

Revisiting the Evolving Landscape of Open Access and Scholarly Communication

Panelists:

Daniel Gelaw Alemneh, University of North Texas

Abebe Rorissa, University at Albany, State University of New York

Shimelis Assefa, University of Denver

Kris Helge, Texas Woman's University

Suliman Hawamdeh, University of North Texas

Samantha Hastings, University of South Carolina

Elise Lewis, University of South Carolina



Question 1

- In view of the various digital preservation activities, discuss the need for removal of barriers (including legal and technical) to facilitate the numerous curation activities required in the digital resources lifecycle management.



Question 2

- What are the roles of information users, information creators (e.g., publishers), information professionals, educators, governments & elected officials, professional associations, etc., in ensuring that access to information is guaranteed as a universal and basic human right.



Question 3

- To what extent does open access ease the lack of access in scientific and research outputs in developing countries;
- What is the perception of 'open data' in scholarly communications, and what are the challenges and enabling environments for data sharing.



Question 4

- How the removal of barriers – such as - paywalls, contractual obstructions, obsolete or inadequate technology, and often-outdated policy facilitates access and use of scholarship globally.
- What are the strategies that help reduce the impact of such barriers



Question 5

- In the context of Global Information Infrastructure, and given the importance of information as a key economic resource, discuss the issue of access to information as a basic human right issue.
- While open access to information might not mean free access to information, discuss the need for developing an open access business model that insures the continuation and sustainability of open access repositories.



Topics for Discussion

- Open access and its impact on scholarly communication
- What concrete benefits can be realized by making scholarly outputs available through open access?
- What does the future direction and landscape of open access scholarly communication look like?



Topics for Discussion...

- What factors will aid (or hinder) continued acceptance and prestige of open access scholarly communication in academia?
- Open access and research datasets: what are the new trends, developments, and issues?
- Disparities in expenditure on R&D: What is the role of open access?



Topics for Discussion...

- Why the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly, 1948) is relevant to the discussion of open access in forums and the classrooms
- Are there other broader/global frameworks, guidelines, laws, etc., to inform the discussions and justifications for open access? If so, what are they?



Topics for Discussion...

- What are audience members doing in terms of addressing open access in their programs, courses, etc.? – this one is relevant to ALISE
- Can audience members share their experiences with respect to collaborations (e.g., an LIS School and University/school/public library) to implement, promote, and advance open access



Thanks!

