

Report on Open Access and FLOK for a New Journal in Cognitive Science

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ABSTRACT: This report deals with the principles, context, opportunities and tools to create an Open Access and Free/Libre Open Knowledge Journal in Cognitive Science. It reviews different definitions of Open Access, institutions and declarations supporting it, it overviews the landscape of potentially competing Open Access journals in the field of cognitive science and it finally provides a short summary of possible resources for launching and financing a new Open Access journal.

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Introduction: What is and why to choose Open Access and FLOK?

Definitions

Open access (OA) is free, immediate, permanent, full-text, online access, for any user, web-wide, to digital scientific and scholarly material, primarily research articles published in peer-reviewed journals. OA means that any individual user, anywhere, who has access to the Internet, may link, read, download, store, print-off, use, and data-mine the digital content of that article. An OA article usually has limited copyright and licensing restrictions. [[Wikipedia:Open access](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access)¹]

According to the *Berlin Declaration*² an open access contribution must satisfy two conditions:

1. The author(s) and right holder(s) of such contributions grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, right of access to, and a license to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship (community standards, will continue to provide the mechanism for enforcement of proper attribution and responsible use of the published work, as they do now), as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.
2. A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in an appropriate standard electronic format is deposited (and thus published) in at least one online repository using suitable technical standards (such as the Open Archive definitions) that is supported and maintained by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organization that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving.

Despite these two clear and concise conditions the notion of OA has turned to a weaker conception, like that offered by the Directory of Open Access Journals where the OA definition is picked up from the Budapest Open Access Initiative: “We define open access journals as journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access. From the BOAI definition [1] of “open access” we take the right of users to “read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles” as mandatory for a journal to be included in the directory”³. Note that under this definition it is sufficient for a OA Journal to provide merely a link to the paper without allowing further copying or redistribution. In order to clarify the existing ambiguity of the term “Open Access” it is convenient to include the notion of FLOK that parallels a similar debate in software (where the term FLOS, Free Libre Open Source is much more precise).

FLOK stands for Free Libre Open Knowledge in analogy with FLOSS (Free Libre Open Source Software). Unlike the ambiguous definition of OA, FLOK standards guarantee that

1 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access

2 <http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html>

3 <http://www.doaj.org/doaj?func=loadTempl&templ=about>

the published works permit derivative works (extensions, translation, collections, etc.) and that all derivative works can be freely distributed (*with or without commercial purposes*), it also guarantees access to the original source code (e.g. for computer programs) and original data when possible. Freedomdefined.net provides a precise definition of free cultural and scientific work. A **copyleft** clause might also be considered. It requires that copies, derivative works and their redistribution are done under the same free/libre license. The copyleft clause guarantees that no subsequent derivative work or re-distribution is locked by copyright restrictions and remains free (unless explicitly permitted by the author): i.e. anybody can sell, reuse and modify the work but nobody in the chain can restrict the freedom for future receivers of the work (e.g. you cannot take the work and include a copyright notice forbidding further copies of it).

Creative Commons⁴ and GNU⁵ licenses provide the best international legal support to guarantee the above freedoms. In particular the licenses *Creative Commons Attribution (CC-by)*⁶ and *Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike (CC-by-sa)*⁷ together with its equivalent GNU Free Documentation License⁸ have been shown to perfectly suit FLOK standards (corresponding respectively to BSD and GPL licenses in software). The most important Open Access journals⁹ (although this is not necessarily required to be an OA journal) make use of the CC-by (Creative Commons Attribution) license whose only restriction is the acknowledgement of authorship (but derivative works or redistributions are allowed that rewrite the license and restrict further access, use, copy or redistribution). In addition the CC-by-sa (Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike) license requires that derivative or redistributed works be shared with the same license thus guaranteeing that future evolution or dissemination of the work remains free and open access.

Policy Context

There is an increasing awareness among scientists and science policy makers that the knowledge society should be built as an open society where scientific research is accessible to anyone, particularly when research is publicly funded. In turn, there is an increasing number of foundations, declarations and studies that support, promote and demonstrate the advantage of this approach and facilitate the creation of open access initiatives. In the words of SPARCEurope:

*There is growing international momentum in favour of self-archiving and open access journals. Increasing numbers of libraries are taking on the role of hosts for institutional repositories, becoming responsible for maintaining the intellectual heritage of their institution. The success of growing numbers of open access journals is proving the feasibility of the new business models. Evidence is accumulating to show the dissemination and impact benefits of open access and as success is proved, more authors, university administrators, librarians, and funding bodies are becoming aware of the limitations of the current system and possibilities of the new models.*¹⁰ SPARC-EUROPE

4 <http://creativecommons.org>

5 <http://gnu.org>

6 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>

7 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>

8 <http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html> see also last section of this document.

9 PLoS, PubMed, etc.

10 <http://www.sparceurope.org/resources/hot-topics/open-access>

International Context

The model of OA publishing and FLOK is expanding worldwide supported and promoted a) by a massive social movement in favor of free/libre/open software, culture and science, b) by specialized institutions on OA, c) by international declaration of librarians, scientific publishers, policy makers, managers and scientists (including Nobel Laureates and major figures in many different areas of science: from physics to medicine, cognitive science and biology). PLoS, PubMed, ScienceCommons, SOAK, DOAJ, Budapest Open Access Initiative, Berlin declaration, [World Summit on the Information Society](#): Open access facts and resources.

- **Social Movement:** With more than 20.000.000 photographs, 18.000 computer programs, 15.000.000 blogs, 15.000 music bands and a large etcetera of cultural and technical works the Free/Libre Open Knowledge or Copyleft movement is creating a new way of understanding culture and knowledge at the information society. Part of this movement is specialized in science and has acquired significant success on a very short period of time. There are nowadays more than 3.700 OA journals and some of them are found among the most important international scientific journals (particularly PubMed Journals¹¹ and PLoS Journals¹²).
- **International Institutions:** There are numerous institutions and standards that facilitate and promote Open Access scientific knowledge:
 - *SPARC*¹³: The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition “is an international alliance of academic and research libraries working to correct imbalances in the scholarly publishing system. Developed by the Association of Research Libraries, SPARC has become a catalyst for change. Its pragmatic focus is to stimulate the emergence of new scholarly communication models that expand the dissemination of scholarly research and reduce financial pressures on libraries. Action by SPARC in collaboration with stakeholders – including authors, publishers, and libraries – builds on the unprecedented opportunities created by the networked digital environment to advance the conduct of scholarship.”
 - *DOAJ*¹⁴: The Directory of Open Access Journals maintains an up to date list of OA Journals and articles: “The aim of the Directory of Open Access Journals is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact.”
 - *ScienceCommons*¹⁵: Is a branch of Creative Commons dedicated to scientific knowledge. In addition to the legal and digital tools provided by Creative Commons (licenses adapted to different jurisdictions, search tools, metadata standards, etc.) Science Commons promotes a number of specific projects. Among them the Scholar's Copyright Project to adapt scientific communication to digital environments (e.g. promoting protocol for managing OA data and metadata) and the Neurocommons aimed at integrating different neuroscience related databases.

11 <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/journals/subjects.html>

12 <http://www.plos.org/journals/journals.php>

13 <http://www.arl.org/sparc/>

14 <http://doaj.org>

15 <http://sciencecommons.org>

- *Public Knowledge Project*¹⁶: Canadian based project committed to the development of open software platforms for OA publishing, archiving and conferencing.
- *Budapest Open Access Initiative and Soros Foundation*: Launcher of one of the pioneering declarations the BOAI operates as a reference initiative facilitating information on OA.
- **International Declarations**: Increasingly more international declarations and regulations enforce and/or defend and support Open Access as a standard for scientific publishing:
 - **The Budapest Open Access Initiative**: the Budapest Open Access Initiative¹⁷ (February 2002), signed by more than 4874 individuals, and 458 organizations from around the world, representing researchers, universities, laboratories, libraries, foundations, journals, publishers, learned societies.
 - **The Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society**: CERN, UNESCO and ICSU (in cooperation with TWAS and ICTP) made a number of comments for the World Summit on the Information Society representing the Scientific Community¹⁸. This document - compiled on behalf of the international scientific community - suggests amendments to the [Draft Declaration of Principles](#) and [Draft Plan of Action Plan](#) for the [World Summit on the Information Society](#), the first stage of which was held in Geneva, Switzerland in December 2003. The document underlines the central role of science in the information society, and says that information and communications technologies "provide an historic opportunity to reduce the scientific divide: they improve and increase the transfer of scientific knowledge between developed and developing countries". It specifically urges the Summit to "promote electronic publishing, affordable pricing schemes and appropriate open source initiatives to make scientific information affordable and accessible on an equitable basis in all countries". As a result The Declaration of Principles of the World Summit on the Information Society, (Geneva 12 December 2003) stated: "We strive to promote universal access with equal opportunities for all to scientific knowledge and the creation and dissemination of scientific and technical information, including open access initiatives for scientific publishing". (Article 288)
 - **The Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities**¹⁹ (October 2003), signed by more than 255 organisations including large national research institutions such as France's CNRS and Germany's Max-Planck Institutes, Spanish CSIC; national Academies of Science such as those of China, India and the Netherlands; international research institutions such as CERN; and individual universities and research funding agencies around the world.
 - **OECD Declaration on Access to Research Data from Public Funding**²⁰ (Organisation for economic co-operation and development) constituted by more than 30 nation, recognising that "fostering broader, open access to and wide use

16 <http://pkp.sfu.ca/>

17 <http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml>

18 <http://rsis.web.cern.ch/rsis/Links/Fulldclaration.pdf>

19 <http://oa.mpg.de/openaccess-berlin/berlindeclaration.html>

20 <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/9/61/38500813.pdf>

of research data will enhance the quality and productivity of science systems worldwide”.

European Context

Scientists and academic institutions in Europe have been particularly active on promoting and adopting Open Access standards. The major **European Scientific institutions** (CERN, Max-Planck, CCNR, etc.) have signed the Berlin Declaration and have adopted specific measures (like the creation of OA archives and OA journals)

There is an increasing commitment from the European Commission and other official governmental and policy-making agencies to support OA:

- There are two projects directly part or founded by the European Union for the study and support of OA
 - The European Association for the Promotion of Science and Technology has a dedicated **working group on Open Access Publishing**²¹.
 - The European Union has recently founded the **COMMUNIA Thematic Network**²² that “wants to place itself as the European point of reference for theoretical analysis and strategic policy discussion of existing and emerging issues to the public domain in the digital environment - as well as related topics including, but not limited, alternative forms of licensing for creative material; open access to scientific publications and research results; management of works whose authors are unknown (i.e. orphan works)..”
- Public institutions of the European Union has published three major reports **recommending the adoption of OA publishing**:
 - By the European Commission Research Directorate: *Study on the economic and technical evolution of the scientific publication markets in Europe* (2006)²³
 - By the Euroscience Scientific Publishing Workgroup: *Suggestions for Optimising the European Commission's Recommendation to Mandate Open Access Archiving of Publicly-Funded Research*²⁴
 - By the European Research Council: *ERC Scientific Council Guidelines for Open Access* (2007) and *ERC Scientific Council Statement on Open Access* (2006)²⁵
- **European Commission has mandated Open Access**²⁶ self-archiving for 20% of its 7th Framework Funding. This pilot covers (among others) the area of *Information and Communication Technologies (Cognitive Systems, Interaction, Robotics)*. The mandate, applicable until the end of FP7; requires to:

21 <http://www.euroscience.org/science-publishing-workgroup.html>

22 <http://www.communia-project.eu/>

23 http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/pdf/scientific-publication-study_en.pdf

24 <http://www.euroscience.org/index.php?>

[module=media&action=Display&cmpref=10505&lang=en&width=&height=&format=&alt=](#)

25 http://erc.europa.eu/pdf/ScC_Guidelines_Open_Access_revised_Dec07_FINAL.pdf

26 <http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/index.cfm?fuseaction=public.topic&id=1680>

More information at: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?>

[reference=MEMO/08/548&format=PDF&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en](#)

- deposit peer reviewed research articles or final manuscripts resulting from their FP7 projects into an online repository;
- make their best efforts to ensure open access to these articles within either six (health, energy, environment, parts of information and communication technologies, research infrastructures) or twelve months (social sciences and humanities, science in society) after publication.

Spanish Context

The draft of the new Law of Science includes an Open Access section that is currently under development and open online participation. The discussion draft²⁷ includes the following statement:

Es preciso avanzar en los siguientes ámbitos: a) La preservación digital y la diseminación del conocimiento creado con fondos públicos, implementando medidas para estimular el acceso abierto a los resultados de la investigación, al tiempo que se protegerá la propiedad intelectual correspondiente y las condiciones derivadas de la posible explotación comercial. b) El establecimiento en los programas de ayuda a la investigación con fondos públicos de una parte del presupuesto de la ayuda a la diseminación en abierto de los resultados de la investigación realizada.

Conclusion

The rationale for adopting an OA+FLOK policy for a new journal is as follows:

- Scientific authors do not receive any financial compensation for their papers. They donate their works to Journals
- Reviewers in Scientific Journals are not paid either.
- Most scientific journals are currently very expensive, and prices continue to rise.
- Only the wealthiest Universities can currently afford those subscription prices.
- The paradox : the intent of scientists is that anybody should be able freely read their papers, and yet most of the world cannot access their papers.
- Alternatives are being proposed by the scientists themselves: Open Access Journals and Open Archives.
- The transition from current subscription-based journals to Open Access Journals and Open Archives would actually save money in advanced countries, and would let the whole world access scientific knowledge for free. This is a win/win situation.²⁸
- Open Access business models are viable as shown by different reports²⁹

²⁷ http://lcyt.fecyt.es/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/documento-nueva-lcyt-9-y-10_10_08.pdf

²⁸ These bullet point summaries were taken from the World Summit on the Information Society Open Facts and Resources website: <http://www.wsis-si.org/oa-facts.html>

²⁹ House of Commons 10th Report on Science and Technology (<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200304/cmselect/cmsctech/399/39902.htm>)

Willinsky, J. (2005). Scholarly Associations and the Economic Viability of Open Access Publishing. Open Journal System Demonstration Journal, 1(1).

- As shown by different studies³⁰, OA journals (that meet quality standards) very rapidly acquire a high impact factor due to the availability of the published work. In less than 5 years PLoS Journals have reached an extraordinary impact factor: *PLoS Biology* 13.5 Impact Factor, *PLoS Medicine* 12.6, *PLoS Pathogens* 9.3, *PLoS Genetics* 8.7 and *PLoS Computational Biology* 6.2.
- **Conclusion:** the use of Free (FLOK) licenses for a scientific journal is scientifically advantageous and desirable, socially fair and economically sustainable.

Publishing Context and Opportunities: OA & FLOK Journals in Cognitive Science

The Open Access Online Journal Directory lists more than 3.700 Journals. An in depth revision of the list shows about 11 international and English written journals dealing with topics related to Cognitive Science (AI, neuroscience, psychology, cybernetics, etc.) with a wide theoretical scope (e.g. a journal on autistic psychiatry was considered for this review). The following subsection defines the goals of each journal (according to the information shown on their respective websites) and makes some observations, a quick evaluation of the potential overlap on topic and quality of the paper is also provided. Q: n, represents a gross estimate of quality of the journal (according to the editorial board, number of issues per year, international scope and other criteria) where n is the value assigned to the quality from 0 to 10 (highest standards meet); T:n represents the Topic overlap so that n=0 will have no overlap at all with the intended topic of the new journal and 10 will match a complete overlap on the topic.

List of potential competing journals

The Open Cybernetics & Systemics Journal

Description: *The Open Cybernetics and Systemics Journal*, is an Open Access online journal which publishes research articles, reviews, and letters in the interdisciplinary areas of Cybernetics, Systems Engineering, Systemics and Informatics, including human computer interactions.

Observations: Very recent (created in 2007), only two numbers published and the topic is very wide with little emphasis on cognitive science. The editorial board is far from specialized in cognition. No impact factor.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:2, T:2

Advances in Cognitive Psychology

Website: <http://www.ac-psych.org/>

30 Tonta, Yaşar and Ünal, Yurdagül and Al, Umut (2007) The Research Impact of Open Access Journal Articles. In *Proceedings ELPUB 2007, the 11th International Conference on Electronic Publishing, focusing on challenges for the digital spectrum*, pp. 1-11, Vienna (Austria).
[\[http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00009619/\]](http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00009619/)

Description: *Advances in Cognitive Psychology* is an open access journal devoted to the scientific study of the human mind. The journal's broad focus encompasses the behavioral, cognitive, and brain sciences. ACP publishes empirical studies, theoretical papers, and critical reviews. Tutorial papers and methodological articles will also be considered. The journal occasionally publishes special issues on topics of widespread interest. The language of the journal is English. Currently ACP is indexed by major abstracting services including PsychINFO, DOAJ and PubMed Central.

Observations: Founded in 2005, wide theoretical scope. Published by Metapress. No impact factor. Good formatting and design.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:6, T:5

Comparative Psychology and Behavior Reviews

Website: <http://psyc.queensu.ca/ccbr/>

Description: Comparative Cognition & Behavior Reviews is a journal of substantive reviews and short constructive critiques. The topic for reviews and critiques is animal cognition, broadly conceived to include research on animal learning, memory, and perception. In addition, Reviews publishes a small number of reviews aimed at a general audience.

Observations: Published by the Comparative Cognition Society, focuses on Comparative Psychology and animal cognition, only two volumes published, no impact factor, good editorial board.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:3, T:2

Current Psychology Letters

Website: <http://cpl.revues.org>

Description: Current Psychology Letters is a scientific electronic journal in cognitive experimental psychology devoted to the publication of short papers.

Observations: Started in 2003 and 24 Volumes published so far, no impact factor, mostly European (there is no American member on the editorial board). Published by Revue (a French journal publishing company)

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:4, T:2

Dynamical Psychology. An International, Interdisciplinary Journal of Complex Mental Processes

Website: <http://goertzel.org/dynapsyc/dynacon.html>

Observations: It is part of Ben Goertzel's website, very few and disorganized volumes, no editorial board, no publishing company behind although the scope is totally theoretical cognitive science.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:1, T:8

The Open Behavioral Science Journal

Website: <http://www.bentham.org/open/tobsj/>

Description: *The Open Behavioral Science Journal* is an Open Access online journal, which publishes research articles, reviews, and letters in all areas of behavioral science. The scope of the journal includes cognitive science, and the neuroscience, biology, psychology, pharmacology, and genetics of behavior.

Observations: Bentham Publisher, Good editorial board, only 2 Volumes with very few articles, no impact factor.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:5, T:5

The Open Psychology Journal

Website: <http://bentham.org/open/topsyj/index.htm>

Description: *The Open Psychology Journal* is an Open Access online journal, which publishes research articles, reviews and letters in all areas of Psychology. The journal's coverage is comprehensive and includes Applied Psychology; Biological Psychology; Clinical Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Experimental Psychology (and cognitive neuroscience) ; Educational Psychology; Mathematical Psychology; Social Psychology; and Psychoanalysis.

Observations: Bentham Publisher, Good editorial board, only 1 Volume with very few articles, no impact factor.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:3, T:2

Psyche: an interdisciplinary journal of research on consciousness

Website: <http://psyche.cs.monash.edu.au>

Description: PSYCHE (ISSN: 1039-723X) is a refereed electronic journal dedicated to supporting the interdisciplinary exploration of the nature of consciousness and its relation to the brain. PSYCHE publishes material relevant to that exploration from the perspectives afforded by the disciplines of cognitive science, philosophy, psychology, physics, neuroscience, artificial intelligence and anthropology. Interdisciplinary discussions are particularly encouraged.

Observations: It seems to serve to publish proceeding and special issues for the *Association for the scientific study of consciousness* . Very good editorial board. No impact factor. Exclusively focused on consciousness.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:8, T:3

Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience

Website: <http://www.hindawi.com/journals/cin/>

Description: Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience is a forum for the interdisciplinary field of neural computing, neural engineering and artificial intelligence, where neuros-

cientists, cognitive scientists, engineers, psychologists, physicists, computer scientists, and artificial intelligence investigators among others can publish their work in one periodical that bridges the gap between neuroscience, artificial intelligence and engineering. The journal provides research and review papers at an interdisciplinary level, spanning the disciplines of computer science, mathematics, physics, cognitive science, and neurobiology, with the field of intelligent systems for computational neuroscience as its focus. All aspects relevant to working on theoretical and computational aspects of the development and functioning of the nervous system are within its scope.

Observations: Hindawi Publisher, no impact factor, started 2007 and only 4 special issues and 2 articles published, not very good editorial board. 400€ to publish a research article.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:2, T:8

International Journal of Computational Cognition

Website: <http://www.yangsky.com/ijcc/yangijcc.htm>

Description: The discipline of intelligent systems has evolved towards its critical goal of embedding non-computable human sensations, perceptions and creativity into machines in 21st century. This critical goal can only be achieved with the help of a new engineering paradigm called *machinself* (from machine itself). Before building a *machinself* we need to build cognition systems into machines; namely, to invent a computational cognition. This is a multidisciplinary challenge.

Observations: Since 2003, 6 Volumes published with 4 numbers each. No relevant editorial board. Seems to be limited to Asian (Chinese and Japanese) niche, with little impact. No impact factor.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:2, T:6

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Website: <http://www.jair.org/>

Description: AIR (ISSN 11076 - 9757) covers all areas of artificial intelligence (AI), publishing refereed research articles, survey articles, and technical notes. Established in 1993 as one of the first electronic scientific journals, JAIR is indexed by INSPEC, Science Citation Index, and MathSciNet. JAIR reviews papers within approximately three months of submission and publishes accepted articles on the internet immediately upon receiving the final versions. JAIR articles are published for free distribution on the internet by the AI Access Foundation, and for purchase in bound volumes by AAAI Press.

Observations: Operating since 1993, 33 Volumes published. Very professional, well designed and formatted, wide editorial board.

Potential overlap on quality and topic: Q:8, T:4

Conclusions

- None of the above Journals is FLOK, they are listed on the DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) because they provide publicly accessible links to the papers. Usually

authors retain the copyright of the work but journals do not guarantee free re-distribution, copy or derivative works, like main OA journals. Therefore, despite some considerable overlap on topics between some of the listed journals and ours, the adoption of a strong commitment to OA+FLOK might provide a marketing extra to our journal.

- It is also interesting to note that major OA Journal Groups (like PLoS and PubMed) have no journal on Cognitive Science; the closest topics are neuroscience and computational biology. This fact might open the opportunity to be integrated on these first-line publishing groups if desirable.
- **In sum:** It can be said that the niche for a OA+FLOK journal on theoretical cognitive science is empty and the financial and scientific launching of the journal could exploit and benefit from this fact (in addition to the other advantages of OA).

Tools and Help for OA & FLOK Journals

Online Publishing Software

PKP's Open Journal System

The *Public Knowledge Project* has provides a free and open software for journal publishing called Open Journal System³¹. From the website:

Open Journal Systems (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.

OJS Features

1. *OJS is installed locally and locally controlled.*
2. *Editors configure requirements, sections, review process, etc.*
3. *Online submission and management of all content.*
4. *Subscription module with delayed open access options.*
5. *Comprehensive indexing of content part of global system.*
6. *Reading Tools for content, based on field and editors' choice.*
7. *Email notification and commenting ability for readers.*
8. *Complete context-sensitive online Help support.*

OJS assists with every stage of the refereed publishing process, from submissions through to online publication and indexing. Through its management systems, its finely grained indexing of research, and the context it provides for research, OJS seeks to improve both the scholarly and public quality of referred research.

OJS is open source software made freely available to journals worldwide for the purpose of making open access publishing a viable option for more journals, as open access can increase a journal's readership as well as its contribution to the public good on a global scale

There are currently over 1400 titles using OJS software³². It is possible to test the software

31 <http://pkp.sfu.ca/?q=ojs>

32 <http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs-journals>

on a demo-mode³³. It is very complete, easy to use and covers 100% of features required for a standard scientific journal. The software is based on PHP and MySQL and is published with GPL and takes “100 MB a year to operate and store typical quarterly journal”³⁴. It has a number of additional plugins, a wide community of users and it is very well documented³⁵.

HyperJournal

From their website³⁶:

The HyperJournal is an Open Source software application which enables on-line as well as printed publishing in an innovative and significantly cost-cutting way. The HyperJournal can be easily installed, configured and managed without any out-of-the-ordinary IT-competence.

Download: <http://www.hjournal.org>

Observations: Does not seem to have undergone any development since 2006 and the demo does not work.

DPubS

From their website³⁷:

DPubS (Digital Publishing System) is an open-source software system designed to enable the organization, presentation, and delivery of scholarly journals, monographs, conference proceedings, and other common and evolving means of academic discourse. DPubS was conceived by Cornell University Library to aid colleges and universities in managing and disseminating the intellectual discoveries and writing of scholars and researchers.

Download: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/dpubs>

Observations: Does not seem to have undergone any development recently and it is not very well documented nor supported by a community.

Institutions providing help for new OA Journals

SPARC and SPARCEurope:

Websites: <http://www.arl.org/sparc/> and <http://www.sparceurope.org/>

SPARC®, the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition, is an international alliance of academic and research libraries working to correct imbalances in the scholarly publishing system. Developed by the Association of Research Libraries, SPARC has become a catalyst for change. Its pragmatic focus is to stimulate the emergence of new scholarly communication models that expand the dissemination of scholarly research and reduce financial pressures on libraries. Action by SPARC in collab-

33 http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs_demo

34 http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs_download

35 http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs_documentation

36 <http://www.hjournal.org>

37 <http://dpubs.org>

*oration with stakeholders – including authors, publishers, and libraries – builds on the unprecedented opportunities created by the networked digital environment to advance the conduct of scholarship. Leading academic organizations have endorsed SPARC.*³⁸

Does SPARC provide start-up funds for new journals?

SPARC’s financial support of journals generally takes the form of subscriptions placed by its members rather than through direct funding. SPARC provides many other services to its publisher-partners, including: an advisory role in the planning and development phases; advertising, publicity and promotion to the broad marketplace; and sales and marketing focused on encouraging SPARC member purchases.

SPARC’s Scientific Communities Initiative, a one-time grant program announced in spring 1999, awarded \$500,000 in development funds to three new electronic journals: Columbia Earthscape, MIT CogNet, and eScholarship (California Digital Library). These funds are administered over a three-year period. The awardees are now part of SPARC’s Scientific Communities publisher partner program.

SPARC acts as a mediator between libraries, institutions, journals, scientists and society for OA publishing, it therefore provides part of the logistics support for the creation and dissemination of a new journal.

In addition, “the **SPARC Alternative publisher partner program** encourages and supports publishing projects that represent a direct and strong competitive alternative to existing high-priced titles in important established STM fields. Such projects can either be entirely new (i.e., proposed and/or under pre-publication development) or already launched”³⁹.

Budapest Open Access Initiative

The Budapest Open Access Initiative has published three Open Access Journal Business Guides⁴⁰, two of which are of relevance for a new journal:

- Guide to Business Planning for Launching a New Open Access Journal v2⁴¹
- Model Business Plan: A Supplemental Guide for Open Access Journal Developers & Publishers⁴²

Open publishing founding possibilities

This section needs to be developed in more detail. The FP7 pilot for OA publishing should include a specific budget for the creation of OA journals. Together with it the new Spanish Law of Science should also facilitate public funding for new journals.

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