



## **SPARC Europe in the Open Access Movement: A Master Plan to tackle the barriers?**

Astrid van Wesenbeeck,  
Executive Director SPARC Europe

Athens, December 16 – 17 2010

Athens, December 16 2010

International Conference "OPEN ACCESS: Research,  
Education, Public Data"

- A very brief introduction
- Open Access in Europe
- SPARC Europe focus areas
- Questions & Discussion

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**Scholarly Publishing and Academic  
Resources Coalition (SPARC) Europe**

SPARC Europe lobbies, advocates, informs,  
collaborates, initiates and organizes to bring the  
Open Access Movement forward.

Athens, December 16 2010

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- **To researchers:** increases visibility, impact
- **To libraries:** financial balance, dissemination & preservation
- **To funding bodies:** increases visibility
- **To publishers:** they still get paid for the services they deliver
- **To universities:** impact & visibility / marketing

*Increased returns on research & development*

Open Access is good for all; it does not place anyone in a corner, but it does imply a shift in relationships and financial systems.

- A very brief introduction
- Open Access in Europe
  - Policies
  - Publishing
  - Repositories
  - Advocacy
- SPARC Europe focus areas
- Questions & Discussion

I will focus on 4 themes in the OA Movement.



First theme: Policies: the one that gives the money, is the one that can set requirements (and force a certain desired behaviour).

Publications (and sometimes data) should be made freely available within 6 to 12 months upon formal publication, via an (or the) institutional repository.

Preferably the final, publisher, version.

*Open Access Policies (mandates) of funding bodies do create author awareness*

Generally Open Access Policies include:



**Funding Agencies implemented  
OA policies (source: ROARmap):**

- Wellcome trust – United Kingdom
- Austrian Science Fund – Austria
- NWO Open Access Fund – The Netherlands
- Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology
- Hungarian Scientific Research Fund – Hungary
- National Institute of Health – USA
- European Commission – for EC funded research output (EC FP7)

Some examples.

All policies to be found in ROARmap.

## Challenges

- To make them really work; what happens now if you ignore the policy?
- To communicate them properly
- Embargoes (a compromise for the publishers) delay the transformation toward Open Access
- Copyright issues hardly touched in this area
- Policies mainly refer to depositing in Institutional Repositories (Green OA), not to publishing in Open Access journals (Gold OA)
- The largest funding body, the EC, had started an Open Access Pilot: Can this pilot make a difference on national levels?



## Institutional and funders' Open Access Policies & Mandates

In ROARmap you can find broad collection of institutional policies and mandates:

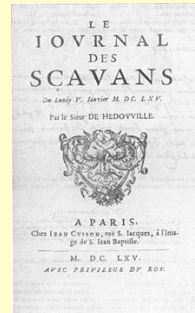
- Funder-mandate
- Institutional-mandate
- Thesis-mandate
- Proposed-x-mandates
- NO mandates

<http://www.eprints.org/openaccess/policysignup/>

Sherpa Juliet: Research' funders Open Access Policies

**SPARC**  
EUROPE

**Open Access Publishing**



Next theme: Publishing. Because in the end, it is all about publishing. I refer to book and journal publishing.

## Some challenges

- To find sustainable business models for OA publishers
- Participation of authors, license to publish
- To break open the relation between the current research assessment system (ISI) and the traditional toll-access journals
- Traditional publishers must transform to Open Access >> decrease subscription prizes
  - Open Letter Chinese libraries to International Publishers: prize increases unreasonable and unacceptable
  - Call of Research Libraries UK: will not support future Big Deals if publishers don't show serious price reductions

Open Access Publishers:

- Springer Open - European
- BioMed Central - European
- BMJ Group
- SAGE Open (spring 2011) >
- HINDAWI
- Co-Action - European
- Public Library of Science
- Copernicus Publications - European
- And more!

*Article processing charges & Memberships*

*Springer and SAGE: setting up NEW journals, they are not transforming*

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**OASPA** Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association

Home About OASPA Conference Membership Information Resources

**Welcome to the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association, OASPA.**

OASPA offers a forum for bringing together the entire community of Open Access journal publishers.

**Our mission** is to represent the interests of Open Access (OA) journal publishers globally in all scientific, technical and scholarly disciplines. This mission will be carried out through exchanging information, setting standards, advancing models, advocacy, education, and the promotion of innovation.

Through a shared interest in developing appropriate business models, tools and standards to support OA publishing, we can ensure a prosperous and sustainable future to the benefit of our members and the scholarly communities they serve. OASPA would like to thank **SPARC Europe** for its support during our initial phase of operation.

Keep up to date on OASPA via our [Blog](#)

We hope you will [join us](#) as an OASPA Member!

**Announcements**

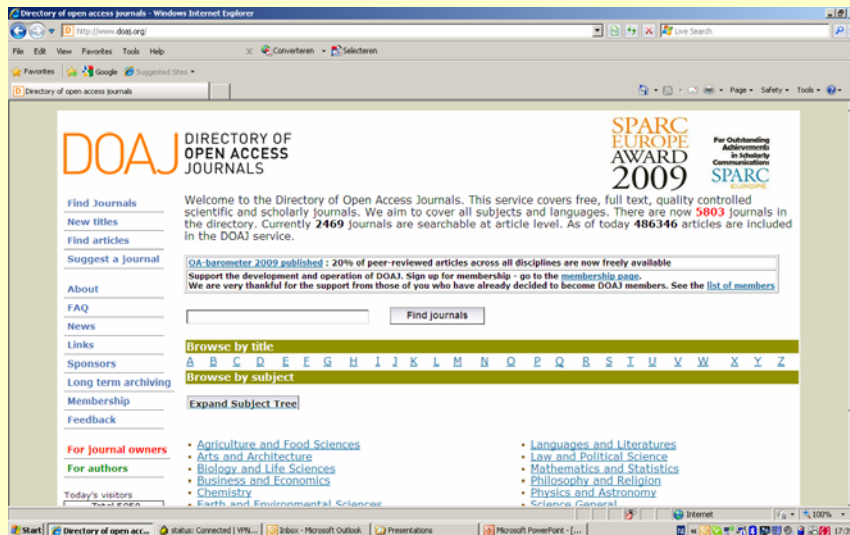
The **2nd Conference for Open Access Scholarly Publishers (COASP)**, was held at the **President Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic 22-24 August 2010**. You can view the conference sessions at:

<http://river-valley.tv/conferences/oaspa-2010/>

**OASPA Open Access Week WEBINAR: Live Q&A Session with Five OA Publishers** - we hope those of you who were able to attend the live WEBINAR enjoyed it. For those of you who were unable to attend, a copy of the



Directory of Open Access Journals:  
5800 journals, app. 4 new per day



The DOAJ will probably not be used by researchers, but it is THE place to register your new OA journal and to find all OA journals.

The DOAJ is hosted by LUND University in Sweden.



The challenge is bigger for smaller Open Access publishers, such as

- Library initiatives
  - Igitur, Utrecht Publishing and Archiving Services
  - Revistas CSIS
  - more
- Individual initiatives
  - Journal of Industrial Engineering and Management (JIEM)
  - Cellular Therapy and Transplantation
  - More

***John Willinsky, December 16: a new journal is a sign of academic freedom***

**Additional challenges for new,  
young open access publishers:**

- Commit to editorial policies
- Attract authors
- Select quality; thus reject articles
- (Continuous) publication schedule
- Impact factors; Web of Science
- Find hosts >> libraries!



**Open Journal Systems: used by more than 7500 journals worldwide (source: Heather Morrisson, Dec 2010)**



The Public Knowledge Project supports these small ones, with for example Open Journal Systems.

Currently more than 7500 journals are published with OJS and most of them operate in a non-professional publishing area.

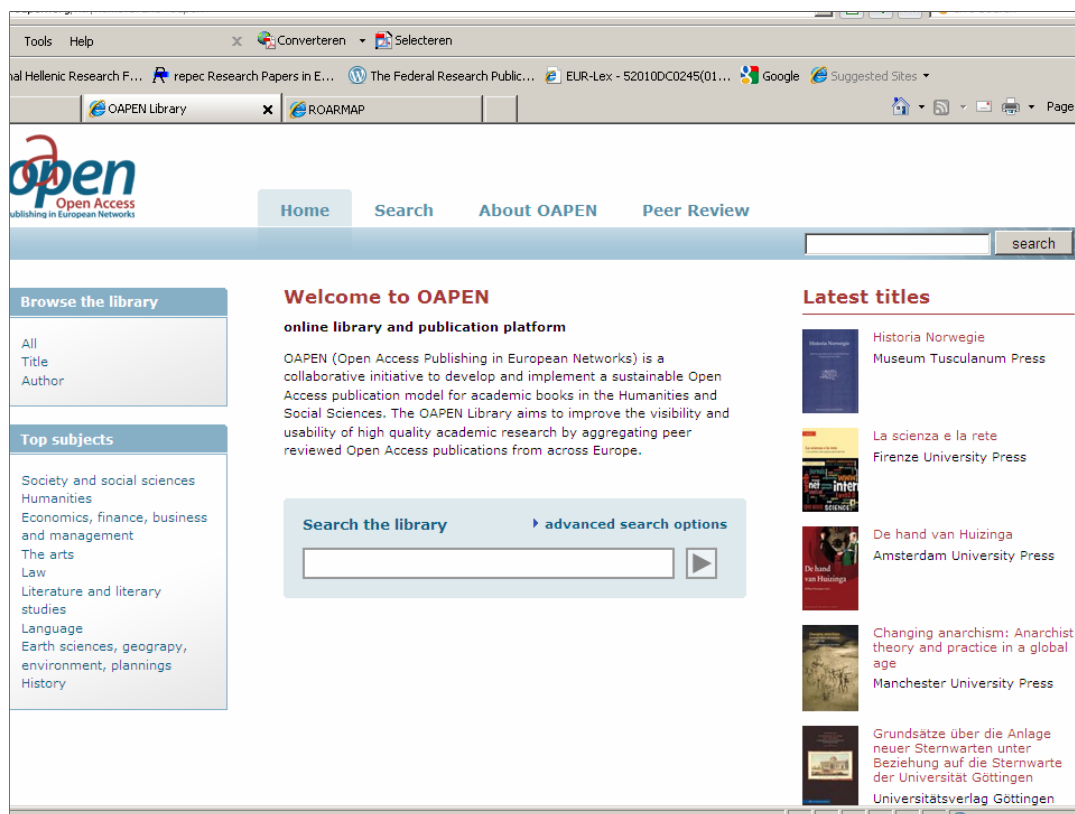


- October – December:
- PKP, SPARC Europe and OJS users are exploring the establishment of a European PKP Network
- A platform for sustainability, development, improvement of the software and a platform for editors & publishers
- For reinforcing the businesses

*First meeting with initial participants TODAY*

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OAPEN: an important model for book publishing. OAPEN is an online library & publication platform.

Aims to promote Open Access book publishing by building a branded collection of Open Access peer-reviewed titles, to increase the visibility and retrievability of high-quality European research and to set quality standards for Open Access books, based on transparent procedures for peer review and recommendations for Open Access licenses



**Challenge OAPEN**

**Address to Funding Agencies >> Open Access  
Policies for book publishing**

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**Some other initiatives that  
address some of these challenges**

- SCOAP3
- SOAP Project
- MESUR




Tools Help    Converteren    Selecteren

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Co-Action Publishing -    Open Journal Systems | Publ...    National Hellenic Research F...

## SCOAP<sup>3</sup> - Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics

### Towards Open Access publishing in High Energy Physics



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### SCOAP<sup>3</sup>

A consortium facilitates Open Access publishing in High Energy Physics by re-directing subscription money. This answers the request of the High Energy Physics community.

**Today:** (funding bodies through) libraries buy journal subscriptions to support the peer-review service and allow their patrons to read articles.

**Tomorrow:** funding bodies and libraries contribute to the consortium, which pays centrally for the peer-review service. Articles are free to read for everyone.

**Read now:**

- The Executive Summary of the Report of the SCOAP<sup>3</sup> Working Party
- The complete report

» To know more

### Latest news

**06/12/2010, Morocco joins SCOAP<sup>3</sup>**

The Moroccan Centre National Pour la Recherche Scientifique et Technique (National Center for Scientific and Technological Research) has joined SCOAP<sup>3</sup> on behalf of Morocco, the first African country to do so.

With Morocco, the SCOAP<sup>3</sup> consortium has now established partnerships in as many as 25 countries in Africa, Europe, North America, Australasia and the Middle East. So far, these partners have collectively pledged over 7 millions Euros per annum towards this innovative Open Access initiative to convert to Open Access the entire

- Consortium of funding bodies, libraries and publishers
- SCOAP3 facilitates Open Access publishing in High Energy Physics by redirecting subscription money
  - Members will contribute to the consortium according to their share of the HEP scientific production
  - *Calculated that Open Access is cheaper*
  - University of Patras is a member of SCOAP3

SCOAP3 *is* transformation for the involved publishers.  
SCOAP3 *does* grow awareness amongst authors.

Tools Help x Converteren Selecteren

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**Study of Open Access Publishing**

**SOAP results @ slideshare**  
Recent results from the SOAP project are now available at the following presentation at more...

**Registration for the SOAP Symposium is now open**  
The SOAP project describes and analyses the open access publishing landscape as well as more...

**First results of the SOAP project. Open access publishing in 2010.**  
The SOAP (Study of Open Access Publishing) project has compiled data on the present more...

[More News >](#)

## Welcome

The Study of Open Access Publishing (SOAPs) is a two-year project, funded by the European Commission under FP7 ([Seventh Framework Programme > Capacities > Science in Society](#)).

This project runs from 1st March 2009 to 28th February 2011 and is co-ordinated by CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

The SOAP consortium represents key stakeholders such as publishers (BioMed Central Ltd (BMC), Sage Publications Ltd (SAGE) UK and Springer Science+Business Media Deutschland GmbH (SSBM)), funding agencies (Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) UK), libraries (Max Planck

Digital Library of the Max Planck Society) and a broad spectrum of research disciplines. It aims to study the new open access business models that have emerged as a result of the shift from print to digital documents and inform the European Commission and all stakeholders about the risks, opportunities and essential requirements for a smooth transition to open access publishing.

*Open access: a concept that allows the results of publicly-funded research to be made available online without charge to the reader.*

## Search

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## Content

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SOAP: A project that aimed to study the new open access business models. Results to be disseminated in January 2011.



**SOAP results to be presented at  
January 13<sup>th</sup>, Berlin:**

“in-depth study of the business models, market success, similarities and differences of several thousand Open Access journals, and a unique large-scale survey on the (surprising) attitudes, drivers and barriers for Open Access Publishing of tens of thousands of researchers across disciplines and around the world.”

## The Research Assessment System (ISI)

- The Impact Factors are an obstacle for each new journal to enter the market
- **MESUR project** >> aims to enrich the toolkit that can be used for assessment of the impact of scholarly communications with metrics that derive from usage data.
- **Conclusion** is that citations are only a tiny spot on the map of scholarly communications
- It is an alternative, but not a sustainable service yet: what will happen with MESUR?
- Are there other initiatives in this area?

The toughest barrier to tackle will probably be the research assessment system that is currently mainly focused on impact and citations. This system is deeply

The MESUR project aimed to prove that there's lot of other indicators in the dynamic, inter-disciplinary system of Scholarly Communications.



Third theme: Repositories and Infrastructures

- Improve and focus on dissemination
  - Metadata quality
  - Content quality
  - Completeness
  - Indexing for Google etc.
  
- Disseminating research data & linking to articles  
Semantic web / linked data: starting now!

*Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR)*

The first point is important because it forms a basis for developing additional services.

**National repository programs support this challenge**

- Aim to disseminate the national research output
- Aim to develop institutional repositories: guarantee each university establishes one
- Aim to share knowledge & expertise with regard to technology, communication

One of the trends is a national repository program; which aims to harvest all data from all IR's.



**United Kingdom**

- Sherpa Partnership: search all repositories throughout the UK  
([www.sherpa.ac.uk/repositories/#sherpasearch](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/repositories/#sherpasearch))

**Netherlands**

- NARCIS (DAREnet) : all Dutch Repositories harvested  
([www.narcis.nl](http://www.narcis.nl))

**Ireland**

- RIAN: all Irish Repositories harvested  
(<http://rian.ie/>)

**Italy**

- PLEIADI: all Italian repositories harvested  
(<http://www.openarchives.it/pleiadi/>)



## European Repository Program to support the Open Access Pilot

OpenAIRE:

27 countries – national helpdesks

Based on existing Repositories

December 2<sup>nd</sup>: launched



Athens, December 16 2010

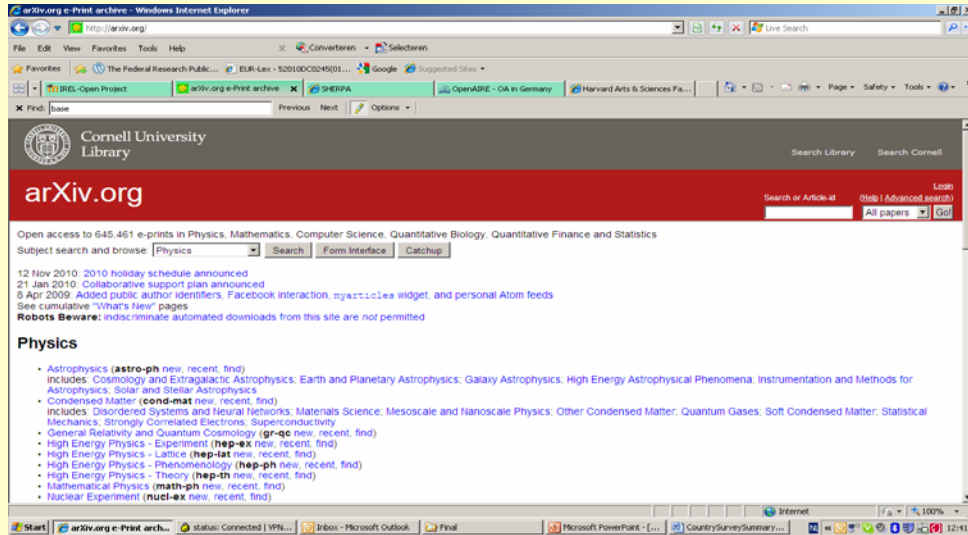
International Conference "OPEN ACCESS: Research, Education, Public Data"

On the highest level the European Commission underwrites the importance of openness to data and interoperability of research infrastructures.

The Open Access Pilot is evidence for this.



## Arxiv: eprint service for physics, mathematics, Comp Sc, Quantative Bio and Quant Finance & Stats



The Arxiv is not only the oldest one, but it is also special because it is highly important to researchers; ones you have your preprint ready you deposit it in the Arxiv ASAP. I believe the Arxiv is one of the few that really meets the needs of the scholars; it's fully integrated in their processes.

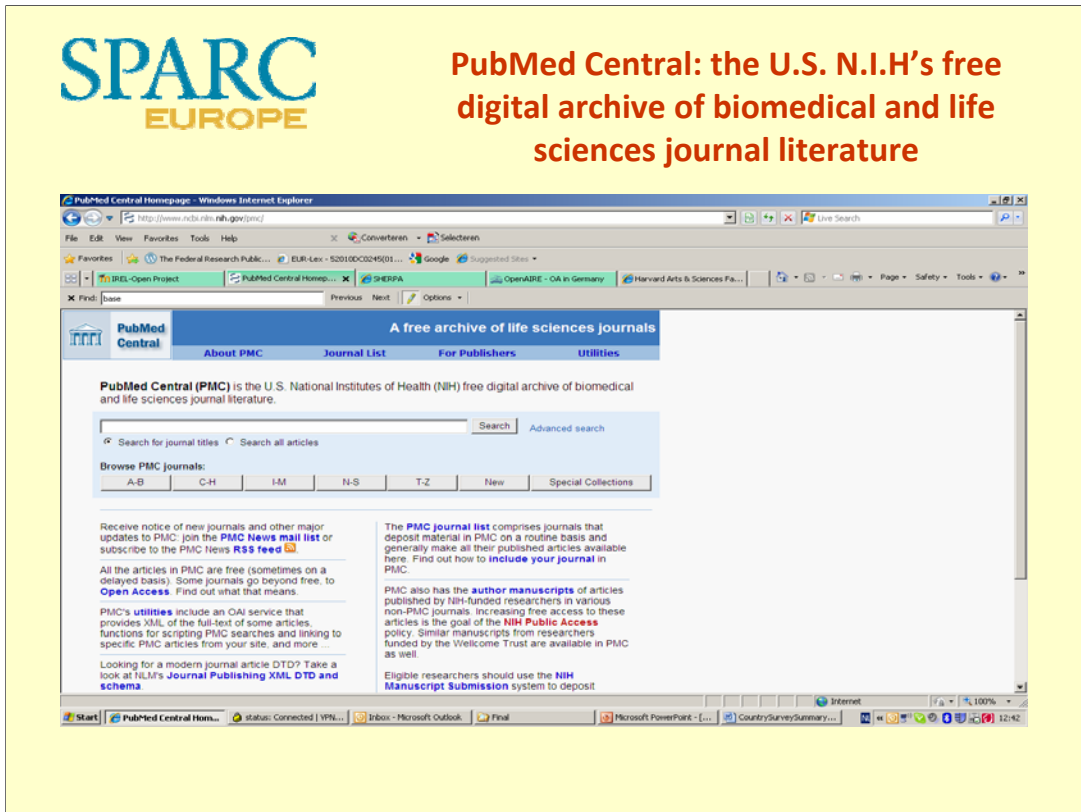
Subject Repositories / harvest programs

- Aim to provide an information container for specific academic disciplines / academic cultures > focus on researchers
- Aim to collect the newest articles via submitting and / or harvesting
- One place to find all

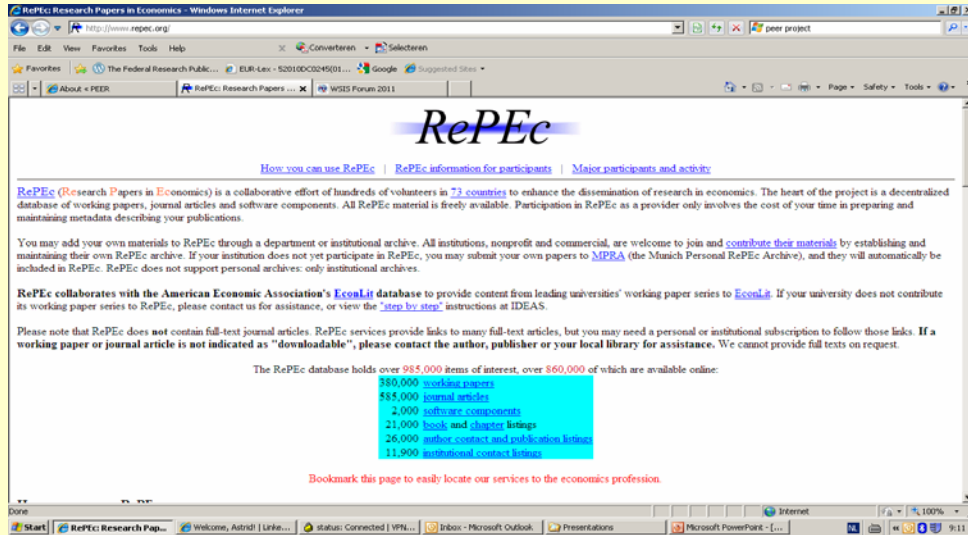
Once the infrastructure is ready, we can start developing additional services on top of them, such as subject repositories. I mention here some that have proven to be successful (= used) and one that has high potential but is hardly used



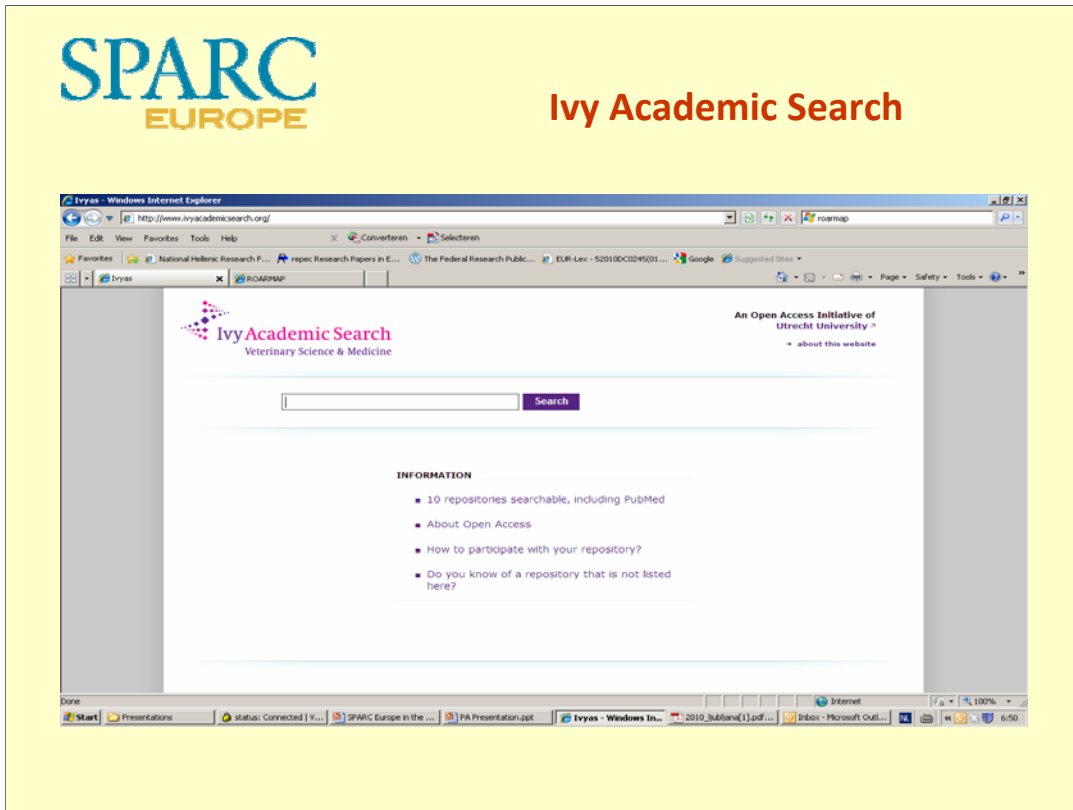
## PubMed Central: the U.S. N.I.H's free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature



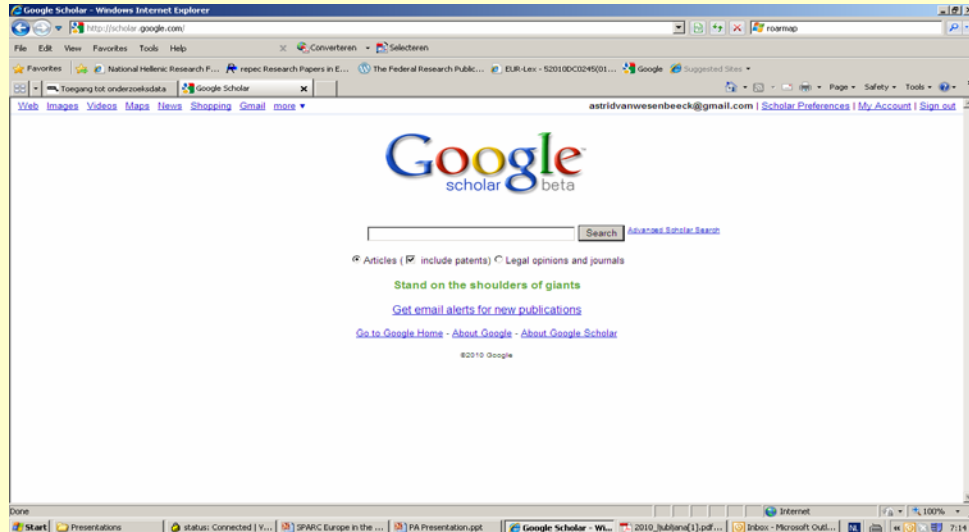
At Utrecht University a small user survey showed that students and researchers in health sciences do use PubMed the most, besides, of course, Google.



Eprint service for economics



Ivy Academic search is a typical “harvest-only” subject repository; it collects incrementally data from other repositories.



Last but not least: Google. In the end, most users use Google, so on our priority list should be: visibility via Google. If we focus on dissemination and qualitative high infrastructures, Google will do the rest?



- Additional services such as data linking and enhanced publications can use the available repositories and their content;
- Developments have “just” started;
- And will need time --
- repositories have to be filled

Once the infrastructure is ready, we can start developing additional services on top of them, such as subject repositories. I mention here some that have proven to be successful (= used) and one that has high potential but is hardly used

The screenshot shows the PEER website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the PEER logo and tagline "Publishing and the Ecology of European Research". Below this, a blue banner contains the text "PEER Publishing and the Ecology of European Research" and "co-funded by the European Union". A navigation menu includes "Home", "Username:", and "Password:". The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a list of links: "Home", "About", "Contact", "Privacy Policy", "Terms of Use", "Help", "Feedback", "Sitemap", "RSS Feeds", "Press releases", "Productivity Presentation", "Reports", "Publications & Presentations", "Events", "PEER Research", "Links", and "Restricted Access Area". The middle column features a main article titled "Pioneering collaboration between publishers, repositories and researchers". The right column contains a "News" section with three items: "PEER Annual Report - Year 2 available", "PEER Behavioural Research: Baseline report now available", and "Final report on the provision of usage data and manuscript deposit procedures available".

In the light of the previous slides, we can ask ourselves if the PEER project appeared a little bit too early. It is a collaboration of publishers and research communities that aims to monitor the effects of self archiving in the long term; will that really increase visibility?

Because Publishers and research communities  
“hold different views on whether mandated  
deposit in open access repositories will  
achieve greater use and impact”.

Aims to measure the effect of long term  
depositing over time.

Services built on top of institutional repositories will influence a project such as PEER; if there is no interoperability, the impact will not per se increase. The main question here is again: is it not too early for such project?

**SPARC**  
EUROPE

## Advocacy



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International Conference "OPEN ACCESS: Research,  
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We were there from the beginning and we did a lot of advocacy work >> talking talking, spreading the word

- **SPARC** Europe, North America and Japan: lobbying, networking, advocating: represent over 90 European University Libraries
- **eIFLE**: access for developing countries
- **Enabling Open Scholarship (EOS)**: information service for scholars
- **Open Access Scholarly Information Sourcebook (OASIS)**: practical steps for implementing Open Access
- **Knowledge Exchange** (DEFF, DFG, SURF & JISC, with participation of SPARC Europe): studies & surveys
- **National levels ...** national helpdesks OpenAIRE and others
- **Institutional levels**: scholarly communications officers

Advocacy work depends on memberships, grants and sponsorships; the benefits are for all.



## **SPARC Europe: an Alliance of European Research Libraries**

- 2002
- 90 European Universities
- One voice:

**“To create a change in the scholarly communications”**

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## **SPARC Europe: an Alliance of European Research Libraries**

- We scan the horizon
- We advocate
- We lobby
- We create synergies
- We inform

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- A very brief introduction
- Open Access in Europe
- **SPARC Europe focus areas**
- Questions & Discussion

Agenda for today.





## **SPARC Europe 2011 and beyond: strategic agenda, focus areas:**

**Support Implementation of Open Access Policies at all levels**

**Strengthen Open Access Publishing**

**Encourage competition on the publishing market**

**Support alternative measurement models**

**Grow awareness amongst all stakeholders**

**Support Open Access Services**

**Collaborate with relevant partners such as PKP, COAR, DOAJ and more**



- [www.sparceurope.org](http://www.sparceurope.org)
- [www.twitter.com/sparc\\_eu](https://www.twitter.com/sparc_eu)
- LINKEDIN GROUP: SPARC Europe

- A very brief introduction
- Open Access in Europe
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- **Questions & Discussion**

## Is there a master plan in the Open Access Movement?

- Are we (= everyone involved!) tackling the real barriers?
- Will the current system of Scholarly Communications really change?
- Will publishers in the end transform to Open Access?
- Are we bold enough?



What do you think?

Thank you for listening!!

Astrid van Wesenbeeck  
SPARC Europe

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**SPARC**  
EUROPE

Aristotle and medical  
students

Athens, December 16 2010

