hague Declaration (http://thehaguedeclaration.com/) aims to foster agreement about how to best enable access to facts, data and ideas for knowledge discovery in the Digital Age. By removing barriers to accessing and analyzing the wealth of data produced by society, we can find answers to great challenges such as climate change, depleting natural resources and globalization.

Impact Factor

The impact factor is a measure of the average number of citations made to articles within an academic journal, over the course of a year. Impact factor is used to understand the level of significance and impact an academic journal has within its field of research; journals with high impact factors – where there are a high average number of citations – is considered to have greater impact and importance in that field of study.

Institutional Repository

An institutional repository (IR) is an online archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution such as a university. Some of the main objectives for having an institutional repository are to provide open access to institutional research output by self-archiving it, to create global visibility for an institution's scholarly research, and to store and preserve other institutional digital assets, including unpublished or otherwise easily lost ("grey") literature such as theses or technical reports.

International Open Access Week

Open Access Week (http://www.openaccessweek.org/), a global event since 2007, is an opportunity for the academic and research community to continue to learn about the potential benefits of Open Access, to share what they've learned with colleagues, and to help inspire wider participation in helping to make Open Access a new norm in scholarship and research.

Jisc

Jisc (https://www.jisc.ac.uk/) – formerly the Joint Information Systems Committee, and still commonly referred to as JISC – is a United Kingdom non-departmental public body whose role is to support post-16 and higher education, and research, by providing leadership in the use of information and communications technology (ICT) in learning, teaching, research and administration. It is funded by all the UK post-16 and higher education funding councils.

Knowledge Unlatched

Knowledge Unlatched (http://www.knowledgeunlatched.org/) is committed to creating a positive change in scholarly communication landscapes by helping libraries to share the costs of publishing high quality specialist scholarly books and making them available in Open Access. By working together libraries and publishers can create a sustainable route to Open Access for scholarly books.

Library Publishing Coalition

The LPC (www.librarypublishing.org) operates as an affiliated community of the Educopia Institute, a non-profit organization that advances cultural, scientific, and scholarly institutions by catalyzing networks and collaborative communities to facilitate collective impact.

Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development

The Lyon Declaration (http://www.lyondeclaration.org/) is an advocacy document that will be used to positively influence the content of the United Nations post-2015 development agenda. It was drafted by IFLA and a number of strategic partners in the library and development communities between January and May 2014. The Declaration calls upon United Nations Member States to make an international commitment through the post-2015 development agenda to ensure that everyone has access to, and is able to understand, use and share the information that is necessary to promote sustainable development and democratic societies.

OA2020

OA2020 (https://oa2020.org/) is a global alliance committed to accelerating the transition to open access. Their mission is to transform the current publishing system, replacing the subscription business model with new models that ensure outputs are open and re-usable and that the costs behind their dissemination are transparent and economically sustainable.

Open Access Directory (OAD)

The OAD (http://oad.simmons.edu) is a compendium of simple factual lists about open access (OA) to science and scholarship, maintained by the OA community at large. By bringing many OA-related lists together in one place, OAD makes it easier for everyone to discover them, use them for reference, and update them. The easier they are to maintain and discover, the more effectively they can spread useful, accurate information about OA.

Open Access Journal

Open access journals are scholarly journals that are available online to the reader "without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself." While open access journals are freely available to the reader, there are still costs associated with the publication and production of such journals. Some open access journals are subsidized and are financed by an academic institution, learned society or a government information center. Others are financed by payment of article processing charges by submitting authors, money typically made available to researchers by their institution or funding agency.

OpenDOAR

OpenDOAR (http://www.opendoar.org/) is an authoritative directory of academic open access repositories. Each OpenDOAR repository has been visited by project staff to check the information that is recorded here. This in-depth approach does not rely on automated analysis and gives a quality-controlled list of repositories. OpenDOAR is a service provided by SHERPA.

Open Journal Systems (OJS)
Open Journal Systems (https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/) is a journal management and publishing system that has been developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research.

Public Knowledge Project (PKP)
PKP (https://pkp.sfu.ca/) is a multi-university initiative developing (free) open source software and conducting research to improve the quality and reach of scholarly publishing. Established in 1998 by John Willinsky at the University of British Columbia, PKP has expanded and evolved into an international and virtual operation with two institutional anchors at Stanford University and Simon Fraser University Library. Since 2005, the SFU Library has served as the administrative and operational home for PKP.

PLOS ONE
PLOS ONE (http://www.plosone.org/) is a peer-reviewed open access scientific journal published by the Public Library of Science (PLOS) since 2006. The journal covers primary research from any discipline within science and medicine. Operating under a pay-to-publish model, PLOS ONE publishes approximately 70% of submitted manuscripts. All submissions go through a pre-publication review by a member of the board of academic editors, who can elect to seek an opinion from an external reviewer. According to the journal, papers are not to be excluded on the basis of lack of perceived importance or adherence to a scientific field.

Portage
Portage aims to coordinate and expand existing library-based expertise, services and infrastructure so that Canadian researchers will have access to the support they need for research data management (RDM). Portage will have two major components: a network of expertise to provide access in both English and French to a comprehensive set of resources, tools and experts; and a preservation and discovery system to connect the various infrastructure and service components needed for national preservation and discovery of data.

Predatory Open Access Publishing
In academic publishing, predatory open access publishing describes an exploitative open-access publishing business model that involves charging publication fees to authors without providing the editorial and publishing services associated with legitimate journals (open access or not).

Research4Life.org
Research4Life (http://www.research4life.org/) is the collective name for the four programmes – HINARI, AGORA, OARE and ARDI – that provides developing countries with free or low cost access to academic and professional peer-reviewed content online.

SHERPA

SHERPA (http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/) is investigating issues in the future of scholarly communication. It is developing open-access institutional repositories in universities to facilitate the rapid and efficient worldwide dissemination of research. SHERPA services and the SHERPA Partnership are both based at the Centre for Research Communications at the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

SHERPA Juliet

SHERPA JULIET (http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/juliet/) is a database of research funders' open access policies. The service is provided by SHERPA and funded by Jisc.

SHERPA RoMEO

SHERPA RoMEO (http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php) is a database of publishers' policies on copyright and self-archiving. The service is provided by SHERPA and funded by Jisc.

SPARC

SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition), is an international alliance of academic and research libraries working to create a more open system of scholarly communication. SPARC believes that faster and wider sharing of the outputs of the scholarly research process increases the impact of research, fuels the advancement of knowledge, and increases the return on research investments. SPARC focuses on taking action in collaboration with stakeholders – including authors, publishers, and libraries – to build on the unprecedented opportunities created by the networked digital environment to advance the conduct of scholarship. http://www.sparc.arl.org

SSH

An acronym referring to the disciplines of social science and humanities.

STEM

An acronym referring to the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Trusted Digital Repositories also known as a Trustworthy Digital Repository (TDR)

Trusted Digital Repositories support academic libraries in their purpose to realize the greatest possible return on their investment in electronic scholarly resources and digital preservation services, and their need to move aggressively to reduce the costs of redundant print holdings. In 2009 the Center for Research Libraries began certifying repositories of interest to the CRL community (http://www.crl.edu/archiving-preservation/digital-archives/certification-assessment). Certification augments CRL's strategic archiving of print and supports the responsible transition by CRL libraries to electronic-only formats where appropriate.

About the Canadian Research Knowledge Network

The Canadian Research Knowledge Network is a partnership of Canadian universities, dedicated to expanding digital content for the academic research and teaching enterprise in Canada.