SPARC✳Japan **NewsLetter**

NO. 39 Mar. 2020

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 Activity Reports

SPARC Japan Governing Board

Please see materials of SPARC Japan Governing Board on our website:
http://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/about/committee/

Contributions allocated for SCOAP³ Phase 3 (2020–2022)

SCOAP³ is an international collaboration project aimed at achieving open access to peer-reviewed academic papers in the field of high-energy physics. SCOAP³ Phase 2 started in 2017 and was completed at the end of 2019. The Governing Council, which operates SCOAP³, set forth a policy on how the participating countries are required to make a contribution in SCOAP³ Phase 3 (2020–2022). In accordance with that policy, the Council for Promotion of Collaboration between the National Institute of Informatics and University Libraries established a task force under the council to determine the allocation of contributions to the Japanese university library associations and institutions in Phase 3.

The task force determined the allocation of contributions to the libraries participating in SCOAP³ Phase 3 based on the following calculations:

1. Contribution to journals published by the American Physical Society (APS)
Calculated by multiplying the subscription fees (regular prices) of the library in 2020 by the coefficient specified by document type.*1

2. Contribution to journals published by institutions other than the APS

Calculated by multiplying the amount of contribution (cost) allocated to the library in Phase 2 by 0.92.*2

*1: APS-ALL = 12.0%, PR C = 8.17%, PR D = 56.11%, and PR Letters = 9.76%

*2: 6.5 (the share of Japanese academic papers in the field of high-energy physics calculated for Phase 3) ÷ 7.1 (the share of Japanese academic papers in the field of high-energy physics calculated for Phase 2)

The participating libraries must make a contribution in yen at the exchange rate specified by the National Institute of Informatics.

After the calculations were announced at the end of 2019, the National Institute of Informatics, which serves as SCOAP[3] secretariat in Japan, asked the participating libraries to respond to a survey on whether or not they intend to participate in the project in 2020. The survey ended on January 31, 2020, but we can still accept your participation in the project or your partnership with the project.

For more information, please access the website. We ask for your participation in the project, as your cooperation will assist us in reaching the goal of more efficient distribution of academic information.

https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/scoap3/survey2020.html

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2018

"Open Science in the Humanities and Social Sciences: For Problem-Solving"

Tuesday, January 29, 2019: National Institute of Informatics
19th floor Conference Room (Attendees: 66)

The fourth seminar in 2018 is focused on open science in the fields of humanities and sociology. In order to instill open science in the humanities and sociology fields, we must assess the circumstances of the fields and share problems in the fields together. Therefore, we shared the latest information about the circumstances of the fields by selecting practical examples of the establishment of data infrastructure, open publication of monographs, and digitization of bulletins, and having a discussion on the explanations of the examples.

The following pages contain excerpts of the participants' comments, a postscript about the seminar, and the full text of their research (reposted).

See the SPARC Japan website for handouts and other details
(https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20190129en.html).

Outline

We, SPARC Japan, have held some seminars about Open Access in the Humanities and Social Sciences - "Latest Developments in Open Access - Humanities and Social Sciences-" in 2013, "How can we evaluate the work on Humanity and Social Sciences? - From the scholarly communication point of view-" in 2015, and confirmed the differences in circumstances with other academic fields and problems of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Now that a few years have passed since then, it can be said that the openness of the Humanities and Social Sciences is a situation with many problems to be solved despite progress.

In recent years, there have been significant movements about openness of journal and data in the Humanities and Social Sciences in Japan. To take examples, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) has held a program for the promotion of the Humanities and Social Sciences data infrastructure under the "Topic-Setting Program to Advance Cutting-Edge Humanities and Social Sciences Research" since 2018, which is especially expected the action in Social Sciences. The Research Organization of Information and Systems (ROIS) has established the "Joint Support-Center for Data Science Research (ROIS-DS)", and begun to support the "Center for Social Data Structuring" and the "Center for Open Data in the Humanities (CODH)" to promote the data driven research in the Humanities. Data around the Humanities and Social Sciences have been vigorously promoted in linguistics and social surveys, but at present, it is expected to further develop infrastructure.

On the other hand, it has been not certain yet about openness according to academic-specific, researcher-specified needs in the Humanities that pointed out in the 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2013. In the Humanities and Social Sciences, monograph is equivalent to or more important than academic journals. Some research results have been registered to institutional repositories, but most are published in commercial publication and they are not good match with openness. And, many research results are covered in departmental bulletin or individual institute journals, not major synthetic academic journals. Although more and more research results are published in J-Stage and institutional repositories, the situation is that the role of the society and how to openness are inquired again.

To become established the open science in the Humanities and Social Sciences, we have to confirm this situation concretely and share the problems. In this seminar, we take up some concrete practices, share newest information and have discussion, about organizing data infrastructure, open access monographs, and digitizing departmental bulletin with some explanation.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

Report of the Activities of Center for Constructing Data Infrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Yukio Maeda

(Center for Constructing Data Infrastructure for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science / Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies, University of Tokyo)

JSPS started the project of data infrastructure for the humanities and social sciences in April 2018. The primary purpose of this project is to preserve the existing social survey and social science data and to build an infrastructure to share those data effectively. Enhancing data sharing through providing instructions and guidelines is also an important part of this activity. Until now, the efforts have been made to strengthen the existing data sharing activities and to encourage translation of data and metadata into English. Preparing instructions and guidelines are agenda in the near future. In order to promote the effective use of social science data provided through this project, it is important to construct a database through which users can effectively find data files suitable for their research purposes. The current plan of our data catalog will be briefly discussed.

Profile

Yukio Maeda is senior researcher at JSPS / professor at Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies, University of Tokyo. He has bachelor's (1993) and master's (1995) degrees in political science from the University of Tokyo. He earned Ph. D. in political science from the University of Michigan in 2001. He started teaching political science at Tokyo Metropolitan University in 2002 and then moved to University of Tokyo in 2006. He specializes in voting behavior and public opinion. He has been also working on social science data preservation and dissemination since he was graduate student.

Towards Open Access Monograph Publishing in Japan

Eriko Amano (Kyoto University Research Administration Office (KURA))

In Japan, Open Access (OA) monograph publishing as a method to disseminate research outputs in the Humanities and Social Sciences has not been widely discussed. The business models to realize Open Access publishing of Japanese academic monographs, such as Gold OA or cost sharing programs seen in English language academic publishing, have not been implemented, and even electronic publishing is not as advanced as overseas. What kind of effort is needed to promote OA in Japanese academic monograph publishing? This lecture provides materials for researchers as both author and reader, publishers, printing companies, libraries, and overseas readers, etc. to start a practical discussion on OA publishing in Japan. And it introduces the projects by Kyoto University Research Administration Office to support dissemination of research outputs in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

Profile

Eriko Amano has served as a Research Administrator in Kyoto University since 2014. She served as a librarian in Kyoto

University Library and Kyushu University Library from 1998 to 2014. She has received MBA and PhD from Doshisha University.

Digitization and Open Access of Academic Journals on Area Studies

Narumi Shitara (Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), Kyoto University)

I will review the current status of academic journals on area studies published in Japan from the point of view of digitization and open access. By introducing discussions held by our editorial committees when our center's journals chose an open access publication, I will look at what kinds of support and collaboration are sought by editors.

Profile

Head of the Editorial Office, Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), Kyoto University. She has been the managing editor of CSEAS's academic journals and monograph series since 2011. Her research interest is bulletin journals published by Japanese universities and research institutes.

Panel Discussion

Summary:

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

・Libraries function as an important foundation to make data, journals, monographs, and treatises in the fields of humanities and sociology openly available. However, it is not practical to place the responsibility for this only on certain organizations or institutions. It is practical to make such information more openly accessible through a coalition of multiple players, such as libraries, universities, and publishers.

・To do that, however, there are a lot of matters that the current publishing models used in the fields of humanities and sociology cannot deal with. And, it is difficult to immediately arrive at an answer as to how the collaborative coalition should be created. In order to change from a situation in which no one benefits from OA to one in which everyone benefits from OA, we need to establish a scheme for collaboration while conducting activities fitting for the organizations.

Moderator: Chikahiko Suzuki
(Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics)

Profile

Member of the SPARC Japan Seminar 2018 plannning working group. A Project Researcher at the Center for Open Data in the Humanities (CODH) and National Institute of Informatics. After studying Art History, Cultural Resources Studies and Digital Humanities, his main research interest is in applying informatics and open data to humanities research fields. Currently, he is focusing on IIIF (international image interoperability framework).
https://researchmap.jp/chsuzuki/?lang=english

Attendee Feedback

(person affiliated with university library)
— I feel that people's interests and perceptions differ depending on their organization and position. First of all, it is important to make efforts to provide university faculty with a common understanding of the trends in the fields.

— The seminar was a good opportunity for me to reconsider how repositories should be, the possibility of OA in the fields of humanities and sociology (for such as journal and books), contribution shares, problems in business models, and other related topics. I really feel that OA is about to begin in the fields of humanities and sociology. (OA appears to have so much potential.)

— I think most discussions on OA focused on the publication of research data and raw data. Thus, I think that the researchers at my university would not agree with OA. However, from the viewpoints of OA and digitization of academic books as suggested at the seminar, I think we'll be able to make more positive approaches to OA.

Afterword

😊 How was the last SPARC Japan seminar in 2018? At the seminar, Mr. Suzuki and other members worked hard and were really dependable. I only helped them in inviting the instructor. I hope that the working group members will continue to see the recent matters related to open science as relevant to them, and to plan SPARC seminars with an independent-minded stance. As the working group chief, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who participated and supported us.

Kazuhiro Hayashi
(National Institute of Science and Technology Policy)

😊 For the first time in three years, a seminar was held with themes in the field of humanities and the field of social sciences.

These fields are sometimes categorized as the field of humanities and sociology, but there are various sorts of scientific approaches made in the respective fields. Therefore, the participants, who are promoting OA, had concrete discussions, and it was a great learning experience starting from the planning stage. I was impressed by the discussions about the foundation of OA in the fields of humanities and sociology, and who will be OA promoters in the fields. I think that the seminar opened up possibilities for the future and made us realize the need for discussions among publishers, libraries, and universities of all sizes to promote OA.

Chikahiko Suzuki
(Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics)

☺ This is the first time since 2015 that the SPARC Japan seminar focused on themes in the fields of humanities and sociology. In the 2018 seminar, the program had timely themes such as the establishment of data infrastructure, trends toward OA for academic books, digitization of bulletins, and the provision of information in the field of social science. Since I have been involved at the seminar from the planning stage, I learned a lot of things. And, because we set themes in the field (while it is important to take approaches based on the characteristics of the field), the seminar allowed me to think about what I can do for the establishment of information infrastructure, support to research activities, and the implementation of OA, regardless of field or area.

Misa Nakamura
(University of Tokyo Library)

☺ Because SPARC Japan's seminars have been held on themes in the fields of humanities and sociology, we pressed the seminar forward, with all members aware that it does not make any sense to come to a conclusion that we had already reached. In the fields of humanities and sociology, paper books are regarded as important, so how paper books work with electronic publishing will continue to deserve attention. I was invited to the discussion for the first time and was able to talk with stakeholders, so I had a very exciting experience at the seminar.

Yumiko Nakahara
(University of Tsukuba)