

Introduction to Open Access

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Open Access:

What is it?

Where did it come from?

How is it being achieved?

What do we mean by open?

Open to contribution & participation

Open & free to access

Open to use & reuse with few or no restrictions

Open to indexing & machine readable



Open access literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.

- Peter Suber

Gratis vs. Libre

- **Gratis:** You can read it for free. Anything else, you better ask permission.
- **Libre:** With credit given, OK to text-mine, re-catalog, mirror for preservation, quote, remix, whatever.
- Most OA is gratis. You get to “libre” via Creative Commons licensing, usually.

Open Access Publishing (aka, Gold OA)

- Publication that is free & open for anyone to access on internet
 - Journals & books!
 - 9972 OA journals according to Directory of Open Access Journals (as of July 24, 2013)
 - Journals across all disciplines
 - Share common features with toll access journals
 - Supported by variety of models
 - Institution / funder supported *or* author-supported
 - Generally allow authors to retain copyright or license under Creative Commons
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Issues & Questions

- Has taken time for impact factors & reputation to build
 - Misconception that all OA publications levy fees to publish
 - Misconception that authors are paying out-of-pocket when fees are charged
 - Author pays model has better traction in the STM community
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Open Archiving/Repositories (aka, Green OA)

- Literature published through traditional channels that is made openly available through deposit in a repository or placing on web site
 - Institutional, departmental, or discipline based repository
 - Supported by a range of business models
 - Range of publisher policies on deposit
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Issues & Questions

- Sustainability sometimes an issue
 - Participation of faculty (particularly for institutional)
 - Discipline based repositories often rooted in cultures used to sharing
 - Often include a range of material including student work, grey literature, theses and dissertations, etc.
 - For published literature, what can be deposited confusing (preprint, postprint, published version?)
 - Copyright issues murky and (often) frustrating
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Hybrid models

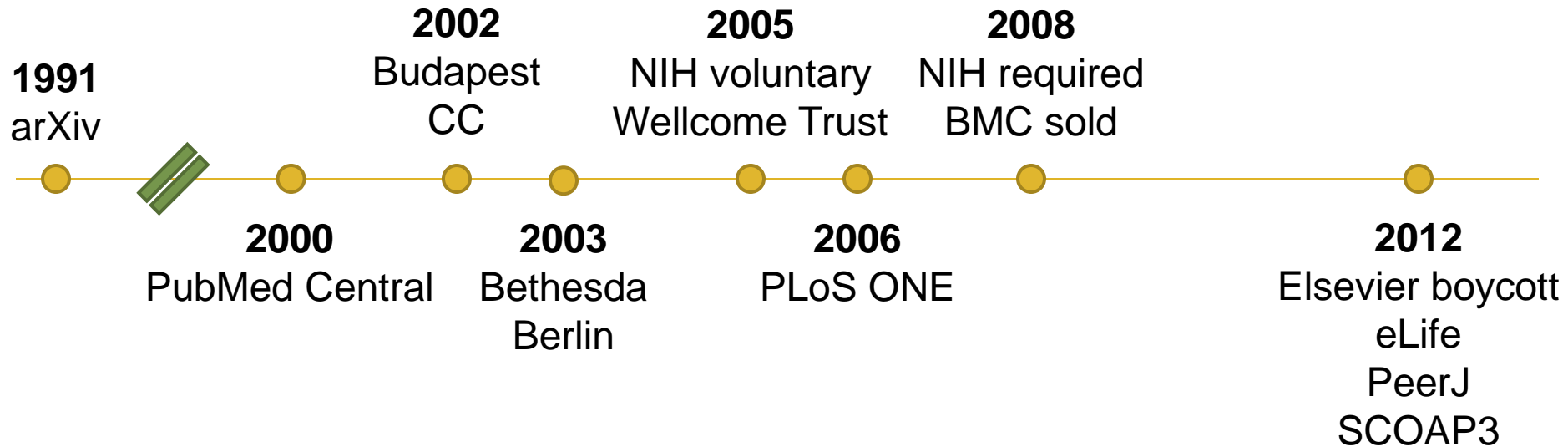
- Article-level optional OA in traditional journals
 - Fees always charged
 - Fees typically higher than in full OA publications (routinely upwards of \$3000)
 - Starting to see hybrid models in book publication
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Issues & Questions

- Mixed business model – subscriptions and author pays on an article by article basis – uncomfortable for many
 - Relatively low adoption (generally around 1-2%)
 - What impact on subscription prices?
 - Many libraries with funds for faculty to publish in OA journals will not fund these articles
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Select highlights of OA history



Public Access

- Generally refers to access required by a funder
 - Especially government funding, for which accountability to taxpayers is sought.
 - Private funders
 - UK Research Councils
 - National Institutes of Health
 - Public access deposit required in 2008
 - PubMed Central
 - Compliance rate jumped
 - In 2013, enforcement became more strict
 - Compliance rising again
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New efforts on Public Access

- White House directive
 - 20+ federal agencies working on plans for requiring public access.
 - CHORUS v. SHARE (and PMC!)
 - FASTR Act in Congress
 - Fair Access to Science & Technology Research
 - (Successor of FRPAA)
 - Public access has become a bipartisan “bandwagon” in Congress
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Institutional support -- Libraries

- Help with NIH deposit process
 - Advise about © and publication issues
 - Authors' rights addenda
 - COPE (Compact for Open-Access Publishing Equity)
 - Helps authors pay Gold OA fees
 - Debate about hybrid fees
 - Purpose is to even the incentives
 - Often shared funding
 - Memberships in OA journals, PeerJ
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Library support -- Repositories

- Many publishers allow Green OA for final author's manuscript.
 - Increases visibility, impact.
 - Likely that these repositories will be increasingly important
 - Many be used for WH Directive compliance plans
 - SHARE
 - Often part of a broader digital collections program
 - ETDs
 - Special Collections materials
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Institutional support for OA

- Multiple offices may provide COPE funds
 - Advocacy efforts
 - Provost's & President's letter re. public access
 - Support for organizations like ARL, AAU APLGU
 - Institutional Open Access policies
 - Usually must arise from the faculty
 - Opt-In v. Opt-Out
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Institutional OA Policy (Opt-out)

- Creates license to institution for repository deposit
 - License exists immediately, prior to any transfer of copyright
 - Law review analysis of Harvard policy by Eric Priest
 - Normal implementation in accordance with publisher policies
 - Waiver option is normal part of policy
 - Waiveable but irrevocable
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Attribution

Sources:

- ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit: <http://scholcomm.acrl.ala.org/>
- Open Access Directory: http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Main_Page
- Suber, Peter. (2012). *Open Access*. MIT Press. Available in paper or OA ebook at <http://mitpress.mit.edu/books/open-access>

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