

Kaffeeklatsch Notes

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UNBC Library: Open Access

Open Access Kaffeeklatsch

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Benefits of Open Access



Adapted from: <https://www.mysciencework.com/omniscience/open-science-open-access-far-apart>

- More citations = Greater impact
- No paywall, better for non-profits and makes work more accessible
- Better value for taxpayer dollars supporting research,
- Collaboration at different levels (local, provincial, national, or international)
- Control over intellectual property through copyright negotiations
- Grant agencies – Tri-Agency OA requirements

Open Access Spectrum



<https://zaneoflatentsolutions.wordpress.com/2018/07/16/open-science-series-open-access/>

Grey – traditional subscription-based journal -- behind paywall

Green OA – can include hybrid journals

- Self-archiving, depositing articles in institution or subject repository
- Authors can archive unrefereed pre-prints or refereed post-prints

Gold OA – can also include hybrid

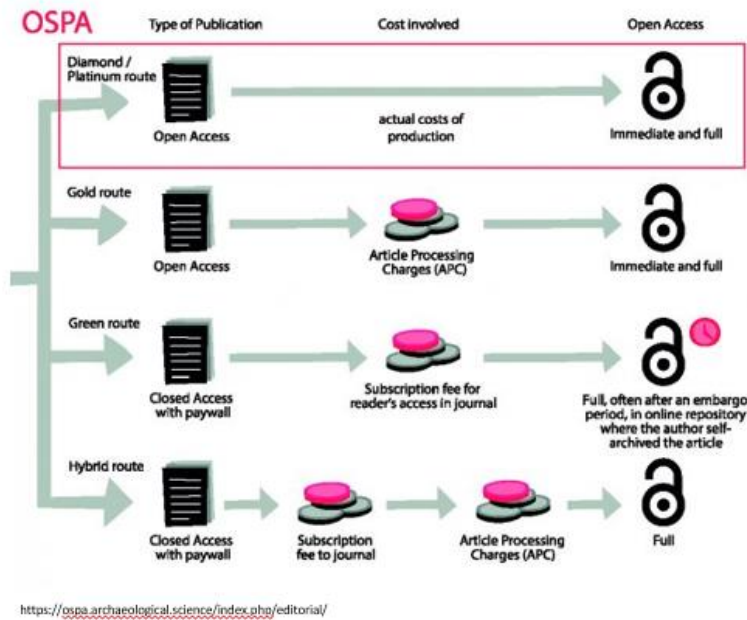
.OA from publication, usually fee associated (APC)

Platinum/Diamond OA – not hybrid

.OA from publication, but no fee

OA journals are not free to produce. There are a variety of business models to cover costs including:

- institutional subsidy if hosted by university, etc.
- advertising revenue
- author processing charges (APCs) or submission fees
- institutional memberships (ex. BioMed Central)
- priced edition (appears before OA edition)
- value-added services (alert services, DRM-free downloads, etc.)
- volunteer effort



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- volunteer effort
- Most common is APC, especially with for-profit publishers

Understanding Article Versions



Pre-print – initial submission, no peer review

Post-print – final accepted version without layout, peer reviewed

Publisher's version/version of record – final copy with layout

Alexandra Kohn. (2020). How can we make this better? Understanding and improving the copyright transfer agreement process. ABC Fall Speakers Series. Used with permission.

- Green OA – pre- or post- print
- Version of record is usually associated with contracts
- Important for authors to be able to identify the different versions since different rights are associated with each of these
- Important reminder to keep the different versions, especially your accepted manuscript and to name them something you will recognize

Author Addendum

Statement that you retain certain rights to your work.
Download, fill in and attach to your publisher agreement.



- [SPARC Author Addendum](#)
- [Scholar's Addendum Generator](#) on UNBC Library Website

- Traditional publication agreements: all rights given to journal
- Limits impact of work
- Authors cannot reproduce, manipulate, or distribute work
- Author Addendum
- Legal instrument that modifies the publisher's agreement and allows you to keep key rights
- Publisher may agree or not, but you'll never get anything if you don't ask



Predatory Publishers

- Publishers who profit on the gold OA author-pay model with authors getting little or no return.
- Questionable marketing and peer review process
- Publishing in these journals may harm academic credibility
- BUT
- Easy way to publish thesis or paper if not interested in an academic career (similar to vanity press)

Similar to email spammers

Often target inexperienced researchers, but evidence suggesting this not always the case anymore as they are getting more sophisticated

- Increase publication count for career advancement, likely to be discovered during tenure process which will damage your credibility
 - May harm individual's academic integrity
 - No copyediting and often no peer review
 - Not always a bad thing (e.g., if you want to publish just to have it out there) but often not helpful in academia

Infiltrate and damage integrity of academia

- Google Scholar metrics; dilute credibility of legitimate metrics if there is no gatekeeping
 - Undermine credibility of scholarship
- Recent articles, sting operations, etc.

HOW TO ASSESS A JOURNAL

A.K.A. How not to publish in an undesirable journal

Key Things to Consider When Assessing a Journal*

*It's up to you to weigh these factors in order to make your decision.



Don't trust unsolicited emails

- If a call for submission does not come from a trusted source, treat it as spam.



Be similarly wary of unsolicited offers to join editorial boards or conference invitations.



Review several issues of the journal

- Check for writing and research quality, relevance to discipline and adequate copy editing.

While you're at it...

✓ If your research grant or institution requires that your article be openly available, make sure the journal's policy allows this.



Review the journal website. It should contain:

- a clear and appropriate scope;
- an editorial board with recognized experts and current contact information for them;
- a description of the peer review process;
- transparent information about whether article processing charges (APCs) or other fees are charged.



Two journals can have similar names but different reputations; don't mistake one journal for another.



Check that any impact metrics listed by the journal are recognized and reputable

e.g. Journal Impact Factor, H-index, Eigenfactor



! Beware: there are a number of made-up metrics on the internet.

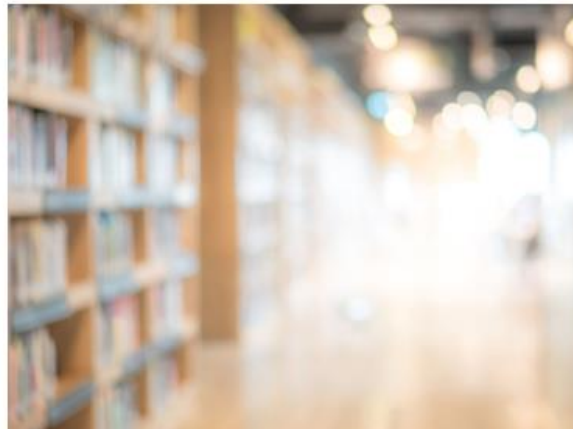
OPEN ACCESS

Check to see if OA journals are listed at doaj.org

Note: Very new journals will not be listed.

This is great info for Grad students including UNBC

Library
Services to
Support
Open
Access



Institutional Repository

<https://unbc.arcabc.ca/>

University of Northern British Columbia Institutional Repository

Home > Browse Collections > Faculty Research and Scholarship > Pacific connections for health, ecosystems and society: New approaches to the land-water-health nexus

Pacific connections for health, ecosystems and society: New approaches to the land-water-health nexus

Collection Search

Faculty Research and Scholarship search

Style
APA
Choose the citation style.

Parkes, M. W. (2016). Pacific connections for health, ecosystems and society: New approaches to the *Reviews on Environmental Health*, 31(1), 125-130. doi:<http://doi.org/10.1515/reveh-2015-0067>

1 of 6 Automatic Zoom

Search UNBC's Digital Institutional Repository
Find UNBC theses, scholarly research materials, and digitized resources from UNBC Library and Northern BC Archives.

Search All Collections

Advanced Search

Browse Collections UNBC Dissertations and Theses
UNBC Graduate Research Projects
Northern BC Digital Collection

- IR can be used for Green OA model
- to host pre-, post-prints or version of record, depending on copyright transfer agreement
- GRANT COMPLIANCE
- Secondly, we should make some mention of when OA may not be a culturally appropriate response, such as for some sensitive Indigenous materials, and how we can restrict access within our IR as needed.

Scholarly Communication LibGuide

<https://libguides.unbc.ca/scholarly-communication>

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Geoffrey R. Weller Library
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Scholarly Communication: Author Resources

This guide will outline what scholarly communication is and its relation to Open Access.

Open Access | Open Access Policies | Open Access Journals | Predatory Publishers | Repositories | **Author Resources** | Open Textbooks | Textbook Alternatives

Author Processing Charges (APCs)

Many journal publishers will charge an article processing charge (APC) or publication fee in order for the author to publish their work in an open access repository. These fees are usually a couple hundred to several thousand dollars an article. Some publishers will waive this fee or offer a discount on the fee under some circumstances, usually if the author is in financial need. Some institutions will cover these fees for the author. UNBC offers a [Publication](#)

UNBC APC Discounts

Currently the following publishers provide discounts to UNBC scholars for APCs:

American Chemical Society	Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development
Cambridge University Press	PLOS CAP
Canadian Science Publishing	Sage
Company of Biologists	Taylor and Francis

American Chemical Society offers Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN)-affiliated authors a \$250 USD flat discount. APC discount is applied upon submission of manuscripts. Authors must identify their institutional affiliation in order to qualify. For the

Subject Librarian

Heather Empey
[Email Me](#)

- APC discounts on this page are kept up-to-date
- Author addenda are also on this page
- UNBC can publish for free in two biology journals, but is discounted in other journals

Scholarly Communication LibGuide

<https://libguides.unbc.ca/scholarly-communication>

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Scholarly Communication: Predatory Publishers

This guide will outline what scholarly communication is and its relation to Open Access.

Open Access | Open Access Policies | Open Access Journals | **Predatory Publishers** | Repositories | Author Resources | Open Textbooks | Textbook Alternatives

Think Check Submit

Think Check Submit provides an easy-to-use checklist that researchers can refer to when they are investigating whether a journal can be trusted.

Phony vs. Legit Publishing

Predatory Publishers

"Predatory open-access publishers are those that unprofessionally exploit the gold open-access model for their own profit. That is to say, they operate as scholarly vanity presses and publish articles in exchange for the author fee. They are characterized by various levels of deception and lack of transparency in their operations." - Jeffrey Beal, On Predatory Publishers, Chronicle of Higher Education.

With the explosion of online publishing and the increasing use of the author pay business model, predatory publishers are becoming more common. When you are evaluating a journal to determine if you article is a good fit for the publication, don't forget to spend some time evaluating the publisher. Similarly, if you are invited to submit to a journal or to become an editorial board member, be sure to critically evaluate the publisher's legitimacy.

Collections & Acquisitions Librarian

Heather Empey

- Info on how to assess journals/publishers to avoid predatory publishers
- Can also email Heather for analysis of specific journal/publisher

Copyright LibGuide
<https://libguides.unbc.ca/copyright>

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Copyright: Home

Home Faculty Resources Faculty FAQ Student Resources Open Educational Resources COVID-19 Notice Digital Locks Copyright Exceptions

Textbook Alternatives

Copyright at UNBC

The UNBC Copyright Office serves the UNBC community by providing information, services, and education to help faculty, staff, and students remain compliant with Canadian copyright law while focusing on teaching and research at UNBC.

Copyright Documents	Copyright Services	Copyright Queries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copyright Guidelines Copyright Guidelines for UNBC Faculty, Staff and Students • Fair Dealing Guidelines UNBC Fair Dealing Guidelines • CAUT Guidelines for the Use of 	<p>The UNBC Copyright Office offers many copyright services. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing Course Syllabi • Providing copyright education and help with copyright-related questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Send an email or schedule an appointment • Creating PDF copies and permanent links for Blackboard • Arranging permissions, licenses, and copyright clearance • Teaching workshops & answering individual copyright queries 	

- Focus of this LibGuide is copyright for teaching purposes, but also includes general information about copyright
- Can also contact Barb or myself for assistance in reviewing copyright transfer licenses or adding author addenda when negotiating with publishers
 - Not legal advice, but can help decipher meaning

Discussion questions



Comments:

“As someone beginning publishing journey, this system is complicated and it is good to see there are supports to navigate those waters.”

“Disturbing stories about authors that sign away their rights—this advocates for protecting yourself so you can share information and get greater use out of your work.”

“Commonality of OA in engineering? Same as most of the other sciences. Only paid for by Dean are association journals.”

“Everything is volunteer time in publishing journals, the publisher makes money.”

“It’s interesting to look at who is paying. We pay as taxpayers/as an institution to publish and then pay to access (we pay twice).”

Q: “all three of the primary research funding bodies in Canada – CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC – implemented a harmonized open access policy in 2015 ... what impacts have Librarians seen flowing from this”

A: “Short answer, not very much. Because of APC model, we have seen authors looking around to find funding. We’re in the transition phrase towards more traditional share pf scholarly knowledge between communities. This is a push from Europe to move towards single payment systems. Causing transformative licenses--to pay for publishing and not for the read.”

Q: Is the notion of "prestige" publishers still a factor in OA advocacy? Does this notion play out in tenure and promotion processes?

A: I don't think so, but this is a better question answered by Deans. Provost says that is shouldn't but it does. Likely due to appearance of more stringent processes and better global circulation (impact factors).

"There are about 35 libraries including UNBC that help to provide publishing systems and infrastructure to make journals in areas where there is insufficient coverage. This is a Canada-wide re-envisioning of what in the early scholarly publishing looks like in Canada. "

"Impact factors are problematic because they're not a clear mathematical measurement."

Q: "What are the costs for publishers if everything is a volunteer process? Journals are not really printed anymore."

A: Somebody has to do editing and organize the journal, so there are costs, which is a challenge in the OA access—many editors are women that are underpaid. That is an issue in itself, but it is now a question of if profits are needed on top of cost-neutral improvement in a fair wage environment.

"There are costly publishers, but in group work it is helpful to have many editors to make research look coherent. In self-publishing, the costs also add up given how much work is needed for everything to come together."

"Libraries want to pay for content, they want to fund that content, even if it's freely available—to help continue to make these models sustainable."

"Libraries want transparency and fair prices—fees seem arbitrary and at the whim of the commercial publishers."

"I had to pay \$1/line for an online search for articles in the early 80's—accessing academic information has transformed greatly since the 1980s"

"I've only considered purchasing articles when it's a topic where little information is available and there is not much choice. Thankfully, in my field now (Biology)-- that doesn't happen often. But for some obscure topics in the social sciences--this was a common issue for me."

Q: "Is this issue (little info available, paying for articles is an expectation) discipline-specific?"

A: "Yes, a small contributing piece. E.g., Medical journal APCs are very expensive where some social sciences are much lower or non-existent"

- "Agreed, we don't have much choice really"
- In areas where there is money, there are higher associated costs but in areas with less funding the costs are more frugal

"Google has changed availability—databases are bypassed often now with Google scholar, an underfunded arm of Google"

"Many comments regarding ignoring articles with paywalls, because there is so much out there"

ILL (Interlibrary loans) also aid in information accessibility subject to agreements that libraries have with journals. Especially helpful during the lockdown.

"The less gratis availability of a discipline's articles on the web (according to oaDOI), the greater the coverage on Sci-Hub (tucked away in Russia, breaks copyright laws, but has major publications." elifesciences.org/articles/32822

Resources:

- Book-down versions—not easy to do—UNBC may have found one, TBD
- Knowledge Unlatched—Libraries put money towards it to fund it to make it freely available. Library “adopts” the publication