Open Access Journals Support in Canada – Selected Survey Results

Berlin8 Conference, Beijing, October 25-27, 2010
Survey Introduction

• The results of Open Access Journals Support in Canada study will paint a picture of current journal support initiatives, and provide answers to questions designed to identify those economic models to assist Canadian academic publishing in the transition to open access that are most likely to attract broad-based support.

• Surveyed all Canadian Research Knowledge Network libraries (73) and all university presses and university based scholarly presses in Canada (19).
Members of group

- Research team:
  - Heather Morrison (ELN)
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Response Rate

- 92 surveys sent out
- 33 responses received
  - Overall response rate of 36%
  - University libraries response rate - 38% (28/73)
  - Scholarly / university presses response rate - 32% (6/19)
Journal hosting at University Libraries and University/Scholarly Presses

17/33 respondents are hosting journals
14 / 27 university libraries host journals
3/6 presses host journals
Open Access Journal Hosting

Proportion of online journals hosted by organizations that are partially or wholly open access.
Reasons why organizations are not hosting journals

- Journal hosting is not part of the organization's mandate: 13
- Insufficient budget resources: 12
- Insufficient personnel resources: 9
- The organization has no interest in providing journal hosting and related services: 16
- Someone else is already doing it: 13
- Other: 13

Responses: YES vs NO
Models that could assist Canadian academic publishing to transition to Open Access

• A series of questions were asked that were designed to identify those economic models to assist Canadian academic publishing in the transition to open access.

• The first set of questions dealt with internal funding to support models.

• A second set of questions dealt with using external funding to support economic models to assist Open Access publishing.
Models to be funded by organization’s own money

- Paying OA article processing fees.
- Purchase memberships or provide similar payments to OA publishers.
- Dedicate a portion of overhead money from grants to pay OA publishing charges.
- Use organizational budget money to support OA publishing.
- Host postprints and preprints in IR.
- Have library consortia move to consortial purchase of open access publishing services.
- Commit library subscription monies to Open Access endowments (e.g. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy).
Pay for Open Access article processing fees, with revenue used by the journal to lower subscription prices.
Have organizations (e.g. libraries) purchase memberships or provide similar payments to Open Access publishers

Currently Support  Would Support  Might Support  Would Not Support  N/A

All respondents
Univ with medical school
Univ without medical school
University / Scholarly Press
Have organizations dedicate a portion of overhead money from grants to pay open access publishing charges

Currently Support  | Would Support  | Might Support  | Would Not Support  | N/A
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
All respondents  | Univ with medical school  | Univ without medical school  | University / Scholarly Press
Use organizational budget monies (e.g. a portion of Library Collections budget) to support Open Access publishing.

Currently Support | Would Support | Might Support | Would Not Support | N/A
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
All respondents
Univ with medical school
Univ without medical school
University / Scholarly Press
Have organizations host preprints or postprints of articles in the institutional repository

Currently Support
Would Support
Might Support
Would Not Support
N/A

All respondents
Univ with medical school
Univ without medical school
University / Scholarly Press
Have library consortia transition to consortial purchase of open access publishing services (e.g. SCOAP3 model)

Currently Support | Would Support | Might Support | Would Not Support | N/A

All respondents | Univ with medical school | Univ without medical school | University / Scholarly Press
Endowment model: commit subscription monies to create endowment for ongoing open access (e.g. Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy model)
Most favoured models from internal funding models

• Consortial model most popular
  – Represent a fixed cost
  – Similar to current subscription model
  – Possibly a feeling that under the umbrella of a consortium no one is taking on undue risk, making it easier for organizations to accept.

• Endowment model and IRs also popular

• Paying article processing fees not as popular as anticipated.
Models to be funded by money external to organization

• Groups external to press or library dedicate a portion of overhead money from grants to pay for Open Access publishing charges.

• Have funding agencies extend financial support to Open Access journals.

• Have provincial governments direct funding to support Open Access publishing in the organization’s province.
Dedicate a portion of overhead money from grants to pay open access publishing charges.
Have funding agencies extend financial support to Open Access journals.

Currently Support | Would Support | Might Support | Would Not Support | N/A

All respondents
Univ with medical school
Univ without medical school
University / Scholarly Press
Have provincial government funding directed to support Open Access publishing in your organization's province

Currently Support | Would Support | Might Support | Would Not Support | N/A
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
All respondents | Univ with medical school | Univ without medical school | University / Scholarly Press
Most favoured models from external funding models

• All External funding models were popular
  – Is always easier to spend other people’s money

• External funding agencies extending financial support to OA publishing was most popular
  – Long history of NSSHRC support for Cdn journals
  – Sense that many Canadian scholarly journals in humanities and social sciences could fade away without the exposure provided by moving to Open Access.

• External funding agency support and library consortial support for Open Access publishing in Canada, both of which are very strongly supported by respondents, would go a long way to establishing stable, long term funding for Open Access in the Canadian environment.