Best practice in Open Access publishing

Claire Redhead
Executive Director
Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association
Global trends in open access publishing

- Proportion of journals offering immediate open access is rising
- 60% of journals offer immediate OA

Source: UUK Report ‘Monitoring the Transition to Open Access’, December 2017
The number of hybrid journals has been rising faster than fully OA.

Here, journal publishing models of 40 publishers are compared for 2015 vs. 2017.

APCs for hybrid journals are on average 28% higher than for fully OA.

- Number of journal articles accessible immediately on publication has risen globally
- BUT 81% of journal content is still published within the subscription based system

Source: UUK Report ‘Monitoring the Transition to Open Access’, December 2017
OASPA Mission

- Exchange information
- Set standards for OA publishing and promote best practice
- Support a range of business models
- Educate
- Promote innovation
Applications

- Fixed membership criteria - applied universally
- Initial screening process followed by detailed review and decision by committee
- Criteria and application process reviewed on a regular basis
- Less than 10% of applications for membership accepted
- Publishers/journals that can demonstrate improvements are reconsidered
1) Fully OA publication requirements

- At least one fully open access journal or book which is CC BY or CC BY-NC
- CC BY is the *preferred* license overall (will discuss for books - and for hosted journals)
- License to be fully described in guidelines
- Clearly shown on all published material
2) ‘About the Publisher’

- Ownership
- Management
- Financial support
- Address & contact information for one named individual (at least)
3) Peer Review

- Independent external reviewing required
- Way in which reviewers are selected
- Clear policy statement describing process
- Owners/financial benefactors not to be involved in editorial decision making
4) Editorial Boards

- Large enough?
- Variety of institutions?
- Show departments/expertise/relevance
- Be clear on what the role of the editorial board is
5) Finances and Fees

- Be clear and transparent
- What fees are charged?
- If you don’t charge any be clear on that too
- General statement on support from the institution is enough
6) Other

- Clear editorial policies (conflicts of interest, plagiarism etc.) - COPE
- Archiving / Preservation
- Crossref / DOIs
- Content quality check
Criteria checklist for new member applicants

Below is a checklist based on our membership criteria to help applicants make sure they meet our requirements. Please read all of these points before you go through to the application form. If you have any queries please contact memberships@oaspa.org.

Information is available about OASPA, our application review process and membership categories.

1. Do you have at least one open access book, or have at least one journal that regularly publishes original research or scholarship which is all open access?
2. If you are a journal publisher, do you have at least one fully open access journal which is CC BY (or CC BY-NC)?
3. Can your publications be shared without the requirement for registration of any kind?
4. Does your website have clear and detailed instructions for authors, linked to from the homepage?
5. Do your author guidelines include details of your open access and copyright policies for this publication? Do you clearly state the specific license used and link to the terms of that license? Do you specify who holds copyright?
6. Do your publications (HTML and PDF) state the license on the article or book itself, with a link to the license terms, contain author contact information and date of publication (plus submission and acceptance for
Members and Beyond

- OASPA Members commit to a Code of Conduct
- Ongoing support from OASPA on developments in the industry and in complex areas e.g. licensing
- Transparency and clarity from publishers will help users in the research community
Best practice in scholarly publishing

- Collaboration with allied industry organisations to promote best practice beyond OASPA membership
Assessing journal quality

- Cross-industry campaign
- Global interest and usage
- Translated into over 30 languages
- Working on testing usability
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@OASPA

claire.redhead@oaspa.org