



SPARC Japan NewsLetter provides activity and seminar reports. The seminar report includes its outline, program with speakers' introductions and abstracts, panel 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/>



About the international trends in initiatives related to the distribution of academic information

The SPARC Japan Committee is cooperating with international initiatives involved with the promotion of the distribution of academic information such as pre-print server arXiv.org; CLOCKSS, which is working on the long-term storage of digital resources (e.g., web-based academic literature); and SCOAP³, which makes possible the open access of peer-reviewed journals and papers in the field of high energy physics and supports their activities. The following is the review of the meeting on the operation of these initiatives which was held from September to October 2019.

● **CLOCKSS**

A board meeting was held at Stanford University on September 26, 2019. CLOCKSS has designated about 25,000 titles of digital journals, 33,000,000 papers, and 190,000 titles of digital books for long-term storage. In addition, CLOCKSS has been negotiating with publishers that release post-publication content and pre-print content. The number of

publications which are subject to long-term storage will continue to increase. Some journals were released through CLOCKSS for the first time due to the opacity in the past publication status. In addition, there was a report that the membership fee which had supported these activities would be raised for two consecutive years in accordance with the consumer price index (CPI) of the United States.

●SCOAP³

The Governing Council meeting that takes on the operation of SCOAP³ was held from October 29 to 30 at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland. Participants of this meeting discussed opinions on the development status of INSPIRE (a literature database that recorded research outcomes in the field of high energy physics), the phase 2 (2017 to 2019) activity review, the status of preparations toward a new phase (phase 3), and making research outcomes open in the field of high energy physics for the future.

The interface of INSPIRE is now being renewed, such as the visualization of citation information and the enrichment of researcher profiles. In phase 2, more journals became available in open access than initially expected, which led to all publishers in phase 2 to continue their participation in phase 3. The open access mainly focused on journals and papers thus far. Yet, the system will be developed to make books available in open access from now on.

The Governing Council meeting is being utilized as an opportunity for the communities of researchers and libraries around the world to get together to carry out these activities through international cooperation and exchange opinions. Research outcomes of this field are thus becoming available in open access.

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018



“Roadmap for Open Access : The Road to OA2020”

Friday, November 9, 2018: National Institute of Informatics
12th floor Conference Room (Attendees: 102)

OA2020 was planned in 2016. It started with the launch of pilot work on a new model to abolish the existing subscription model and allow open access. At the third seminar, with reference to the vision, mission, and road map of OA2020, the participants had a discussion to launch studies on how to make the transition to the open access (OA) model in an optimal way for university libraries and researchers in Japan.

See the SPARC Japan website for handouts and other details
(<https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20181109en.html>).

Outline



"Every single scholar articles published all over the world can be open access immediately." Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL) concluded so in 2015, meanwhile universities have no other choice but to cancel journals one after another because of the constant journal price increasing. MPDL compared current worldwide spending on subscriptions with estimated worldwide Article Processing Charge (APC) spending on open access publications, and concluded that an APC-based model could be more beneficial in the total spending. MPDL calls on the world to transit from the current subscription-based model to an APC-based open access model in step. An initiative "OA2020" based on this concept was established in 2016, 109 organizations from all over the world have signed the Expression of Interest. In Japan, Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE) and Researchers Group of Solid State Physics Japan signed it.

This initiative boosts experimental actions of withdrawing from current subscription-based model and of new models which make open access possible. Mainly in Europe several types of offsetting agreements have been designed. For example, institutions are able to pay the total cost of APCs beforehand instead of authors individually paid APCs, then get the subscription costs or APCs for their affiliated authors discounted. However these offsetting models requires additional expenses during the transition period, and we still keep looking for the sustainable open access model to realize what OA2020 pursue in each country and community. In Japan, JUSTICE and some universities start to investigate on the amount of APCs which they actually spend. We are in the stage that we start to build a new open access model.

The purpose of this seminar is to provide the opportunity to share information which helps for librarians and researchers to learn basic ideas on OA2020 and its roadmaps to drive open access as a reference, and to think ways of transition to suitable open access model in Japan.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

The OA2020 Roadmap to Open Access



Ralf Schimmer (Head of Information Provision, Max Planck Digital Library)



Over the last 20 years, "open access" has been adopted as an underlying principle in a vast number of national and international research and funding policies. In this time, many new institutional and disciplinary repositories have been established and new open access journals and publishing platforms have been created. However, despite these important and worthy efforts, over 80% of today's scholarly journals are still locked behind paywalls, with enormous implications for science and for the funds invested in scholarly communication: restrictions on use and re-use of scholarly articles severely limit the potential of research in today's digital environment and the money invested in scholarly communication remains locked in big deal subscriptions and cannot flow to the publishing services today's scholars want and need. Based on data analyses conducted by the Max Planck Digital Library and described in their widely-read White Paper, "Disrupting the subscription journals' business model for the necessary large-scale transformation to open access"

(<http://dx.doi.org/10.17617/1.3>), a rapid transformation of the subscription system is possible without compromising the academic freedom of researchers, without weakening publishing services and without further monetary investment. The Open Access 2020 Initiative (OA2020) is an opportunity for individual institutions and national library consortia to align strategies on a global scale, and the OA2020 roadmap provides an evidence-based approach to the open access transition in which libraries play a vital role today and in the future. Already national library consortia, with the full support of authors and administration, are making significant progress in their roadmaps, paving the way for others to join in OA2020 and be part of the transformation.

Profile

Ralf Schimmer leads the licensing strategy of the Max Planck Digital Library, serving the Society's 80+ advanced research institutes. A champion of open access in scholarly communications, he chaired the Governing Council of SCOAP³ (2014-2016), serves on many international boards and is project lead for the Open Access 2020 Initiative.

Transformation from Subscription Model to Open Access Model: Challenges for the Future of JUSTICE



Midori Ichiko (Mita Media Center, Keio University)



JUSTICE is a consortium composed of 540 national, public and private university libraries. Since JUSTICE was established in 2011, it has focused mainly on negotiating subscription fees for e-journals, as well as terms of use. Although JUSTICE activities can reduce their fees to some extent, it is no longer possible to continue with subscriptions, even for larger universities. In August 2016, JUSTICE signed the OA2020 Expression of Interest as a way to remedy the situation, and decided to fully incorporate OA into the e-journal agreement (OA model). It is impossible for JUSTICE alone to speed up

OA and realize the OA model. It is necessary to gain better understanding between researchers, university managers, funding organizations, publishers and the public. In this seminar, I would like to discuss the strategy of the OA model realization in light of the problems e-journals have in supporting research and education, which should be the basis of a sustainable society.

Profile

Midori Ichiko is Administrative Director of the Mita Media Center, Keio University. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE) and the SPARC Japan Governing Board.

Obstacles Preventing Promotion of OA: A View of One Life Scientist



Noriko Osumi (Vice President, Tohoku University; Director, University Library, Professor, Graduate School of Medicine)



Open access (OA) of academic papers as research results can promote sharing knowledge and leading to progress in academics. Institutional repositories are established in universities, and the number of OA journals has been increased worldwide. However, the path to OA is rather slow in Japan. What prevents the promotion of OA? From the standpoint of Vice President of Tohoku University, a research university, and Director of the University Library, as well as of a working life scientist, I would like to raise issues in

promotion of OA and discuss what kind of roadmap can be drawn in Japan.

Profile

Prof. Osumi has graduated Tokyo Medical and Dental University, been given PhD thesis from the same university, and now is a professor of Tohoku University School of Medicine since 1998. She has been appointed Vice President in charge of public relation, promoting diversity, and President of University Library from April 2018. Her research background is developmental biology, and she has interest in brain development, evolution, and disease.

Panel Discussion



Summary:

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

- A goal of the OA 2020 is to liberate the flow of money which is now being used in the current purchase model toward the direction that researchers desire. When this is achieved, the liberated money will create new services and business opportunities, which is expected to bring benefits to libraries, researchers, and publishers.
- Having said that, however, this cannot be achieved instantly. This is why a transfer model is necessary. First, libraries and publishers should start with small movements, gather data while trying various means, and gradually expand the size. While the entire world shifts toward open access, being completely unprepared would be a fatal crisis.



Moderator: Koichi Ojiro

(Research Center for Open Science and Data Platform, National Institute of Informatics)



Profile

Project researcher, Research Center for Open Science and Data Platform, National Institute of Informatics. He started his career as a librarian at the Nagoya University

Library in 1983 and has worked for Tokyo Institute of Technology Library, National Diet Library, Chiba University Libraries, National Institute of Informatics, Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE), and the University of Tokyo Library System. He has an incumbent position since April 2017.

Attendee Feedback

(person affiliated with university library)
 – I was able to gain a good perspective on the position of the OA2020 to implement the project, the position of the consortium in Japan, and the position of Japanese researchers. This made me realize what

to do from there. I also felt the possibility of cooperating with researchers.

(person affiliated with an academic society and scholarly journal)
 – The subscription fee and APC contract

model as the preparation phase before the complete transfer to open access was very useful information. I would like to hear about it in more detail.

(person in university)

– I was able to learn about the OA2020. It was interesting to listen to the discussions among researchers. It was a very meaningful discussion. Ralph noted that the budget allocation from subscription fee to APC was a temporary measure. He seemed to be emphasizing the possibility for small publishers, researchers, and research facilities to publish

papers on their own. In the panel discussion, however, he seemed to be interested in topics on subscription fee and APC. I wish I could hear more about publication. [From a live broadcast viewer]

(person affiliated with business/others)

– It was interesting to learn about the perspective of researchers on open access. I thought that researchers would prefer publishing their papers in journals, as that has a high impact factor. I did not know open access was more popular among young researchers.

Afterword



😊 Ralf Schimmer of Max Planck Digital Library and other speakers gave optimistic lectures despite the difficulty of the topic. Even though I am a staff member, I learned a lot. The seats filled up only within a few days after applications became available, which made me realize the high level of interest toward the OA2020. I was assigned to posting information on Twitter for the first time. Yet, everything the speakers said made me think a lot, and it was hard for me to keep my fingers moving.

Misa Nakamura
(University of Tokyo Library System)

😊 It was a good opportunity to hear a drastic proposal to allocate subscription fees to APC as well as specific actions toward achieving open access. Meanwhile, I was able to learn how published papers, including ones available in open access, were perceived among the researchers who are the main beneficiaries of open access. I think libraries, researchers, and publishers need to keep discussing who will bear the costs, and how they will do so, in order to respond to a demand to release research outcomes in various forms, such as publishing journals and releasing research data.

Takanori Hayashi
(Japan International Research Center for

Agricultural Sciences)

😊 When I first encountered the idea of the OA2020, I was skeptical as to whether it could be achieved. This seminar showed that the OA2020 was aiming to change the flow of money rather than change awareness. It also described action plans based on detailed data analysis. It helped me realize that the achievement of the OA2020 was very close. I thought Japan should take actions while cooperating with initiatives around the world to keep up with the movement.

Yuki Ishiyama
(Hitotsubashi University)

😊 Through this seminar, I learned that proposed feasible ways include the transfer to two charging models: the subscription fee and APC. It was a good opportunity to review trends in the distribution of academic information by comparing it with my own situations. I renewed my commitment to perceiving global trends in my daily education and research activities while remembering that local viewpoints are important, and to continue having discussions and taking actions.

Masao Takaku
(University of Tsukuba)