

## Open access – what editors should know

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5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Scholarly Editors' Forum of South Africa  
28 July 2011, Johannesburg



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# What is Open Access?

- If an article is Open Access it can be freely accessed by **anyone** in the world using an internet connection
- BUT : Open Access articles **are** peer-reviewed & published the normal way
- Open Access
  - enhances readership
  - maximises access to research
  - expands the impact of academic journals internationally



## Open Access is a solution to a problem

- Journal prices keep rising
- University libraries have to pay huge subscription fees
- BUT they can no longer afford subscription to all
- Researchers, institutions, public suffer due to high costs & limited access
- The Open Access solution can be obtained via the:
  - Gold route : publishing in an Open Access journal
  - Green route : self-archiving of an early draft in repository



# British Research Libraries say NO to 'big Deal' serials Packages



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## British Research Libraries Say No to 'Big Deal' Serials Packages

July 22, 2011, 4:56 pm

By Jennifer Howard


As some U.S. research libraries [back away](#) from so-called Big Deals with journal publishers, a major British library group has also taken a stand against high serials prices. Late last year, [Research Libraries UK](#) announced that its members [would not sign](#) any more large deals with two of the biggest journal publishers, Elsevier and Wiley, unless they agreed to significant reductions in what those deals cost.


The association represents 30 of Britain's major research libraries, including those of the Universities of Cambridge, of Edinburgh, of Oxford, of Warwick, and of Kings College London, as well as the British Library and the national libraries of Scotland and Wales. The group's members have collective deals with publishers that are negotiated on their behalf by JISC Collections.

David C. Prosser, executive director of the association, said it is pushing for a reduction of 15 percent in the cost of Big Deals, and that it focused on Elsevier and Wiley because those contracts expire at the end of 2011. "It was a slow and gradual realization" that they had grown too expensive, he said. "There are many benefits to the library

Elsevier and Wiley's deals had grown too expensive. The association would still like to reach deals with Elsevier and Wiley – but only if the terms are right.

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## Green route : Open Access repositories

- An institutional repository collects & preserves the intellectual output of an institution in digital format
  - It has advantages for researchers & institutions
  - Search engines harvest OA journal & repositories
  - Universities are now formulating mandatory policies
  - Repository managers communicate these policies to researchers & interpret journal archiving conditions
  - ROAR – 20 repositories in South Africa





# Charting the growth & development of repositories

<http://www.openaccessmap.org/>



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## Implications for editors

- Does your journal have an archiving policy for researchers & repositories?
- Is your policy displayed prominently on your website?
- SHERPA runs the RoMEO service which lists publishers & their associated copyright agreements
- Researchers and repository managers use it
  - search for a publisher/journal
  - to see what is allowed in an institutional repository



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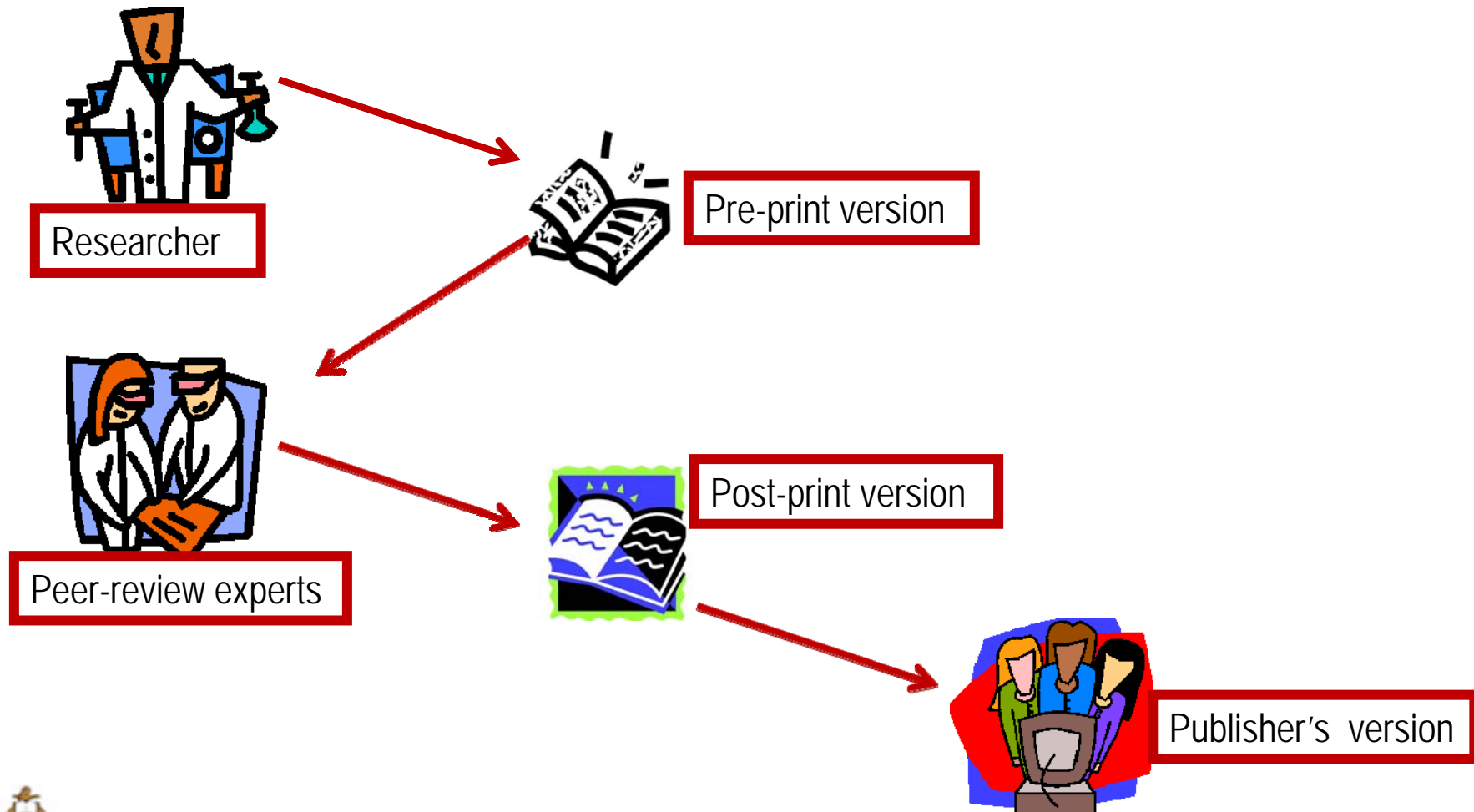
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Title	ISSN	Publisher	Subject	Start	Publication Fee
<a href="#">Acta Biologica Cracoviensia Series Botanica</a>	0001-5296	Polish Academy of Sciences Publishing	plant anatomy botany morphology cytology genetics tissue culture biosystematics embryology physiology	2005	\$20.00
<a href="#">Acta Chimica Slovenica</a>	1318-0207 1580-3155	Slovenian Chemical Society	chemistry	1998	??
<a href="#">Acta Chromatographica</a>	1233-2356	University of Silesia	chemistry, chromatography	1996	??



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# Gold route - introduce your Open Access Journal to the Open Access map

<http://www.openaccessmap.org/>



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## In conclusion – what does the future hold?

- More Open Access journals will be published in time
- More Open access journals will gain impact
- More universities will develop institutional repositories
- Funders will mandate research deposits in repositories
- Change is inevitable!
- If you do not plan to publish an Open access journal, pave the green route with an archiving policy!



# References

- Albert, KM 2006 'Open access : implications for scholarly publishing and medical libraries', Journal of the Medical Association, vol. 94, no. 3, pp. 253-262.
- Thatcher, SG 2010 'What is Open Access?', The Copyright & New Media Law Newsletter, vol. 2010, no. 3.
- What is Open Access? <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/guidance/authors.html#whatoa>





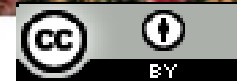
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