



OA2020: *From a Global South Perspective*

HOT TOPIC SESSION – Academic and Research Libraries – WLIC 2018

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Introduction

One of the most interesting and relevant results of the Open Access Movement was to enable the scientific community to regain control of the management of scientific knowledge. As a consequence, gold journals appear, that is to say titles that allow publication and access to content open to any public.

Latin América and the Caribbean

Open Access has increased in Latin America managed by the same academic community, especially in Brazil, which has 56% of the journals in the region. The scientific and academic journals from Latin America are published mainly by universities without charge to authors. There is a diverse successful regional initiatives, such as Latindex, Scielo and Redalyc that have indicators of quality journals. The "La Referencia", a regional network of repositories, has already more than 1,500,000 full texts of the nine national repository systems from countries in the region.

International level

On the other hand, the international open access movement has indirectly prompted the emergence of hybrid and even predatory journals. As consequence, the appearance of some proposals aimed at reviewing the subscription model of commercial journals.

In 2015, during the 12th conference in the Berlin Open Access Series (Berlin, 8-9 December, 2015), drafted the proposal of the Max-Planck Digital Library named OA 2020.

Housed on its website, this initiative aims to be a global alliance committed to accelerating the transition to open access, the transformation of the prevalent subscription-based publishing system to a new publishing model as the APC (article processing charges) model.

Results

The for fee-subscription of international scientific journals in Latin America is negotiated by national consortia and, in general, subsidized by governments. In September 2017, the Consortium of Ibero-American and Caribbean Countries, <http://reuniondeconsorcios.conricyt.mx/>, signed a declaration stating that the transition to open access charging for publishing the articles is financially impossible for the region.

It is understood that in this model, the control over academic knowledge remains in the power of existing editors. This favors that the APCs can be defined in terms of the country's wealth.

Negative impact on South

It consequently limits the participation of researchers from the Southern Hemisphere (or from not so rich nations) in the scientific publication system, because authors would not be able to "publish" their papers due to high costs.

It is urgent ...

In this context, it is time to rethink the journals publishing system to have an effective communication channel to benefit the global research community, so that they have platforms to navigate the complex information structures.

This also means to review the relationship between "articles" and journal or "periodicals", taking advantage of the technological developments that currently evolving, such as the availability of platforms for mega journal, repositories, and search systems that are interconnected.

Question 01

1) Are libraries key players for a future non-commercial academic publications? How can academic libraries and research centers develop sustainable and high-quality publishing infrastructure from the current resources for journal subscriptions that they currently have?

Question 02

2) How can libraries contribute to change research evaluation systems at institutional and at funding agencies level with global criteria that comprises North and South academic communities, rewarding quality and relevance and not only impact factor?

Question 03

3) Have academic libraries a clear understanding of hybrid publications (which have open access and payment) in terms costs, and payment format, among other, in order to support APC proposal? Specifically, how will library acquisitions that were made in perpetuity be resolved, if this new model is accepted?

THANKS

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