

# Open Access Publishing Survey

The United Kingdom's Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) supports further and higher education by providing strategic guidance, advice and opportunities to use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to support teaching, learning, research and administration. JISC is funded by all the UK post-16 and higher education funding councils. Currently, in partnership with the Open Society Institute (OSI), JISC is examining various issues concerned with Open Access to the scholarly research literature. Open Access is sometimes abbreviated to OA in this survey.

We very much need to hear your views about Open Access publishing and hope that you will spare a little time to participate in this survey. As a token of our thanks we will enter the names of all respondents whose completed questionnaires we receive by the closing date of 30 January in a prize draw. The first three names drawn at random will each win an Amazon.com token to the value of £50 (US\$85). You may, of course, remain anonymous if you wish.

## Making your response

Please use the vertical scroll bar to move down through the questions. Should you wish to start again at any point, scroll to the end of the questionnaire and click the Reset button. Where response options are followed by radio buttons, only one response is needed; where they are followed by boxes, you may select any you choose. When you have finished recording your responses, simply click the Submit button at the end of the questionnaire.

## About you

**Q1** Have you submitted a manuscript to, or had a paper published in, an Open Access journal in the past three years?

Yes .....	0.0%	No .....	85.7%
Not sure .....	14.3%		

**Q2** In which of the following sectors do you currently work?

University .....	70.7%	Industrial/business sector.....	4.1%
Other non-commercial research institution	17.7%	Other (please specify below).....	1.4%
Other public sector .....	4.8%		
	2.7%		

**Q3** In which one of the following geographic areas do you currently work?

Australia or New Zealand .....	2.7%	Central or South America .....	2.0%
Asia (except China and Japan) .....	3.4%	European Union (except UK) .....	6.1%
China .....	2.0%	Other European countries (except EU/UK)	2.0%
Japan .....	5.4%	UK .....	57.1%
Canada.....	0.7%	Middle East .....	0.7%
USA .....	15.6%	Africa .....	0.7%

**Q4** Please indicate your age group.

18 - 30 .....	27.2%	41 - 50 .....	14.3%	61 + .....	4.8%
31 - 40 .....	40.1%	51 - 60 .....	12.2%		

**Q5** Which of the following best describes your area of expertise?

Agriculture and food science .....	6.1%	Law and politics .....	0.0%
Business and management .....	2.7%	Life sciences .....	21.1%
Chemistry .....	2.0%	Mathematics .....	4.1%
Computer sciences .....	5.4%	Medical sciences .....	36.1%
Earth and geographical sciences .....	1.4%	Physics .....	4.1%
Engineering, materials sciences and technology .....	2.7%	Psychology .....	5.4%
Humanities .....	3.4%	Social sciences and education .....	4.1%

**Q6** Which of the following have you done in the past three years? Please select any that apply.

	<i>Preprint form</i>	<i>Final, peer-reviewed form</i>
Posted an article on my personal web page.....	10.9%	12.2%
Posted an article on my department's web site .....	8.8%	8.2%
Deposited an article in an electronic institutional repository .....	2.7%	8.8%
Deposited an article in an electronic subject repository .....	5.4%	8.8%

## Awareness of Open Access journals

Some journals - called Open Access journals - are published using a different business model to the traditional one where subscriptions fund the journal's operations. With Open Access journals, authors usually pay a publication fee and their article is then freely available for anyone to access electronically without charge.

**Q7** Are you aware of the concept of Open Access journals?

Yes .....	61.9%	No .....	36.7%
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**Q8** For how many years have you been aware of Open Access publishing?

I'm not aware of OA publishing .....	2.7%	Three years.....	8.8%
Less than one year .....	19.0%	More than three years.....	7.5%
Two years .....	25.9%		

**Q9** Are you aware of any initiatives in your country to promote Open Access publishing? [These may include, for example, grant-awarding bodies, university/library consortia, national university bodies (such as JISC in the UK), and Government-sponsored bodies]

Yes .....	27.2%	No .....	35.4%
<i>If so, which?</i>	15.0%		

**Q10** In the past year has your own institution brought to your attention any Open Access or Institutional Repository publishing initiatives?  
 Yes .....23.8% No .....40.1%  
 If so, which? 7.5%

## Your reasons for NOT publishing in Open Access journals

**Q11** Please indicate whether, and to what extent, any of the following factors were reasons why you have NOT yet published your work in Open Access journals.

	<i>Very important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Not very important</i>	<i>Not at all important</i>
I object in principle to paying a publication fee to publish in OA journals.....	19.0%	25.9%	29.9%	17.7%
I always publish my work in the same journals and am satisfied with this way of working.....	6.1%	34.7%	27.2%	22.4%
I could not identify any OA journals to publish in ....	24.5%	31.3%	20.4%	8.8%
I am not familiar enough with OA journals in my field to feel confident about submitting work.....	35.4%	34.7%	12.2%	8.8%
I perceive the readership to be smaller than for a subscription-based journal .....	27.9%	36.1%	17.0%	8.8%
I perceive the OA journals in my field to have low prestige.....	28.6%	40.1%	12.9%	6.1%
I perceive the OA journals in my field to have low impact.....	30.6%	38.1%	12.9%	5.4%
I perceive the OA journals in my field to have slower publication times than traditional journals....	1.4%	12.2%	37.4%	26.5%
I perceive the OA journals in my field to have poor peer-review procedures in place.....	8.8%	28.6%	24.5%	14.3%
I think articles published in OA journals may be less frequently cited .....	20.4%	38.1%	16.3%	8.2%
I am concerned about the archiving of work published in OA journals .....	15.0%	26.5%	22.4%	17.0%
I cannot find funds to pay the publication fee for OA journals.....	20.4%	22.4%	22.4%	19.7%
I was not attracted by the editor/editorial board .....	5.4%	15.0%	31.3%	22.4%
My decision was influenced by my institution .....	6.1%	9.5%	23.8%	39.5%
My decision was influence by my grant awarding body .....	5.4%	12.2%	23.1%	35.4%
My decision was influenced by my co-publishing colleagues.....	8.2%	17.7%	22.4%	27.2%
<i>If there are any other reasons for NOT publishing your work in OA journals, please type them here</i>	13.6%			

**Q12** Would you publish your work in an Open Access journal if you could identify one that overcame the reasons you gave for not publishing in OA journals in Q11?

Yes .....	71.4%	Don't know.....	21.1%
No .....	2.0%		

## Your opinions of the Open Access concept

**Q13** Some authors have concerns about publishing their work in Open Access journals, particularly in view of the fact that most of them are relatively new and have yet to develop a strong reputation or impact factor score. If you share any of these concerns, please indicate how important a concern TO YOU each of the following is:

	<i>Very important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Not very important</i>	<i>Not at all important</i>
Publishing my work in OA journals may adversely affect my chances of appointment/ promotion .....	19.0%	23.1%	21.8%	25.2%
Publishing my work in OA journals may adversely affect my chances of winning research grants .....	28.6%	26.5%	20.4%	14.3%
Publishing my work in OA journals may adversely affect my career .....	20.4%	21.1%	27.2%	19.7%
Publishing work in OA journals may adversely affect the careers of my co-authors .....	21.8%	26.5%	26.5%	12.9%
Publishing my work in OA journals may limit the potential impact of my published work .....	39.5%	34.0%	12.2%	7.5%
Publishing my work in OA journals may adversely affect the viability of scholarly societies.....	12.9%	22.4%	30.6%	20.4%
I am not confident of the permanence of my published work .....	12.2%	30.6%	23.1%	19.0%
<i>If you wish to comment on these or any further concerns, please do so here</i>	4.8%			

**Q14** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
There are too many OA journals in my field. ....	0.0%	2.0%	20.4%	19.7%	55.1%
There are about the right number of OA journals in my field.....	0.7%	5.4%	14.3%	13.6%	61.9%
I would welcome more OA journals in my field .....	12.2%	38.8%	4.8%	4.1%	37.4%

**Q15** What is the likelihood that you will publish at least one article in an Open Access journal in the next three years?

Very likely .....	10.9%	I will not do so.....	2.0%
Likely .....	24.5%	Don't know.....	36.7%
Not very likely .....	25.9%		

## The economics of publishing in Open Access journals

**Q16** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the contention that the Open Access publishing model will be more cost-effective to the academic research community in the long run than the current subscription-based model?

Strongly agree.....	21.8%	Strongly disagree.....	4.1%
Agree.....	29.9%	Don't know.....	29.3%
Disagree.....	8.8%	Don't care.....	1.4%

**Q17** Why do you think the Open Access publishing model will be more cost-effective?

Publishing costs will reduce .....	35.4%	Publishers' profits will reduce .....	19.0%
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	8.2%		

**Q18** Some people have argued that, if the Open Access model becomes more widely accepted, publishers may compete for your work on the basis of price as well as the strength of their journal brands and quality of service. Do you feel that this type of price-based competition will affect the quality of the scholarly publishing process:

In a positive way? .....	17.0%	In neither a positive nor negative way? ..	12.2%
In a negative way? .....	35.4%	Don't know.....	32.7%
<i>If you have any comments you wish to make on this issue, please type them here</i>	8.2%		

**Q19** To what extent are you concerned that a significant move to Open Access publishing may disrupt the established system of scholarly publishing?

Very concerned.....	7.5%	Not at all concerned .....	19.7%
Concerned.....	21.1%	Don't know.....	14.3%
Not very concerned .....	35.4%		
<i>Please tell us why you are concerned or not</i>	18.4%		

**Q20**

The Open Access publishing model usually requires that authors or their institutions pay for their work to be published. Open Access publishers currently charge in the region of \$500 to \$1500, although it has been estimated that the real costs of publication can be higher; some publishers may need to charge \$4500 or more to cover costs. How much do you think authors (on behalf of their funders) should be prepared to pay to publish in a journal of their choice assuming their paper is accepted in the normal way?

Nothing.....	25.9%	\$2500.....	0.0%	More than \$5000.....	0.0%
\$500.....	34.7%	\$3500.....	1.4%	Don't know.....	17.0%
\$1000.....	11.6%	\$4500.....	0.0%		
\$1500.....	6.1%	\$5000.....	0.0%		
<i>If nothing, why not?</i>	25.2%				

**Q21**

Where do you think the funds should come from in order to pay publication fees?

Research grant.....	70.7%	Commercial sponsors.....	18.4%
Departmental funds.....	33.3%	Personal funds.....	4.1%
Library/institutional funds.....	33.3%		
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	12.2%		

**Q22**

If the terms and conditions of a research grant required you to publish the results of that research with Open Access, which of the following best describes your likely reaction?

I would willingly accept such terms.....	53.1%
I would accept such terms but unwillingly.....	33.3%
I would not accept such terms and would look elsewhere for funding.....	9.5%

**Q23**

In principle, would you pay a publisher of a journal sold according to the traditional subscription model an additional fee for them to make your particular paper "open access" (and therefore freely available to subscribers and non-subscribers)?

Yes, definitely.....	6.1%	No, probably not.....	34.0%
Yes, possibly.....	42.2%	No, definitely not.....	13.6%
<i>If not, why not?</i>	15.6%		

**Q24** Thinking about the last time you published an article, did your publishing agreement (whether a licence - where you retain copyright - or a transfer of copyright to the publisher) permit you to post your article online

As a preprint? .....	9.5%	As a PDF supplied by the publisher? .....	19.0%
In final, peer-reviewed and edited form? .....	8.8%	None of these .....	53.7%

## The publishing process

**Q25** How important is it to you, as an author, to preserve the following features of journals?

	<i>Very important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Not very important</i>	<i>Not at all important</i>
Peer review .....	79.6%	15.0%	1.4%	0.0%
Gathering articles together to enable browsing of relevant and quality-controlled content .....	42.2%	40.8%	8.8%	2.0%
Selection of relevant and quality-controlled content .....	49.0%	37.4%	4.8%	1.4%
Content editing and improvement of articles .....	35.4%	48.3%	9.5%	0.0%
Language or copy editing .....	27.2%	48.3%	15.0%	2.7%
Checking of citations/adding links.....	25.2%	52.4%	12.9%	2.7%
Marketing (maximising visibility of journal).....	15.6%	36.7%	29.9%	10.2%

**Q26** Thinking about the process of peer review, how important to you are the following?

	<i>Very important</i>	<i>Important</i>	<i>Not very important</i>	<i>Not at all important</i>
Published articles have been peer reviewed by experts.....	80.3%	14.3%	1.4%	0.0%
The referees' comments are published .....	10.2%	20.4%	41.5%	22.4%
The referees are identified.....	8.8%	17.7%	38.8%	28.6%
Availability of public commentary on preprints .....	5.4%	17.7%	48.3%	21.1%
Availability of post-publication public commentary ..	10.9%	41.5%	28.6%	12.9%
There is an option for you to submit comments about someone else's article.....	10.2%	42.2%	31.3%	11.6%

## Article repositories and archiving

**Q27** With which of the following types of article repositories are you familiar?

Institutional repositories or archives (e.g. DSpace, ANU, TARDIS) .....	8.2%	Superarchives (e.g. FirstGov for Science, RePEc, NSDL) .....	2.7%
Subject repositories or archives (e.g. arXiv, SPIRES, ARCHway) .....	8.8%	None of these .....	76.9%
Networked repositories or archives (e.g. DARE, RLN) .....	2.7%		

**Q28** If required by your employer or funding body to deposit copies of articles you publish in one or more repositories - and assuming you, your employer or funder have the right to do so - which of the following best describes your likely reaction?

I would do so willingly .....	68.7%	I would not be prepared to do so .....	2.7%
I would do so, but unwillingly.....	7.5%	Don't know.....	18.4%

**Q29** Who do you think should be responsible for archiving articles published in Open Access journals?

Publishers of Open Access journals .....	69.4%	Library consortia .....	22.4%
Scholarly societies.....	15.6%	Scholarly institutions .....	12.2%
National governments.....	6.1%	Authors themselves.....	8.8%
National libraries.....	33.3%		

**Q30** To what extent are you confident that articles published in Open Access journals will be archived so that they are available to future generations of scholars?

Very confident .....	14.3%	Not very confident.....	24.5%
Confident.....	40.1%	Not at all confident.....	9.5%
<i>Other (please specify)</i>	6.1%		

**You are not obliged to complete the following section, but please do because we need the information to enter you in our "thank you" prize draw. If you are one of the three winners drawn at random, you will be contacted by email. No email addresses or other personal details will be retained once the prize draw has been completed.**

Your name  
83.0%

Your institution/company  
82.3%

Your email address  
83.0%

**Please click the Submit button once. Thank you for your time!**