



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:

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



Domestic and international trends of circulation of academic information

Stakeholders (such as researcher communities, publishers, research granting institutions, and university libraries) in Japan and elsewhere are conducting various studies and taking initiatives to find an ideal way to circulate academic information. The SPARC Japan website selects such activities and provides information on them.

In September 2018, European research grant foundations and research institutions announced the launch of “cOAlition S”, which is an initiative to achieve complete and immediate open access to findings of publicly funded researches. After cOAlition S was launched and the 10 principles of “Plan S” were announced, granting organizations in more than 10 countries started participating, and researchers also supported the principles of Plan S. However, criticisms have been expressed by conventional publishers who have been working on academic information, and also by researchers who are concerned about restrictions on locations where posting is allowed. Considering the possible impact of the circumstances on Japanese research communities collaborating with European research communities and other domestic stakeholders, we have made a provisional translation of

the Plan S principles and guidance, and published reference materials that summarize how to take practical measures based on Plan S.

<https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/about/overseas/index.html>

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

SPARC Japan Seminar 2019 Special Edition



“The current and the future of open access - Explored along with the strategies of stakeholders”

Tuesday, November 12, 2019: PACIFICO Yokohama
F205, Annex Hall (Attendees: 210)

Continuing from the fourth seminar in 2018, the first SPARC Japan Seminar in 2019 focused on open research activities under the theme of open science in the fields of humanities and sociology. For case studies, we selected the activities of researchers who are aiming to organize basic data in the fields and bring it into wide use, and citizen science activities aimed at acquiring new research data and constructing a research platform. In addition, the practice of the URA, who may serve as a circulator that can bring research data to the outside world in various ways, were introduced. The seminar was planned to share ideas on the wide-ranging, stable development of open science in the fields of humanities and sociology.

The following pages contain excerpts of the participants' comments and the full text of their research (reposted). Please see the Japanese webpage for details (document available). A video of the lecture and handouts are posted here.

(<https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/event/2019/20191112.html>).

Outline



Open access to scientific journals is associated with a great deal of movements to pay attention to and challenges to overcome such as the spread of open access journals, the movement of Plan S for immediate access to journals mainly in Europe, and concern toward predatory journals. Scientists in many fields depend on platforms outside of Japan as the main means to release their journals, and many Japanese researchers participate in international joint research. It is therefore necessary to follow and face these trends and challenges while engaging in international cooperation.

This forum shall be an opportunity for the stakeholders of green and gold open access (e.g. JUSTICE, JPCOAR, JST, and NII) gathered at the NII's Scholarly Publishing and Academic

Resources Coalition (SPARC Japan) to get together and discuss styles of open access and explore strategies that Japan should adopt for the future while exploring trends of the current distribution of academic information.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

About the Committee for the Promotion of Scholarly Communication (SPARC Japan)



Hideaki Takeda (National Institute of Informatics)



SPARC Japan was started in 2003 to digitalize academic magazines published in Japan, especially scientific journals and literature written in English, to create a business model to distribute such information in a stable fashion, and to increase the recognition toward Japanese academic magazines in the global stage. Since around 2010, SPARC Japan has been set to realize open access which matches the characteristics of Japan and engaged in advocacy activities (i.e., seminars) and international open access activities from the standpoint of a library, in addition to cooperating with

academic societies. Activities conducted thus far were reevaluated in FY2018, and SPARC shifted to encourage further distribution of scholarly information and academic resources by facilitating communication and coordination among stakeholders involved with open access and open science. Thus, "the International Scholarly Communication Initiative" was renamed "the Committee for the Promotion of Scholarly Communication" to continue its activities.

Profile

Managing Director of SPARC Japan Governing Board

http://www.nii.ac.jp/en/faculty/informatics/takeda_hideaki/

Trends related to open access and specific activities of SPARC Japan



Kazuhiro Hayashi

(National Institute of Science and Technology Policy / Member of SPARC Japan Governing Board)



Open access promotion activities have been increasing under the international initiatives mainly involving research funding organizations. In addition, contracts to purchase content such as journals and papers are starting to shift to contracts to pay the cost of open access publication (called transformative agreements). Meanwhile, there remain concerns over how the quality of content such as journals and papers should be

controlled and warranted in the era of open access, which includes the problem of predatory journals. Under such circumstances, it is important for libraries and librarians to renew their awareness of the distribution of academic information in the environment and context of "Japan within the infrastructure of global distribution of academic information" and reconstruct roles they should assume. Viewpoints to adopt in the reconstruction process include the movements and actions of Japanese and global stakeholders related to the distribution of academic information, the actual standing and

situation of one's own library, and its business strategies. It is necessary to examine and coordinate strategies while engaging in advocacy activities related to the gathering and distribution of research outcomes at a library while referring to these viewpoints.

Profile

He has been in Scholarly publishing, in a wide variety of roles, for more than 20 years. At Chemical Society of Japan, he has worked successively as an Editor, a Production Manager, an E-journal Manager, and a Promotions Manager. Covering a broad range of roles in publishing, he is focused on scholarly communication through

E-journals, and he has reconstructed and improved the way publishing is managed through his skills involving information technology. He now studies a Science for Science and Innovation Policy to give administrative people and policy makers some evidences for Science and Technology policy. His current main task is policy implication of Open Science and Open Access, together with developing a new way to foresight ST trends. An expert member of the working party of Open Science for G7 Science and Technology Ministry meeting, also an expert member of the OECD/GSF project of Open Science.

The JPCOAR activities to promote open access

Kazuko Egawa

(General Administrator of Tokyo University Library/Chairperson of the JPCOAR committee)



The Japan Consortium for Open Access Repositories (JPCOAR) was established in July 2016 to promote the establishment of a knowledge distribution system through repository, strengthen

repository communities, and contribute to open access and open science in Japan. In March 2019, the third anniversary of the JPCOAR, the JPCOAR Open Access Repository Strategy for FY2019 to 2021 was established based on domestic and international situations related to institutional repositories. The JPCOAR thus started activities based on five strategies. One specific activity is the start of interview-based investigations targeting

the repository staffs of 17 universities around Japan to explore effective ways to gather content.

Profile

Kazuko Egawa was employed at University of Tokyo Library in 1989. She then worked for the University of Tsukuba Library, Cyber Science Infrastructure Development Department of the National Institute of Informatics, and other organizations. She was then appointed as the general administrator of the University of Tokyo Library. Ms. Egawa was involved with the establishment of the Japan Consortium for Open Access Repositories (JPCOAR) as a member of the institutional repository promotion committee in 2016. She became the chairperson of the committee in 2019.

Introduction of the JUSTICE OA 2020 Roadmap



Yoko Sasabuchi (Chief of the Department of Administrative Service at Waseda University Library/Member of the JUSTICE committee)



The Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE), in which about 540 national, public, and private university libraries participate, signed the OA 2020 interest declaration in August 2016 and launched the OA 2020 working team in FY2017 to gather information about international trends and investigate how papers were being released in Japan to identify domestic and international situations. While keeping subscription members is becoming increasingly difficult,

the JUSTICE OA 2020 Roadmap was released upon the approval of the JUSTICE General Assembly in March 2019 to shift from a subscription model to an OA publication model. The purpose and content of this roadmap is described below.

Profile

Yoko Sasabuchi is the chief of the Department of Administrative Service at Waseda University Library Committee and has been a member of the Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE) since FY2016. She is currently the chief examiner of Negotiation Working Group at JUSTICE and the OA2020 working team member.

JST's initiatives to promote open science



Yasushi Ogasaka (Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST))



As a fund provider, JST has established a policy for handling outcomes and findings obtained through research and development from the perspective of open science promotion, and JST is asking researchers comply with the policy. For academic papers, JST requires researchers to make their papers open-accessible and recommends that they disclose evidence. JST also requires researchers to submit a data management plan and asks them to manage their data in line with the plan. In addition, JST is operating J-STAGE, which is a journal platform designed for the collection, maintenance, and promotion of circulation of scientific information and technological information, to encourage open-accessible journals, establish an environment for the publication of evidence

of academic papers, and for other initiatives. In particular, in order to deal with the enforcement of Plan S and problems of predatory journals, JST is strengthening its efforts to improve the quality of journals registered with J-STAGE. Furthermore, JST is working to accelerate open science through connecting with international frameworks and the promotion of more use of ORCID, Grant ID, and other various types of PID.

Profile

Dr. Ogasaka graduated from Gakushuin University, Tokyo, Japan and received PhD. in physics. His research area was high energy astrophysics and development of X-ray telescopes. After his experience as Research Fellow at NASA/GSFC and Nagoya University, he was appointed as Assistant Professor of Department of Physics, Nagoya University in 2000. He joined JST in January 2009. He has been

working on the management of several public funding programs such as Strategic Basic Research Programs, Technology Transfer Program and so on. Since Oct. 2015, he has been in charge of information

services such as journal platform (J-STAGE) or researcher database (researchmap) as Director of Department of Databases for Information and Knowledge Infrastructure.

Attendee Feedback

– Regarding the promotion of open access, it is necessary for an institutional repository to respond to Green OA. However, researchers or authors are not greatly incentivized. Also, persons in charge of a repository have a common issue in that it is not possible to collect a lot of content. I would like you to provide a wide range of people with information about the OA implementation rates that have been researched, and inform us of the significance of open access and other related matters.

– With the reports from relevant organizations and institutions, the seminar was a good opportunity for me to learn about the current situation and issues concerning OA/OS, but no entirely new proposals on a future outlook made. I feel that urgent action is necessary to change the role of the university library.

– I was shocked by the DEAL project in Germany, and I attended the forums at the seminar to learn how the project would impact Japan and other countries. I had the vague impression that Japan was behind, but I was very assured to find that various

institutions have been collaborating to determine strategies that Japan should take.

– The information on the trends in the publishing industry environment and the scholarly information environment were very helpful to me.

– The seminar allowed to me to confirm the current circumstances regarding open access, but that was all. There wasn't much new. However, the seminar did help strengthen my knowledge.

– At the seminar, it was novel to me that a panelist was a member of the JST. From the standpoint of research support, the promotion of OA for the publication of papers by researchers is inextricably linked to the promotion of OA by libraries. I think that the researchers and libraries need to collaborate more to build a better mutual understanding. Thinking about what I can do to get involved, I conveyed what was discussed in the forums at the seminar to the persons in charge of research support at my office.

