



SPARC Japan NewsLetter provides activity and seminar reports. The seminar report includes its outline, program with speakers' introductions and abstracts, discussion, attendee feedback, and afterword.

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SPARC Japan Governing Board

Please see materials of SPARC Japan Governing Board on our website:

<http://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/about/committee/>



Support for SCOAP³

Setting “cooperating with international OA initiatives” and “advocacy activities regarding distribution of scholarly information and academic resources” as part of the performance goals of the phase 5 of the SPARC Japan project, the National Institute of Informatics (NII) supports SCOAP³ (Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics) in its concrete activities, and acts in a coordinating role with participating institutes in Japan while conducting public information activities.

SCOAP³ is an international cooperative project aimed at realizing open access for peer-reviewed journals in the field of high-energy physics. The European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland is taking the lead, while in Japan, NII has become a national contact point following the joint signing in 2011 of an expression of interest (EoI) by the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), the Coordinating Committee for Japanese University Libraries (CCJUL), and NII.

There were 34 participating institutes in Japan during phase one (2014–2016) and 40 in 2017 during phase two (2017–2019). Furthermore, following the inclusion of the American Physical Society in target journals in 2018, 67 institutes have announced their

participation in SCOAP³. Established under the Cooperation Promotion Council which links between the National Institute of Informatics (NII) and university libraries, the task force determines calculation methods for contribution amounts, confirms participation intent/contribution amounts, and conducts public information activities for physics researchers. Contributions from participating institutions in Japan are collected by NII and paid to CERN each year.

Visit our website for more information: <https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/scoap3/>

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017 (Open Access Summit 2017)



“Preprint and Open Access”

Monday, October 30, 2017: National Institute of Informatics
12th floor Conference Room (Attendees: 63)

This seminar focused on preprint servers, which are essential to develop open access. Considering the functions and transition, we discussed some issues, such as contribution to promoting scientific research, design of sustainable business model and ensuring quality, with the presentations by a publisher and some researchers.

See the SPARC Japan website for handouts and other details
(<https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2017/20171030en.html>).

Outline



There are two major ways authors can provide open access (OA) to their work. One is to publish it and then self-archive it in a repository where it can be accessed for free (‘green’ OA). The other is to publish from publishers based on article processing charges (APC) authors pay (‘gold’ OA).

The pioneering work by arXiv enables authors to submit and distribute papers before the publication in peer-reviewed journals. It has been regarded as one of repositories, which we call ‘preprint archive’, and is only for academia. It has been considered that the preprint servers have no relationship to the commercial use of achievements.



Recently, many authors get to submit their papers to the preprint archive in life science (bioRxiv) where researchers in life science have not had preference to submit their works to the preprint. In August 2017, American Chemical Society announced the beta version of preprint server for chemists called ChemRxiv. In spring 2017, Elsevier developed BioRN preprint server for life scientists. These preprint servers are designed to include the data archive, which involves OA to the data (open data) in the publications. Preprint servers are now very important not only in OA but in open science, and its position in scientific information life cycle has changed.

In the 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017, we will review the role and management of the preprint servers in these 30 years and discuss how to contribute to the advancement of scientific research and the issues concerning the importance of the commercial publication, sustainable models of the publication and the quality control of papers with the comments from researchers.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

arXiv.org Next Generation -Its Opening and Strategy-

Takashi Hikihara (Director General of Library Network in Kyoto University / Representative of the NII Japan Consortia for arXiv.org)



arXiv.org has been developed at LANL since 1991, and now is the grandfather of all preprint servers. The server includes Physics, initially, and extended to Math, Nonlinear Science, Computer

Science, Statistics, and Finance. New top level subjects of EESS and Econ were opened on this October. It can safely be said that this is a special occasion for arXiv! The

idea of the New Generation system and the strategy are offered from MAB meeting and others.

Profile

Professor Takashi Hikihara has received PhD in EE from Kyoto University. He joined Kyoto University as an associate professor in 1997 and became a full professor in 2001. He was also a visitor of Cornell University. He has been the Director General of Library Network in Kyoto University since 2012.

Sharing and the Future of Open Access

Gregg Gordon (Managing Director of Social Science Research Network (SSRN))



Open access and digital repositories are important pieces of the research dialogue. The recent addition of Black OA to Green and Gold have asked questions that do not have simple answers. Sharing in

general has changed significantly over the

last twenty years and Gregg Gordon will provide an overview of the SSRN, from its start in the social sciences to its broad expansion across 30+ disciplines, including life and physical sciences. This talk will include real world experiences, examples of the problems that come from broad sharing, and a view into the future of Open Access and scholarly communications in general.

Profile

Prior to helping Michael C. Jensen, found SSRN in 1994, Gregg worked at KPMG and entrepreneurial companies in technology and healthcare. He speaks around the world and writes regularly about scholarly

research and the changes needed to create innovative research faster. Most recently, he co-authored *The Question of Data Integrity in Article-Level Metrics*, published by PLOS Biology.

Preprints in Chemistry

Kounosuke Oisaki (Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the University of Tokyo / Deputy-Head, Chem-Station)



Preprint posting as a rapid research communication platform is emerging in various field under circumstances where various problems are appearing in the current peer-reviewing system.

Also in the field of chemistry, a new preprint server managed by American Chemical Society (ChemRxiv) was launched and attracting much attention. In this presentation, I will discuss how chemists will use and develop preprints in future chemical research, with reference to some cases. While working as a faculty / researcher at The University of Tokyo, I have been engaged in management of the

largest Japanese chemistry portal website (Chem-Station) for many years. I would also like to mention the personal viewpoint from such unique experiences.

Profile

Kounosuke Oisaki was born in 1980 in Tokushima, Japan, and received his bachelor degree from The University of Tokyo (UT) in 2003 under the direction of Professor Masakatsu Shibasaki. He obtained his Ph.D. from UT in 2008. Then, he moved to the University of California-Los Angeles, USA, for postdoctoral studies with Professor Omar M. Yaghi. In 2010 he returned to Japan and joined Professor Motomu Kanai's group at UT as an assistant professor. He is currently a lecturer.

Case Examples of Preprint in Life Science Field and My Experience, and Introduction of TogoTV



Hiromasa Ono (Database Center for Life Science)



In the life science field, utilization of preprint is advanced in the past few years as a result of "bioRxiv" being launched in 2013 by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. It is becoming an

indispensable effort for researchers who need to catch up with the ever-changing research situation by sharing papers before peer review in advance. Even among researchers around me, the topic of preprints is increasing. The performer

himself has not yet experienced the preprint contribution, but he has the experience of registering and publishing all the data in the open repository in advance when submitting a paper, and thinks that such a process will be standard in the future.

Profile

Project associate professor in Database Center for Life Science (DBCLS), Joint Support-Center for Data Science Research, Research Organization of Information and Systems (ROIS) since 2010. Ph.D. in Bioresource Science from Nihon University.

Since 2010 in DBCLS, he has been working as an editor in chief of the TogoTV which is introducing how to use useful DB in life

science field with videos. Also he has been developing the platforms to interpret large scale data biologically.

Discussion

Summary:



There was an exchange of opinions between speakers and the audience during the general discussion session.

- Each research community should take the initiative on determining what the role of data should be in the future. Institutions such as universities should create a system to support public data servers, and academic societies should determine the future direction for data since they are users of that data, while also discussing the topic with researchers and companies.



- How are preprints going to be accepted in each research community? One possibility is that academic societies will play a key role in future trends, but with the explosive speed with which research is progressing, and considering the inability for researchers to wait for peer reviews of papers such is already the case in the fields of physics and informatics, intense competition will drive the penetration of preprints.

Moderator: Hidemasa Bono (Database Center for Life Science)

Profile

After the initiation of FANTOM (Functional Annotation of Mouse) project at RIKEN, he joined the MEXT Integrated Database Project at Database Center for Life Science (DBCLS), which was established in Research Organization of Information and Systems (ROIS). In DBCLS, they launched the project TogoTV (an archive of tutorial videos expounding how to use biological databases and tools), and now he is involved in the technology development of database integration.



Attendee Feedback

(person affiliated with university library)

- I came to realize that there are fields in which the value of preprints is recognized, and that the value of their existence is increasing.
- The comparison between arXiv and SSRN is very interesting. I would like to listen to more discussions about sustainability.

(person affiliated with business/libraries)

- I am afraid that libraries cannot yet focus on the existence of preprint servers. We have to be constantly on the lookout. Otherwise, we will not be able to respond to inquiries from researchers.

(other library staff)

- At recent SPARC Japan seminars, researchers often deliver speeches, which I think is excellent since it helps us working at the library to get a sense of what researchers actually need. I understand it is important to take a wide view because we may become complacent or removed from the actual needs if we keep only to our library peers. On the

other hand, every time I hear about what researchers think, what they need, as well as their troubles, I am at a loss since I do not know what we should do. I feel there is distance between researchers and us in libraries. Researchers think about things in the global community of each field rather than what is happening in their own institute. Does a research institute library have a specific role to play? What should we do to become a library that is needed by researchers? [From a live broadcast viewer]

(researcher)

- It was beneficial to get an update on the current situation. I also thought it would be good for researchers and authors to expand discussions from their points of view (such as senior researchers and presidents of academic societies who do not know about preprints coming to understand the potential of preprints for their researchers, academic societies, or the institutes to which they belong).

Afterword



😊 I caused some problems for the people working with me because of my inexperience in the project process. In the end, however, I was so glad to have carried out such an exciting seminar on preprints thanks to participation by all of the speakers, not only researchers from various fields, but also Mr. Gordon of SSRN. We were fortunate to have him at this seminar.

Hidemasu Bono
(Database Center for Life Science)

😊 I was responsible for sending out tweets. I learned some valuable lessons from this seminar since I was not much aware of preprints (the topic of this seminar) in my day-to-day work. I was impressed by a remark that an increase in the speed of research promotes the use of preprints. Listening to specific cases from researchers in each field, I became keenly aware of the

significance of recognizing the latest trends at all times, such as how much preprint penetration there is in each field and the relationship between publishers and researchers.

Yoko Sasabuchi
(Waseda University Library)

😊 The seminar was focused on preprints. Although library staff may have felt that they were still strangers to preprints, Cornell University library is already operating arXiv.org. The day may come in the near future when handling preprints will become one of the responsibilities of library staff. I would like to keep my eye on preprints as they become one of the new functions of a university library in the open science era.

Shigetoshi Kajiwara
(Muroran Institute of Technology Library)