

Open Access to Scholarly Research:
*an emerging success story in
emancipatory communication*

Heather Morrison

The Imaginary Journal of Poetic Economics
<http://poeticeconomics.blogspot.com>

Enclosure, Emancipatory Communication and the Global
City: The International Conference for the Union of
Democratic Communications Oct. 25 - 28, 2007,
Simon Fraser University, Vancouver BC

What is open access?

Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.

(Peter Suber, Open Access Overview)

<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>

Peer-reviewed journal article

Two approaches to OA

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PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ON THE INTERNET

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This month: September 2007
[Can the Internet cope with stress?](#)
This brief paper proposes an experiment to test the response of the Internet to stress. If the network demonstrates coping and defense mechanisms, is it then a conscious entity?

Also this month!
[Mining the Blogosphere: Age, gender and the varieties of self-expression](#)
Based on an analysis of over 140 million words of English text drawn from the blogosphere, what kinds of differences emerge between different bloggers?

New!

Open access
publishing (gold)
First Monday

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The dramatic growth of open access : implications and opportunities for resource sharing

Morrison, Heather (2006) The dramatic growth of open access : implications and opportunities for resource sharing. *Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery & Electronic Reserve* 16(3).

Full text available as:
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Abstract

The Open Access movement seeks to make scholarly, peer-reviewed journal articles freely available to anyone, anywhere over the World Wide Web. There were some very significant developments in the area of Open Access (OA) in 2004, including statements by major funders in support of Open Access. There are now so many Open Access scholarly journal articles freely available, that, in the author's opinion, being aware of, and using, the resources and related tools is now essential for libraries. Libraries can provide more resources faster for users by supplementing

Open access
archiving (green)
Article in E-LIS

Open Access Publishing

Directory of Open Access Journals: full OA,
peer-reviewed journals

<http://www.doaj.org>

Over 2,800 journals

> 10% of the world's scholarly journals

growth >1.2 titles per calendar day

Electronic Journals Library: over 15,000 free
journals

Open Access Archiving

- > 800 repositories
- OAster: >13.6 million records
- Scientific Commons: >16 million items
- PubMedCentral: > 1 million items
- arXiv (physics): >445,000 items
- RePEC (Research Papers in Economics): close to 400,000 full text

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[African Journal of Information and Communication Technology](#)

ISSN: 14492679

Subject: [Computer Science](#) --- [Media and communication](#)

Publisher: University of Technology, Sydney, ePress

Language: English

Keywords: telecommunication, computing, information systems, software engineering

Start year: 2005

Partnership

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INFORMATION

 search

Scientific Commons

Details at a Glance

Publications	16331505
Authors	6919630
Repositories	881

Selected Publication Information

Keywords	History painting
Authors	Ashford, William (Irish Painter, 1746-1824)
Repository	Trinity's Access to Research Archive

Recently added Publications

[Catherine, countess of Tyrone & her children \(2007\)](#)

[Astley, John \(English Portraitist And Architect, Ca. 1724-1787\)](#)

Catherine, countess of Tyrone & her children, The eldest son in the portrait was the 1st Lord of Waterford

[Mount Merrion, co Dublin \(1806\)](#)

[Ashford, William \(Irish Painter, 1746-1824\)](#)

painting very similar to image cgjc0156

[View in Mount Merrion Park \(1806\)](#)

[Ashford, William \(Irish Painter, 1746-1824\)](#)

View from Mount Merrion to Howth

[Extensive landscape with livestock in foreground and town beyond \(1799\)](#)

[Ashford, Daniel](#)

Possibly Carlow; attributed to Daniel Ashford; Daniel Ashford is the son of William Ashford; signed by the artist

Benefits of open access

- For the researcher: Impact!!!
- Open Access = more citations

- Funding agencies: research impact
- show value
- OA policies

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Access to Research Outputs policy

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34846.html>

Grant recipients...required to make every effort to ensure that their peer-reviewed publications are freely accessible ...as soon as possible and in any event within six months of publication (Option #2).

U.S. National Institutes of Health Public Access policy

- 2004: open access requested
- < 5% compliance
- Research shows with a mandate more than 80 comply willingly
- efforts underway to change request to a requirement

The opposition! - one example

- July 2006: reps from Elsevier, Wiley, and the American Chemical Society meet with Eric Dezenhall, the 'pitbull' of public relations
- Story leaked - printed by Jim Giles, January 2007, in *Nature*

About Elsevier, Wiley, ACS

Reed Elsevier

- Science Direct: 1/4 of world's STM publishing (2,000 journals)
- 2006 net profit: \$922 million dollars U.S.
(operating profit: \$1.6 billion U.S.)

Wiley 2007 net income \$94 million

American Chemical Society Executive

Compensation: 2005, \$919,251 for Exec. Dir.

Dezenhall's advice

- Focus on simple messages
- It doesn't matter if they can discredit your statements - media massaging is not intellectual debate
- Public access = government censorship
- **Attempt to equate traditional publishing with peer review**
- Join forces with like-minded groups, such as the Competitive Enterprise Institute which has used oil-industry money to promote scepticism on climate change

Latest anti-OA coalition: PRISM:

<http://www.prismcoalition.org/>

- Established by Professional & Scholarly Publishing Division, Association of American Publishers

CLAIMS:

- **Problem with government intervention [in scholarly publishing]: threats to peer review**

PRISM

- Endorsers: no one

Public disavowals:

- Cambridge University Press, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Columbia University Press, MIT Press, Nature Publishing Group, Oxford University Press, Pennsylvania State University Press, Rockefeller University Press, University of Chicago Press - Links to statements from OA News <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/2007/10/mit-press-dissociates-itself-from-prism.html>

The impact of the anti-OA lobby...

White House Statement of Administrative
Policy Oct. 17, 2007...

***Expresses concern about “possible
impact...on scientific peer review”***

Context: language to change NIH Public
Access Policy from request to a
requirement, Appropriations Bill

...the impact of the anti-OA
lobby??

**Requirement for public access to
NIH-funded research passes the
Senate 75-19 October 23, 2007**

...not over yet - the Appropriations Bill
could still be vetoed by the President

In spite of powerful lobby...

- Open access is growing dramatically
- There are 40 open access mandate policies in effect or contemplated
- The anti-OA lobby has been exposed
- Many leaders in the publishing community now disavow these lobbying efforts

OA to scholarly research and emancipatory communication

- Equity in researcher-to-researcher communication around the globe
- Developing countries have a necessary service to develop higher education
- Journalists and activists can access scholarly research
- Public knowledge: citizen access to research

Questions? Contact

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