



Open Access Publishing: An Initial Discussion of Income Sources, Scholarly Journals and Publishers

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On behalf of the SOAP consortium

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Outline of the presentation

- SOAP – Project information
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- First observations
- Further information and contact details

SOAP Info – Background

- Study of Open Access Publishing (SOAP)
- Funded by the European Commission (FP7 Science and Society)
- Runs from March 2009 to Feb 2011
- Co-ordinated by CERN, the consortium represents key representatives of publishers, libraries, funding agencies and a broad spectrum of subject disciplines

SOAP Info - Partners

Research Organizations, Funding Agencies and Publishers



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



Science & Technology
Facilities Council



BioMed Central
The Open Access Publisher



Springer

science+business media

Aims and objectives

- Focuses on the “gold” open access
- Will describe and analyse open access publishing models
- Will investigate researchers’ position towards open access
- Will provide data and information for the European Commission, libraries, funding agencies, publishers and researchers

Methodology

Quantitative assessment of existing open access models

- **Source:** Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ, <http://www.doaj.org>)
- **Data:** spreadsheet – downloaded July 2009
- **Scope:** quality of scholarly journals (peer review or other forms of editorial control)

Some first observations

- Open access journals – DOAJ
 - More than 4,000 journals (July 2009)
 - Various languages
 - Various publishing platforms (aggregation services, open source software, etc.)
- Publishers – DOAJ
 - More than 2,500 publishers
 - Different sizes (defined by number of journals owned)
 - Grouping by number of journals and articles

Open access journals - DOAJ

size of publisher by number of DOAJ journals	DOAJ publishers		DOAJ journals	
1	2,271	88 %	2,271	56 %
2 to 9	287	11 %	849	21 %
10 to 49	25	1 %	358	9 %
≥ 50	5	0 %	554	14 %
Total	2,588		4,032	

Income sources as attributes of open access publishing models

- a) **article processing charge**: a charge applied for the processing of an article.
- (b) **membership fee**: journal income via a membership option.
- (c) **advertisement**: journal income through accepting and hosting advertisements.
- (d) **sponsorship**: journal income through sponsorship, by single or multiple institutions/organisations or at an individual level.
- (e) **subsidy**: financial assistance by an organisation hosting the publishing activity or by a funding agency concerned by assuring that the publishing activity remains ongoing.
- (f) **subscription**: income from subscription to the print version of the journal.
- (g) **hard copy**: income from hard copy sales, either individual volumes or the archives of the journal with some given periodicity.
- (x) **other**: article page charge, colour page charge, off-prints and reprints sales, print on demand, income via conference fees, donations, services to authors (copy-editing, proof reading, etc.), etc.

Income sources for OA journals by publisher size

Publisher size	Number of journals	Number of Journals Successfully Processed	Income sources [%] Multiple selection						
			a	b	c	d	f	g	x
1	2270	954	15	8	13	37	45	15	21
2 to 9	845	438	45	8	29	86	91	32	35
10 to 49	362	185	51	8	15	11	55	5	40
≥ 50	555	540	88	76	83	23	28	61	11
total	4032	2117							

a=article processing charge

c=advertisements

e=subsidy

g=hard copy sales

b=membership fees

d=sponsorship

f=subscription to the print version of the journal

x=other



Summary and future work

- Size and income sources are only some of the attributes studied; more in the open access publishing models & attributes report – to be released in June 2010
- SOAP survey – closing end of August 2010
- SOAP project workshop – 13 January 2011

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Further information

- Project team: info@project-soap.eu
- Website: <http://soap-fp7.eu>
- SOAP survey: http://surveymonkey.com/soap_survey_d
- SOAP workshop: <http://project-soap.eu/final-workshop>



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Thank you for your attention!

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