Open Access, APCs, and Predatory Publishing Practices

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Workshop for Staff and PG Students - 2019
Overview

- OA at Wits
- Authors’ rights
- Publishing considerations
- How to avoid predatory publishers
- APCs and Wits OA Fund
Open Access (OA) at Wits

- Wits signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities on 9 November 2012 – [http://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration](http://openaccess.mpg.de/Berlin-Declaration)

- WIREDSPACE Institutional Repository – [http://wiredspace.wits.ac.za](http://wiredspace.wits.ac.za)

- WIREDPACE Libguide - [https://libguides.wits.ac.za/c.php?g=145383&p=952630](https://libguides.wits.ac.za/c.php?g=145383&p=952630)

- Wits celebrates International OA Week annually (co-organised by Library, Research Office and CLTD) – see previous events at [https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/OAWeek](https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/OAWeek)

- Wits OA Policy was approved in June 2018 - [https://libguides.wits.ac.za/ld.php?content_id=43820365](https://libguides.wits.ac.za/ld.php?content_id=43820365)
In a nutshell, Open Access is:

- Free
- Immediate
- Full Text
- Permanent
- Online access
- With Limited/no copyright restrictions

**GREEN:** Publish in conventional accredited journals, plus deposit a copy into an institutional repository – OA via a repository

**GOLD:** Publish in peer-reviewed accredited OA journals, preferably without article processing costs - OA via a journal

**HYBRID OA** – Publish in closed subscription journals, but single articles can be made OA after payment of an APC

For more information: See: What is Open Access? Overview by Peter Suber – http://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm

Open Access Timeline - http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Timeline
Authors’ Rights

- Author/creator owns copyright but can belong to a third party:
  - to the institution - institutional policy
  - to a newspaper or employer – in course and scope of employment
  - by commission, or to a publisher – by assignment

- Authors do not have to sign away their rights under Copyright
  See: Wits Author’s Addendum at: [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/WitsAuthorsAddendum](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/WitsAuthorsAddendum)

- Tips on how to negotiate an Addendum with a publisher - [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/ScholarlyCommunication/Negotiating_Tips](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/ScholarlyCommunication/Negotiating_Tips) (under Author’s Rights)

- Author retains Moral Rights – named author on work & protects works from mutilation or distortion.
Claiming Authorship

- Author(s) must have academic knowledge of the content

- Author(s) must have participated substantially in important aspects of the design, analysis and writing up of the research. Others can be acknowledged.

- The author who submits a manuscript for publication accepts the responsibility of including all co-authors, and ensures they all receive copies of each version and sign off the final version for publication.

- For monographs, copyright belongs to main and co-authors (unless assigned to 3rd party). When required, copyright permission may be granted by all authors, or by main author, subject to written agreement.
Ranking of Authors

- Ranking determines the status of authors in relation to the research and content of the article/book.

- The main or most prestigious author is the person who carries out the major part of the research, writing of drafts, finalisation of paper, etc. This author is generally ranked as first or last author. However, ranking differs from one School/Discipline to another (at Wits and elsewhere).

- Agreement on number of authors and ranking is usually by consensus and should be in writing.
Initial Considerations

- Is there a possibility of a patent from your research? First contact Wits Enterprise (Tel. 0117179370/3) or Wits Legal Office (0117171307) for advice before making it public.

- Select appropriate publication – international vs local; impact factors; peer review and reputation; Green, Gold or Hybrid OA?

- Who is the main and other co-author(s)?

- Agree on ranking of authors and fair royalty split - in writing.

- Are there Funders involved? Any special conditions, e.g. OA deposits? Copyright embargoes?

- Admin or Technical people? Data collectors? What role did they play?
Other Considerations

• Not too much repetition of previous work in new articles – update when necessary. Also, reference own work, if public, e.g. conference papers, articles, chapters, etc.

• Material from theses/dissertations must be updated, reworked and referenced for publication purposes

• Read Publisher’s Author Guidelines and use prescribed reference style

• Read the Publisher’s Agreement carefully and attach Author’s Addendum, where possible

• Only submit to one publisher at a time. If work is rejected, take note of comments, then rework and submit to another publisher.
When looking for a journal to publish in:-

- Check DHET’s Accredited List of Journals
- Check if registered with the Directory of Open Access Journals (has strict criteria)
- Is the publisher a member of the Open Access Scholarly Publishers’ Association; Committee on Publication Ethics; or International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers? – membership demonstrates commitment to internationally accepted standards and best practices
Key Publishing Indicators (2)

- Where is the journal indexed? Check: ISI Web of Knowledge, Scopus, ProQuest IBSS, or ask your Faculty Librarian
- Legitimate journals acknowledge their status, past affiliations, name changes, etc.
- They provide full contact details and a help facility for queries
- They provide accepted standards of peer-review, metrics, etc.
- Targeting the right journal for your research - [http://www.slideshare.net/deanrathbone5/targeting-journals](http://www.slideshare.net/deanrathbone5/targeting-journals)
OA Requirements & Research Integrity

• NRF Statement on Open Access to Research Publications
  http://www.nrf.ac.za/media-room/news/statement-open-access-research-publications-national-research-foundation-nrf-funded

• NRF Statement on Predatory Journals & Deceptive Publishers

• Singapore Statement on Research Integrity
Institutional Repository (Green OA)

- An ethical argument – if public pays for research, then public should have access to it.

- OA maximises, measures and rewards uptake, usage, applications and impact of research activity.

- Showcases research output on global stage (ETDs, etc.)

- Encourages co-operation, innovation, collaboration and further research

- Cuts copyright fees as no need for copyright clearances

- Provides free resources for teaching and research

- External OA databases could be commercialised (e.g. Mendeley, SSRN). Institutional repositories will remain free and open, and will be managed by the Library for perpetuity
Copyright Policies for IRS

- Publishers that allow Published Version to be placed on IR - [http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/PDFandIR.php?la=en](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/PDFandIR.php?la=en)

- Publishers’ policies (mixed) – green, blue, yellow and white - [http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/browse.php](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/browse.php)

- Search by Journal name for individual policy - [http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/journalbrowse.php](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/journalbrowse.php)

- South African journals on Sherpa Romeo - [http://sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/search.php?country=ZA&la=en&fIDnum=%7C,,&mode=simple&version](http://sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/search.php?country=ZA&la=en&fIDnum=%7C,,&mode=simple&version)

Publishing Your Research (Gold OA)

- Resources on Publishing your Research (incl. OA publishing) - [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/ScholarlyCommunication](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/ScholarlyCommunication)
- ROAD – Directory of OA Scholarly Resources- [http://aims.fao.org/activity/blog/road-directory-open-access-scholarly-resources](http://aims.fao.org/activity/blog/road-directory-open-access-scholarly-resources)
- Plagiarism, Citation and Referencing Styles - [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/plagiarism_citation_and_referencing](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/plagiarism_citation_and_referencing)
- ORCID - [https://orcid.org](https://orcid.org/) (apply for unique ID for researchers)
- Targeting the right journal for your research - [http://www.slideshare.net/deanrathbone5/targeting-journals](http://www.slideshare.net/deanrathbone5/targeting-journals)
Research Metrics

Bibliometric Resources

https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/Research_Metrics

Almetrics

https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/Altmetrics
What is Predatory Publishing?

• “An exploitative open-access academic 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)” (Wikipedia)

• Predatory publishers are there to make money – no interest in research integrity or quality.

• Some have questionable or sub-standard practices, but are not necessarily predatory

• Predatory publishers refer to false metrics and inclusion of content in abstracting and indexing services.
There are **NO** Global Impact Factors

**Predatory journals claim they are indexed in:**

- Google Scholar (not an index)
- GISI
- Copernicus
- Citrefactor
- Global Impact Factor (GIF)
- Journal Impact Factor (JIF)
- Universal Impact Factor (UIF)
- SJIF
- Isource
Predatory Publishers/
Fake Conferences


- **Predatory journal publishers** -
  [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/Predatory_Publishers](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/Predatory_Publishers)

- **Predatory Book Publishers** - OmniScriptum (formerly VDM Verlag) and Lambert Academic Publishers (LAP)

- **Fake conferences** (check sponsors, even IEEE has sponsored some); some use same name & acronyms of genuine conferences; offer several conferences in one year; same contact for several conferences; no venue or programme details, etc.

- **Honorary credits** - Someone adds your name or others’ names as an ‘author’ or ‘editor’, without you knowing
Cautionary Check List

- Review the journal's scope – too broad? Does it publish on almost any topic?
- No ISSN or DOI number
- No contact details or website
- Titles have a country name in them, e.g. Canadian Journal of …, but are published in Asia or elsewhere
- Titles mimic other journal titles
- Excessive advertising on website
- No links to international accredited publishing bodies
- Very quick publishing time – even overnight!
- Poor or no peer-review
- Authors not required to rework material - publish as is – just add a cover!
Cautionary Check List (2)

- Author fee schedules are vague or hidden
- Publisher invites authors to review/write for journals unrelated to their fields
- Publisher guidelines are copied from other publishers
- Journal claims to have an impact factor - but no way of confirming this
- A number of journals have exactly the same editorial boards
- When did the journal start? Is it regular? Not just v.1, issue 1?
- Has it been removed from the DHET’s accredited list, (e.g. Mediterranean Journal of Social Science for plagiarism)
- Use “Think Check Submit” - https://thinkchecksubmit.org/
- Avoid Predatory Practices - https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/Predatory_Publishers
Article Processing Charges (APCs for Gold OA)

- Article processing charge (APC) - a publication fee that some publishers charge authors to publish their works on OA. It is not a per page charge for closed subscription journals.

- Not all Open Access journals charge APCs, but many do. Can be very expensive!

- Some charge institutions high subscription fees for journals, then charge their academics an APC for publishing OA articles = **Double Dipping.**
To Avoid APCs

- To avoid APCs, rather select an OA journal without APCs. Check DHET accredited list at: https://collections.nwu.ac.za/dbtw-wpd/textbases/accredited-journals/accred-other-universities.html (type NO in 4th block)

- Or, publish in a closed subscription-based journal, and then place a copy of final peer-reviewed manuscript (postprint) or published paper in WIREDSPACE. Check journal title on SHERPA ROMEO for publishers’ copyright policy http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php

Open Access APC Fund

• Information Sheet with criteria, etc. and application form – https://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication/APCFund

• First check if funds are available, before applying.

• Submit completed application form, invoice, proof of payment of APC and letter from publisher to Denise.Nicholson@wits.ac.za

• 50% of APC (max of R10 000) will be paid to Faculty, which then refunds to Wits author
Become Visible on the Web

IF YOU ARE NOT ON GOOGLE, YOU DO NOT EXIST!!!

• Get a research identifier (ORCID)

• Place CC-licensed copy of your publication on personal website (many publishers allow this)

• Place permitted version on WIREDSPACE, ResearchGate, LinkedIn, etc. (check copyright policies)

• For more information – see: http://libguides.wits.ac.za/ScholarlyCommunication/Web_Presence_for_Academics
Conclusion

- Know your rights as an author – get best deal with publisher
- Agree on ranking of authors - in writing
- Do not exclude a valid author – i.e. plagiarism & copyright infringement
- Ensure all authors are involved in review, editing & publishing process
- Agree on how royalties will be split (for monographs)
- Publish OA to reach a wider audience & attract more citations
- Select a reputable publisher (preferably on DHET list) - Avoid predatory publishers!
- Avoid paying APCs, but where necessary, apply to Wits APC Fund
- Follow Journal’s Author Guidelines, e.g. font size, spacing, Ref. style)
- When including third party images, photos, etc in publication, get prior written copyright permission from rightsowners
- Check Turnitin before submitting manuscript to publisher
- If work is rejected, take any advice given and send to another publisher

Best of luck with you publications!
Thank You

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