SPARC✳Japan

SPARC Japan

(The Committee for the Promotion

of the Scholarly Communication)

Annual Report
FY2018

National Institute of Informatics (NII)

Table of Contents

Foreword

I, Hideaki Takeda, was appointed the managing director of the International Scholarly Communication Initiative Committee in April 2018. Under the leadership of the former managing director Jun Adachi and the other members of the Governing Board , we have been working on activities to reform scholarly communication, and we will continue to work together with our stakeholders to solve various issues in our field.

The initiative started in 2003 and entered the third year of phase 5 in 2018. I would like to present this full, detailed annual report about our activities in 2018. The report covers all activities related to the initiative, such as collaborations with international initiatives and the SPARC Japan seminars that we have held.

Continuing from the previous year, we continued actively collaborating with international initiatives and conducting advocacy activities in 2018. Regarding the international collaboration project (SCOAP3) aimed at open access of peer-reviewed journal papers in the field of high-energy physics, journals published by the American Physical Society (APS) will now be included, and we played the role of a coordinator for the participating domestic organizations in connection with the APS journals. As for arXiv.org, I attended the Member Advisory Board as the successor to Professor Takashi Hikihara, the director of the Kyoto University Library, who served as the chairperson of the Japan Consortium until last year.

Concerning advocacy activities, we held four SPARC Japan seminars on the annual theme of "What Should We Do to Establish Open Science?" At the first seminar, based on the background of "Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency", the participants examined how data policy shall be formulated at an agency and how it shall be related with library services. The theme of the second seminar was quality control in the age of open science and how we can guarantee quality of content. The participants gave talks about their latest attempts under the current situation and discussed the theme. 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 OA model in an optimal way in Japan. The fourth seminar was focused on the fields of humanities and social studies. Participants gave talks and held discussions on the latest circumstances in data infrastructure construction, OA implementation for monographs, and the digitization of bulletins. In addition to the seminars, we published translations of documents related to Plan S—which is being promoted by European research grant foundations and research institutions—and our analyses of the impact of Plan S on the circulation of academic information in Japan.

Since this is the final year of phase 5, we had in-depth discussions in the committee regarding activities planned for 2019 and later. Through the discussions, we decided to change the name of the committee from "the International Scholarly Communication Initiative Committee" to "the Committee for the Promotion of Scholarly Communication", and to promote open access and open science as well as to make efforts to grasp trends and circumstances regarding the circulation of academic information in Japan and other countries. We also agreed to study and organize strategies on how academic information shall be disclosed and how it is used, as well as to conduct advocacy and other activities based on what we learn in collaboration with academic communities and other stakeholders participating in our initiative.

To implement these activities, under the Cooperation Promotion Council , we intend to further strengthen and advance cooperation with the Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE), the Japan Consortium for Open Access Repositories (JPCOAR), and other research communities. I look forward to your continued support.

March 31, 2019

Hideaki Takeda
Managing Director
SPARC Japan / NII

1 Overview
1.1 Overview of Phase 5 Activities
1.1.1 Basic policy for phase 5

Taking over the activities in phase 4, the basic policy for phase 5 is to advance further development of scholarly communication through cooperation with domestic and overseas OA initiatives and other relevant organizations and promotion of open access and related activities.

We will internationally disseminate open access activities in Japan, in alliance especially with US SPARC. In promoting open access and other relevant activities, we continue to drive advocacy activities to encourage participation in the development of scholarly communication, by striving to identify our issues first and further strengthening coordination with the Institutional Repositories Promotion Committee and the Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources, under the Cooperation Promotion Council which links between the National Institute of Informatics (NII) and university libraries.

1.1.2 Project plans for phase 5

Plans for phase 5 of SPARC Japan are being carried out in the following four main areas, as decided in fiscal 2015 by the 3rd SPARC Japan Governing Board.

(1) Cooperating with international OA initiatives

In addition to participating in international initiatives and serving as Japan's overseas interface, we strive to disseminate relevant activities and achievements. Furthermore, we will keep our eye on the international trends and take necessary measures.

(2) Advocacy activities regarding distribution of scholarly information and academic resources

We will continue with our advocacy activities regarding open access, open science, and international distribution of publications from academic societies, in cooperation with organizations such as Cooperation Promotion Council which links between the National Institute of Informatics (NII) and university libraries.

(3) Expanding the scope of activities for open science

In line with the growing interest in open access to research results, open data which has the potential to serve as the foundation of innovation, and open education which requires reconsideration for basic components of higher education, we will promptly deliver information on the trends not only in the science and engineering fields, but also in the humanities and social sciences fields. We will also undertake a strategic review of the

involvement in open science initiatives and management of research data at university libraries.

(4) Gathering basic information regarding open access

Following phase 4, we will gather information on the current status to understand the basic information of open access. In light of the research strategies of each university and research institution, we will consider the possibility of the libraries playing a certain role in the collection and analysis of data.

1.2 Trends in Fiscal 2018

Based on the Project plans indicated in 1.1, the following were implemented in fiscal 2018.

1.2.1 SPARC Japan Seminar

SPARC Japan seminars were held four times during the fiscal year as advocacy activities. SPARC Japan Seminar Planning Working Group (WG) throughout the year was assigned to plan the annual theme and each seminar. Some of the WG members took charge of and implemented each seminar. Newsletters were put out after the seminar, with web editions, so as to inform the public in timely manner.

Record of SPARC Japan Seminar 2018

1	September 19, 2018　13:30-17:10　National Institute of Informatics *"To Promote a Data Management Policy and Roles of Researchers and Librarians"* 　https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20180919en.html [Moderator]: Takanori Hayashi, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences ・Opening Greeting / Outline: Takanori Hayashi, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences ・"An Overview of the Integrated Innovation Strategy and the Aim of the Guideline for the "Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency"" 　Shinichi Akaike, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy / Cabinet Office 　Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy ・"The Data Policy of National Institute of Environmental Studies, a Step Toward Open Data" 　Tomoko Shirai, Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental

	Studies
	
	・"Collaborative Database Construction in Digital Picture Library for Area Studies"
	
	  Yuzo Marukawa, National Museum of Ethnology
	
	  Shun Ishiyama, National Museum of Ethnology
	
	・Discussion: [[Moderator]] Takanori Hayashi, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences
	
	Planning WG member(in alphabetical order)* Chief of a seminar
	  Kazuhiro Hayashi (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy)
	  Takanori Hayashi* (Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences)
	  Yuki Ishiyama (Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University)
	  Shigeru Yatsuzuka (National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency)

	No. of participants: 70 (capacity: 70 people) Rate of using relay distribution of videos*: 133, No. of cases of using videos from the archive*: 177 NewsLetter No.36 (March 2019) (Cf. Chapter 6)

2	October 25, 2018 10:10-16:10 National Institute of Informatics
	
	"Quality Control in the Age of Open Science" (Open Access Summit 2018)
	  https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20181025en.html
	
	[Moderator]: Misa Nakamura, University of Tokyo Library System
	・Opening Greeting / Outline: Shigeru Yatsuzuka, National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency
	・" Moving Beyond the Journal: A Changing Role for Publishers, Funders and Institutions "
	  Rebecca Lawrence, F1000
	・" Innovations in Publishing - an Author's Perspective"
	  Ben Seymour, Center for Information and Neural Networks (CiNet), National Institute of Information and Communications Technology
	・"Q & A"
	  [[Moderator]] Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy
	・"The Future of Ecosystem of Scholarly Communication - the State-of-the-Art of arXiv and More -"
	  Hideaki Takeda, National Institute of Informatics
	・"Utility of Preprints in Life Science"
	  Hidemasa Bono, Database Center for Life Scienc
	・Discussion: [[Moderator]] Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy
	
	Planning WG member(in alphabetical order)* Chief of a seminar
	  Kazuhiro Hayashi* (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy)
	  Yumiko Nakahara (Department of Academic Information, University of Tsukuba)
	  Chikahiko Suzuki (Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics)
	  Shigeru Yatsuzuka (National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency)

	No. of participants: 53　(capacity: 70 people)
	Rate of using relay distribution of videos*: 90, No. of cases of using videos from the archive*: 97
	NewsLetter No.37　(January 2020)　(Cf. Chapter 6)
3	November 9, 2018　13:00-17:25　National Institute of Informatics *"Roadmap for Open Access : The Road to OA2020"* 　https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20181109en.html [Moderator]: Yuki Ishiyama, Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University ・Opening Greeting / Outline: Yuki Ishiyama, Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University ・"The OA2020 Roadmap to Open Access " 　Ralf Schimmer, Head of Information Provision, Max Planck Digital Library ・"Transformation from Subscription Model to Open Access Model: Challenges for the Future of JUSTICE" 　Midori Ichiko, Mita Media Center, Keio University / The Chair of the Steering Committee of Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE) ・"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 ・Panel Discussion: [[Moderator]] Koichi Ojiro, Research Center for Open Science and Data Platform, National Institute of Informatics Planning WG member(in alphabetical order)* Chief of a seminar 　Takanori Hayashi (Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences) 　Yuki Ishiyama* (Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University) 　Misa Nakamura (University of Tokyo Library System) 　Masao Takaku (University of Tsukuba)
	No. of participants: 102　(capacity: 100 people)
	Rate of using relay distribution of videos*: 254, No. of cases of using videos from the archive*:194
	NewsLetter No.38　(March 2020)　(Cf. Chapter 6)

| 4 | January 29, 2019   13:30-17:00   National Institute of Informatics

"Open Science in the Humanities and Social Sciences: For Problem-Solving"
  https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20190129en.html

[Moderator]: Chikahiko Suzuki, Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics

・Opening Greeting / Outline: Chikahiko Suzuki, Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics

・" 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

・" Towards Open Access Monograph Publishing in Japan"

  Eriko Amano, Kyoto University Research Administration Office (KURA)

・"Digitization and Open Access of Academic Journals on Area Studies"

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

・Discussion: [[Moderator]] Chikahiko Suzuki, Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics

Planning WG member(in alphabetical order)* Chief of a seminar
  Yumiko Nakahara (Department of Academic Information, University of Tsukuba)
  Misa Nakamura (University of Tokyo Library System)
  Chikahiko Suzuki* (Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics)
  Masao Takaku (University of Tsukuba) |
|---|---|

No. of participants: 66   (capacity: 60 people)

Rate of using relay distribution of videos*: 165, No. of cases of using videos from the archive*:-

NewsLetter No.39 （March 2020）   (Cf. Chapter 6)

| Total | No. of participants: 291 (capacity: 300 people in total, average number of participants: 73)

Rate of using relay distribution of videos*: 642, No. of cases of using videos from the archive*: 468 |
|---|---|

*As of February 8, 2019

1.2.2 Surveys of overseas trends
We participated in the following international conferences and gathered information.

(1) Professor Adachi and Professor Yamaji (NII) attended the SCOAP3 Executive Committee (2018/5/2–4, Geneva, Switzerland).

(2) Professor Takeda (NII) attended the arXiv.org MAB annual meeting (2018/10/2, New York、US).

(3) Professor Takeda (NII) had an interview with the CLOCKSS secretariat (2018/10/5, New York, US).

1.2.3 Support for arXiv.org

arXiv.org is operated by Cornell University Library with preprint servers of physics, mathematics, and computer science, and other related fields. In 2017, electrical engineering and systems science and economics were newly added to these fields. In December 2014, the number of papers exceeded 1 million, and in 2018 the number increased to 1.5 million. The number of annual new submissions is 140,000. While the annual number of downloads exceeded 220,000,000. With financial support from institutions with a high number of their users, through the arXiv membership program, which was launched in 2013, 221 institutions from 27 countries have participated in this program as of the end of fiscal 2017.

NII has supported arXiv.org in Japan by contacting universities to confirm their intent to participate. In April 2014, we were sounded out by Cornell University to call on universities to become Japanese members of arXiv.org as a consortium. After confirming this matter with each member university, we changed their contracts to Consortium Contracts. Their membership fee was discounted by 10% as a consortium price. In 2017, as a result of an intention survey for the top 300 frequent user universities of arXiv.org in terms of the application for membership, the number of the members as of the end of December 2017 is 14 institutions.

In fiscal 2015, the consortium was formally named the Consortium of Japanese Research Libraries: Coordinated by National Institute of Informatics (NII), abbreviated as NII Japan Consortia. Also, Professor Hideaki Takeda of NII became a representative of this Consortium in place of Director-General Takashi Hikihara of the Kyoto University Library Network, joined the Member Advisory Board (MAB) of arXiv.org, and attended a board meeting held on October 2, 2018.

1.2.4 Support for SCOAP[3]

Since the launch of SCOAP[3] in 2014, NII has functioned as Japan's national contact point. During 2017, NII once again confirmed the intention of participation in the consortium as well as the relevant contact information of university libraries, and collected contribution fees and paid them on behalf of these partners. While the number of participating institutions from Japan in Phase 1 (2014-2016) was 34, in Phase 2 (2017-

2019), 69 institutions announced their participation in SCOAP³ as of the end of December 2018, which was an increase from 40 institutions in 2017 with the addition of the American Physical Society's journal in 2018.

The number of papers which were made available as Open Access publications through SCOAP³ reached 25,000 (2014-2018). The APC on SCOAP3 per paper is lower than the APC of general Gold OA journal platforms.

Disclosure of the SCOAP³ repository, which lists SCOAP³ open-access articles, and its Application Programming Interface (API) has already been started. Repository disclosure is based on the assignment of Digital Object Identifier (DOI), CC BY license attribution, and XML format, and allows for text mining and data mining.

In 2018, the American Physical Society (APS) joined SCOAP3, and the papers in the High Energy Physics (HEP) field published on the Physical Review C, Physical Review D, and Physical Review Letters by the APS were made available for open access. Based on this, approximately 90% of the papers in the HEP field throughout the world have become Open Access publications since 2018. The contributions for SCOAP³ of each subscriber institution will be cut from their contract amount with APS in 2018 and 2019.

Professor Jun Adachi from NII, a member representing Japan at SCOAP³ Governing Council, and Professor Yamaji, a member of SPARC Japan Governing Board , attended the Executive Meeting and Governing Council (May 2–4, 2018, CERN).

In addition, to promote the participation of domestic institutions, we sent a letter to request participation in SCOAP3 to the presidents of universities and research institutions as well as the directors of libraries, and received positive replies from some organizations. Furthermore, we held the Study Meeting for Promotion of SCOAP3 to share information about the current situation of SCOAP3 with research communities in the field of high-energy physics and determine actions and measures to take for SCOAP3 in the future.

1.2.5 Support for CLOCKSS

CLOCKSS (Controlled Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) aims to realize long-term preservation of digital resources (web-based academic papers, etc.) for researchers worldwide and undertakes initiatives including establishment of an archive and a community to manage it, to enable researchers to widely access the archived contents when they are no longer available from the respective publishers.

In Japan, NII has been confirming each university's intention for participation and collecting the payments of the annual membership fee since 2013. As of the end of December 2018, 99 institutions are participating in Japan.

1.2.6 Study on OA Publishing and APC Spend in Japan

In 2015, we collaborated with the Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE) to organize a team under JUSTICE for studying the current status of open-access scholarly papers. The team initiated a study of open-access papers and Article Processing Charge (APC) in Japan. In fiscal 2018, we continued to conduct follow-up activities.

1.2.7 Publication of Fiscal 2017 SPARC Japan Annual Report

Activities undertaken during fiscal 2017 were summarized in an annual report (Japanese version) published in March 2019 and the annual report FY2016 in English was published in November 2018.

2 Record of Meeting
2.1 SPARC Japan Governing Board

Date	Agenda
August 22, 2018	1. Summary of minutes of the last meeting (draft) 2. Activitiy of SPARC Japan in fiscal 2018 3. Cooperation with overseas OA initiatives [discussion] 4. Report on the activities of JUSTICE related to Open Access 5. Basic policy for phase 6 of SPARC Japan [discussion] 6. Others
December 13, 2018	1. Summary of minutes of the last meeting (draft) 2. Report on the activities of SPARC Japan in fiscal 2018 3. Cooperation with overseas OA initiatives 4. Report on the activities of JUSTICE related to Open Access 5. Review of the project of SPARC Japan [discussion] 6. Others
February 8, 2019	1. Summary of minutes of the last meeting (draft) 2. Report on the activities of SPARC Japan in fiscal 2018 3. Summary of phase 5 of SPARC Japan [discussion] 4. Basic policy for phase 1 of the Committee for the Promotion of Scholarly Communication (draft) and plans for the activities of SPARC Japan in fiscal 2019 [discussion] 5. Analysis of overseas trends [discussion] 6. Others

2.2 Planning Working Group for SPARC Japan Seminar

Date	Agenda
Kick off meeting June 5, 2019	1. Explanation of purpose 2. Annual theme 3. Schedule and duties 4. Others

3 List of Members
3.1 SPARC Japan Governing Board

Name	Title / Affiliation
Hiroshi Itsumura	Professor, Master's and Doctoral Programs of Library, Information and Media Studies, University of Tsukuba
Hiroshi Imai	Professor, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, University of Tokyo
Yasunori Fukagai	Professor, Graduate School of International Social Sciences, Yokohama National University
Keiko Kurata	Professor, Faculty of Letters, Keio university
Mitsuaki Nozaki	Professor, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) Head, International Cooperation Office
Sokatsu Kubota	Head, Management Division, Hokkaido University Library

Tsutomu Takahashi	General Manager, University of Tokyo Library
Masayuki Shoji	Administrative director of the library, Waseda University Library
Midori Ichiko	Administrative Director, Mita Media Center, Keio University (Chair, the steering committee of JUSTICE)
Kazuhiro Hayashi	Senior Research Fellow, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy
Hideaki Takeda	Professor, Principles of Informatics Research Division, National Institute of Informatics (Joint steering committee chair, Japan Link Center)
Kazuko Egawa	Deputy Director, Cyber Science Infrastructure Development Department, National Institute of Informatics

3.2 Planning Working Group for SPARC Japan Seminar 2018

Name	Title / Affiliation
Kazuhiro Hayashi	Senior Research Fellow, Science & Technology Foresight Center (STFC), National Institute of Science and Technology Policy
Masao Takaku	Associate Professor, Faculty of Library, Information and Media Science, University of Tsukuba
Shigeru Yatsuzuka	Researcher, National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency
Chikahiko Suzuki	Project Researcher, Center for Open Data in the Humanities (CODH), National Institute of Informatics
Misa Nakamura	Section of Planning and Liaison, General Affairs Division, University of Tokyo Library System
Yuki Ishiyama	Serial Record Unit, Library Affairs Division, Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University
Takanori Hayashi	Head of Information Management Subsection, Publications and Documentation Section, Information and Public Relations Office, Research Planning and Partnership Division, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences
Yumiko Nakahara	Repository Management Section, Division of Academic Information Planning, Department of Academic Information, University of Tsukuba

4 History

Fiscal Year	Council / Governing Board Meeting	Event	Related Event / Others
2003	06/25 The 1st Council Meeting 07/14 Recruitment of Participating Journals 08/01 The 1st Governing Board Meeting 09/11 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting 09/17 The 2nd Council Meeting (Adoption of Participating Journals) 09/17 Press Release 10/08 Joint Meeting of Working Groups 03/22 The 3rd Governing Board Meeting 03/23 The 3rd Council Meeting	07/02 Briefing on Project Concept for Academic Societies, at Japan Education Center 08/19 Briefing on Project Concept, at Tohoku University 01/21-29 Briefing on Project Euclid, at National Center of Sciences, Tohoku University, Kyoto University and Nagoya University 02/23 SPARC Japan Meeting Report and Briefing on Concept of New Journals at National Center of Sciences 03/11 SPARC Japan Seminar "Future Perspective of Scholarly Communication in Biological Sciences - UniBio Press Mission", at The University of Tokyo library	11/05 The 5th Library Fair & Forum "SPARC Japan: Transforming International Scholarly Communication in Japan" at Tokyo International Forum, sponsored by Japan Council of National University Libraries and Japan Association of Private University Libraries 11/20 Japan Council of National University Libraries Task Force on E-Journal started negotiation with publishers in Biological Science, Physics, and Medicine.
2004	05/28 The 1st Governing Board Meeting 06/02 The 1st Council Meeting		

06/07 Recruitment of Participating Journals		
	07/07 Briefing on Project Concept for Academic Societies, at National Center of Sciences	07/01 Presentation on Activities of SPARC Japan at workshop of JANUL(Japan Association of National University Libraries) general meeting, at Osaka University Convention Center
09/15 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting		
09/22 The 2nd Council Meeting (Adoption of Participating Journals)	09/27 Project Euclid Meeting, Briefing on DPubS	
10/14 Joint Meeting of Working Groups	10/15 Symposium "Current Issues on Scholarly Publishing to Advance Scholarly Communication~SPARC Japan as an Example" at Hiroshima University Library, Co-sponsored by Hiroshima University Library, the Japan Association of National University libraries(JANUL) Committee on Scholarly Information, NII	
	10/19 Symposium "Future Prospects on Japanese Scholarly Journals", at Waseda University Center for Scholarly Information, Co-sponsored by The Society of Polymer Science, The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, Committee of Tohoku Mathematical Journal, The Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers, The Japan Institute of Metals and Materials, The Zoological Society of Japan, The Japan Society for Analytical Chemistry, Japanese Society of Mammalian Ova Research, The Mammal Society of Japan, NII	10/19-20 Participation in the Project Euclid DPubS Conference, at Cornell University, US
	11/05 OUP Meeting "Current Situation of Open Access"	
	11/25 The 6th Library Fair & Forum "Trends in Scholarly Communication: Open Access and Self-Archiving", at Pacifico Yokohama	
	01/27 Workshop "Business Models for E-Journals and Trends in Scholarly Publishing", at Japan Education Center	
03/07 The 3rd Governing Board Meeting		
03/10 The 3rd Council Meeting	03/24 Symposium "Current Trends and Issues around SPARC: Scholarly Journals, Institutional Repositories and Open Access", at Waseda University	
2005		
06/06 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	05/19 The 1st SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "Learning from history of Nature - Editorial Policies at Nature"	

Date	Event
06/08	The 1st Council Meeting
06/21-22	Participation in the JISC International Solutions for the Dissemination of Research, London, UK
06/29	The 2nd SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "J-STAGE Online Submission and Review System"
07/07-08	Elsevier Library Connect Seminar 2005, "Understanding Users", in Kyoto and Tokyo, Supported by NII
07/09-10	Closed Workshop "E-Journals: Current Usage and Future Prospects" at Keidanren Guest House
07/15	The 3rd SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "Theory and Practice of Open Access - Researchers, Library, Academic Journals"
07/20	UniBio Press Initiatives: New Business Model at Academic Societies, sponsored by Ibaragi University Library
09/15	Yamaguchi University Library Lecture 2005 "Status of E-Journals and scholarly communication in Japan - Role and Activities of SPARC Japan" Sponsored by Yamaguchi University Library
09/16	Symposium on E-journals "Management of academic resources in University: for transforming scholarly communication in era of E-journals" at Kyoto University, Co-Sponsored by Academic Center for Computing and Media Studies, Kyoto University Library and NII
09/22	The 4th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "How do we launch and publish e-journals? -challenges for academic societies and publishers"
10/06	The 5th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 (The 76th Annual Meeting of the Zoological Society of Japan) "What should researcher React? - in the era of E-Journals" at International Congress Center, Co-sponsored by the zoological Society of Japan
10/13	The 2nd Governing Board Meeting
10/26	The 2nd Council Meeting (Adoption of Participating Journals)
11/24	Special Session of The SPARC JAPAN Seminar "Briefing and Demonstration of Online Submission and Review System: Journal of Bioscience and Bioengineering"
11/30	The 6th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 (The 7th Library and Forum) "COUNTER project: Setting International Standards for Online Usage" at Pacifico Yokohama
12/01	Closed Workshop on COUNTER project
12/09	Nagasaki University Library Lecture 2 "Latest Trends in Scholarly Communication: Role and Activities of SPARC Japan", Sponsored by Nagasaki University Library
12/12	The 7th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "English Reviewer in Academic Journals in Japan"

		01/31 The 8th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "Trends and Technical Standards in Scholarly Communications: Google Scholar, CrossRef, OAI-PMH etc."	
	02/15 The 3rd Governing Board Meeting	02/10 The 9th SPARC JAPAN Seminar 2005 "Wrap-up Session by SPARC Japan Partners"	
	02/24 The 3rd Council Meeting		
2006		06/30 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Academic Community in Japan: Views from Overseas Publishers"	03 MOU Conclusion with The Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
		07/26 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Promotion of E-Journal and Licensing: Worldwide Trends and Outlook for Japanese Journals"	07/03-04 Elsevier Library Connect Seminar 2006, "From " Search" to "Find" -, in Tokyo, and Osaka, sponsored by NII
		09/05 Lecture "Introducing ALPSP" by Ms. Sally Morris	
	09/08 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	09/29 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Evaluating Online Submission System-Before and After-"	
		11/02 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Request from University Libraries to Publishers: COUNTER as an Example"	
		11/20 The 8th Library and Forum Fair "TRANSFER Update: to improve procedures and policies surrounding transfer of journals" at Pacifico Yokohama	
		12/14 The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Copyright: for Academic Societies, Authors and Institutional Repository"	
		12/18-19 International Symposium: Future of Institutional Repositories, e-Science and the Future of Scholarly Communication "Standing on the Shoulders of Digital Giants" at Toshi Center Hall	
	01/30 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	01/30 The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Promotion of E-Journal and Licensing (2) Tips from the Experts"	

Year			
2007	06/12 Joint Meeting / SPARC Japan Partners 07/19 The 1st Governing Board Meeting 12/14 SPARC Japan Partners-University Libraries Joint Meeting "Forming a consortium of SPARC Japan Partners" 02/29 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	03/05 The 7th SPARC Japan Seminar 2006 "Measuring Performance of Journals/Articles by Bibliometrics" 07/17 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2007 "Measuring Performance of Journals/Articles by Bibliometrics - Series 2" 10/02 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2007 "Evaluating Online Submission and Review System Part 3 – For Better System" 11/02 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2007 "Current State of Metadata Publishing - Things Needed for Production and Publishing of Electronic Journals" 11/09 Presentation at The 9th Library Fair & Forum "Challenges for Japanese Leading E-journals: Proposals from SPARC Japan Partners" at Pacifico Yokohama 01/17 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2007 (SPARC Japan-ALPSP Special Seminar) "Journal Publishing and Scholarly Societies" 01/18 ALPSP Training Course "Introduction to Journal Publishing"	05/15 UniBio Press Seminar "Challenges for Journal of Biological Sciences: for broader and more accurate dissemination of information" at National Center of Sciences 05/17 UniBio Press Seminar "Challenges for Journal of Biological Sciences: for broader and more accurate dissemination of information" at Kyoto University Library 08/05-11 Participation in the 41st IUPAC Congress (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry), Torino, Italy 08/20-22 Participation in the 234th ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting & Exposition, Boston, US 11/07-09 Participation in The 9th Library Fair & Forum, at Pacifico Yokohama
2008		04/22 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "The Future of Academic Journals as a Means of Disseminating Research Results"	06/15-17 SPARC Japan Partners exhibited at the SLA 2008 Conference (Special Libraries Association), Seattle, US

06/26 Participation in the 55th General Assembly of JANUL (Japan Association of National University Libraries), at Tohoku University

07/13-15 Participation in The General Conference of the Chinese Chemical, Tianjin, China

08/17-19 Participation in the 236th ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting & Exposition, Philadelphia, US

09/11-12 Participation in the General Conference of JASPUL (Japan Association of Private University Libraries), at Kokugakuin University

09/16-20 Participation in the 2nd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, Torino, Italy

09/25-26 Presentation at KESLI (Korean Electronic Site License Initiative), Daejyon, Korea

10/12-15 Promotion at the 15th North American ISSX (International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics) Meeting, San Diego, US

10/27-30 Participation in ISAP2008 (International Symposium on Antennas and Propagation), Taipei, Taiwan

11/13-14 Participation in the INFOPRO2008, at National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation

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06/24 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "Academic Publishing and the Approach to XML - Issues in Japan"

07/10 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "The Status of Consortium in Korea - For Expanding our Global Presence"

09/02-03 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 (RIMS Workshop) "Digitization of Bulletin and the Surrounding Issues" at Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Kyoto University

10/14 The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "What is the most appropriate OA model for Japan?"

11/17-18 SPARC Digital Repositories Meeting 2008, Baltimore, US Co-hosted by SPARC, SPARC Europe and SPARC Japan

11/25 The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "Beyond IF - we need some different perspectives"

11/27 The 7th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 (The 10th Library Fair & Forum 2008, Scientific Information Open Summit) "Open Access Update"

12/16 The 8th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "E-Journal Platforms that fit the requirements in Japan"

Year		
	12/24 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	12/17-20 Participation in the International Conference on Embedded and Ubiquitous Computing (EUC 2008), Shanghai, China
	03/10 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	03/16-20 Participation in the 2009 APS (American Physical Society) Meeting, Pittsburgh, US
	03/27 Joint Meeting / SPARC Japan Publishing Partners	01/22-26 Project Euclid-Mathematics Journals Meeting at National Institute of Informatics, Kyoto University and Tokyo Institute of Technology
	03/27 The 3rd Governing Board Meeting	02/13 The 9th SPARC Japan Seminar 2008 "Report from SPARC Japan Partners"
2009	10/05 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	06/25 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 "Voluntary publication from researchers through a variety of network media in quest of dissemination to the general public"
		08/04 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 "Sustainability of non-profit publishers - learning from OUP"
		09/08-09 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 (RIMS Workshop) "Towards a Digital Mathematics Library"
		09/17 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 (Annual Meeting of the Zoological Society of Japan) "ZS Project"
		10/20 Open Access Week (The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2009) "An open access business model and researchers' attitudes"
		11/11 The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 (Library Fair & Forum) "NIH Public Access Policy"
		12/11 The 7th SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 "Status of Social Sciences Journals - Issues of IR, Copyright, E-journals"
		02/02 The 8th SPARC Japan Seminar 2009 "Marketing to Libraries Worldwide"
		11/25 SPARC Japan Publishing Partners in Chemistry Participated in the APBioChEC (Asia Pacific Biochemical Engineering Conference) 2009, at Kobe Convention Center
		12/03-04 DRF International Conference 2009 (DRFIC 2009), Co-hosted by DRF and NII, at Tokyo Institute of Technology

Year	Date	Event
2010	03/23	The 2nd Governing Board Meeting
	02/03	ALPSP Training Course "Effective Journals Marketing"
	06/23	The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 "Work and Management of Academic Societies"
	07/06	The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 "Journal Publishing - Current Situation of Overseas Academic Societies"
	08/24	The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 "The Work of Libraries - Subscription and Use of Academic Journals"
	09/16	The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 (RIMS Workshop) "Towards a Digital Mathematics Library"
	09/24	The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 (Annual Meeting of the Zoological Society of Japan) "A look ahead to the next decade of scholarly communications in Japan"
	10/20	The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 (Open Access Week) "Open Access Disseminated from Japan"
	11/08-09	The SPARC Digital Repositories Meeting 2010, Baltimore, US, Co-sponsored by SPARC, SPARC Europe and SPARC Japan
	12/10	Joint Symposium "Open Access Policy for the Dissemination of the Research Outcomes from Universities" at Iron Gate Memorial Hall, The University of Tokyo
	01/14	The 7th SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 "Author ID: Recent Developments"
	02/03	The 8th SPARC Japan Seminar 2010 "Impact and Position of Japanese Journals/Articles in the World"
	08/19	Participation in the International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM), Hyderabad, India
	08/22-26	Participation in the 240th ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting and Exposition, Boston, US
	08/29-09/02	Participation in the 3rd EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, Nurnberg, Germany

2011	03/16 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	03/08 MoU Signing Event between German National Library of Science and Technology (TIB) / German National Library of Medicine (ZB MED) / National Institute of Informatics (NII) Symposium: "The Future of Scholarly Communication Infrastructure in German and Japan"	08/28-09/01 Participation in the 242nd ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting & Exposition, Denver, US
			09/04-09 Participation in the 14th Asian Chemical Congress 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
			10/26 Presentation at the 2011 Open Access Korea (OAK) Conference, Seoul, Korea by Jun Adachi "Open Access in Japan: 2011 Updates"
	10/06 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	10/28 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 (Open Access Week) "Current Situation and Strategy of Open Access from Viewpoints of Journal Publishing"	
		12/06 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 "Workshop for Contemporary Reference Management Tools"	
		01/31 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 "New Movement of the Distribution on Scholarly Information - Open Access for Researchers and Academic Societies"	
		02/10 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 "Distribution of Academic Information: Open the Way to the Future - Crisis of Online Journal and Open Access"	
		02/29 The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 "Burgeoning Open Access MegaJournals"	
		03/26 The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2011 (Project Euclid & Mathematical Society of Japan, Joint Workshop) "Workshop on Mathematics Publishing"	
	03/27 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting		

Year				
2012	05/25	The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Review of Research Assessment"	07/02-07	Participation in the 6th European Congress of Mathematics (ECM), Kraków, Poland
	06/19	The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Further Progress of Journals - Focusing on Platform Transfer"	08/19-21	Participation in the 244th ACS (American Chemical Society) National Meeting & Exposition, Philadelphia, US
	07/25	The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Reform: Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (Publication of Research Results/Scientific Periodicals)"	08/26-30	Participation in the 4th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress, Prague, Czech Republic
	08/23	The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Open Access Journal: Funder-Researcher Collaboration in Science Communication"	12/26-27	Keynote Speech at RIMS Joint Research, Kyoto University
	10/26	The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Open Access Week - Open Access in Japan, Last Decade and Next Decade"		
	12/04	The 6th SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "How Open Access Can Change Libraries & Librarians - Course on Open Access for Libraries & Librarians"		
	02/19	The 7th SPARC Japan Seminar 2012 "Libraries' Financial Support for Open Access"		
	12/10	The 1st Governing Board Meeting		
	03/26	The 2nd Governing Board Meeting		
2013	06/07	The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2013 "Future Perspective: SPARC and SPARC Japan"	08/06	The 1st Working Group Meeting for Survey on Submission to OA Journals
	08/23	The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2013 "Latest Developments in Open Access - Humanities and Social Sciences -"	10/02	The 2nd Working Group Meeting for Survey on Submission to OA Journals
	10/25	The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2013 "Redefining the Impact of Research Outputs in the Age of Open Access: Current State of Reuse and Altmetrics"	12/04	MOU Conclusion on SCOAP3 with CERN
	12/19	The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2013 "Accessing & Publishing of Academic Information - Think Globally, Act Locally"	01/27	Keynote Speech at RIMS Joint Research, Kyoto University

Year	Governing Board Meeting	SPARC Japan Seminar	International Activities
	03/24 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	02/07 The 5th SPARC Japan Seminar 2013 "Winds of Change: The Past, Present, and Future of Open Access in Asia"	03/02 Participation in the COAPI Meeting, Kansas City, US 03/03-04 Participation in the 2014 SPARC Open Access Meeting, Kansas City, US 03/13 The 3rd Working Group Meeting for Survey on Submission to OA Journals
2014	01/15 The 1st Governing Board Meeting 03/19 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	08/04 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2014 "How Do We Face APCs? - Perspective of APCs Through Trends and Surveys In and Outside of Japan -" 09/26 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2014 "Institutional Open Access Policy : Toward the Development of Japanese Models" 10/21 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2014 "Science for 'Generation Open'" Open Access Summit 2014 -Open Access Week 2014 "Generation Open"- 03/09 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2014 "What Should We Do to Expand Green Content?"	05/21-23 Participation in the COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repository) 2014 Annual meeting, Athens, Greece 06/09-13 Participation in the OR2014 (The 9th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories), Helsinki, Finland
2015	08/04 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	09/30 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2015 "How Can We Evaluate the Work on Humanity and Social Sciences? - From the Scholarly Communication Point of View -"	04/15-16 Participation in the COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repository) 2015 Annual meeting, Porto, Portugal 05/18-20 Participation in the ORCID-CASRAI Joint Outreach Conference & Codefest and the ORCID Board Meeting, Barcelona, Spain 06/08-11 Participation in the OR2015 (The 10th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories), Indianapolis, US

Year	Date	Event	Date	International Participation
	10/21	The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2015 "Towards the New Paradigm of Science and Scholarly Communication Environment - E-Science, Research Data Sharing, and Research Data Infrastructures -" Open Access Summit 2015 -Open Access Week 2015 "Open for Collaboration"-	11/03-06	Participation in the ORCID Outreach Meeting & Codefest, San Francisco, US in November 2015 and the ORCID Board Meeting, San Francisco, US
	11/30	The 2nd Governing Board Meeting		
	01/19	The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2015 "Challenges and Possibilities of Emerging Research Information Platforms"	02/02-03	Participation in the ORCID Board Meeting, London, UK
	03/09	The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2015 "The Function of University Libraries in the Context of Research Promotion"	03/07-08	Participation in the SPARC Meeting on Openness in Research & Education, San Antonio, US
	03/24	The 3rd Governing Board Meeting		
2016			04/11-13	Participation in the COAR (Confederation of Open Access Repository) Annual Meeting 2016, Wien, Austria
			05/18-19	Participation in the ORCID Board Meeting, Toronto, Canada
			06/08-11	Participation in the CRIS2016 (The 13th International Conference on Current Research Information Systems), St Andrews, Scotland
			06/13-16	Participation in the OR2016 (The 11th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories), Dublin, Ireland
	09/06	The 1st Governing Board Meeting	09/12-13	Participation in the arXiv.org Member Advisory Board Meeting, Ithaca, US
	09/09	The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2016 "Roads to Open Access for Japan"	09/15-17	Participation in the RDA (Research Data Alliance) 8th Plenary Meeting, Denver, US
	10/26	The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2016 "Promoting Openness of Research Data: Incentive and Data Management" Open Access Summit 2016 -Open Access Week 2016 "Open in Action"-	10/14-15	Participation in the SCOAP[3] Executive Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland
			11/09-10	Participation in the PIDapalooza (PID : Persistent ID), Reykjavík, Iceland
			12/07-09	Cooperation with lectures and discussions about SCOAP[3], Tokyo and Kyoto
			01/17-19	Participation in the IDF Strategic Meeting, Barcelona, Spain
	02/14	The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2016 "Future Standard Infrastructure Supporting Creation of Scientific Knowledge: Reconsidering Open Science"	01/25-27	Study visits to overseas institutions related to open access, Regensburg and Munich, Germany

Year	Governing Board Meeting	Participation / Events	SPARC Japan Seminar
	03/14 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	03/20 Participation in the SCOAP³ Executive Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland 03/23-24 Participation in the SCOAP³ Governing Council Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland	
2017	09/26 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	04/05-07 Participation in the RDA(Research Data Alliance) 9th Plenary Meeting, Barcelona, Spain 05/08-10 Participation in the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) Annual Meeting 2017, Venice, Italy 06/13-14 Participation in the IDF Strategic Meeting International DOI Foundation, Daejeon, Korea 06/15 Participation in the DOI Strategy Meeting, Seoul, Korea 06/27-30 Participation in the 12th Annual International Conference on Open Repositories (OR2017), Brisbane, Australia 09/18-21 Participation in the Research Data Alliance (RDA) 10th Plenary Meeting, Montreal, Canada 09/26 SCOAP³ Governing Council Meeting (teleconference) 10/05 Participation in the arXiv.org Member Advisory Board Meeting, New York, US	09/13 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2017 "A New Relation Between Librarians and Researchers: From a Viewpoint of Management and Distribution of Research Data" 10/30 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017 (Open Access Summit 2017) "Preprint and Open Access"
		12/07 SCOAP³ FORUM (Webinar) 01/23-24 Participation in the PIDapalooza (PID : Persistent ID), Girona, Spain 01/25-26 Participation in the IDF Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain	02/21 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017 "Beyond Open Science"
	03/19 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting		
2018	08/22 The 1st Governing Board Meeting	05/02-04 Participation in the SCOAP3 Executive Committee, Geneva, Switzerland 10/02 Participation in the arXiv.org MAB annual meeting, New York, US 10/05 Interview visit with the CLOCKSS secretariat, New York, US	09/19 The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2018 "To Promote a Data Management Policy and Roles of Researchers and Librarians"

12/13 The 2nd Governing Board Meeting	10/25 The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018(Open Access Summit 2018) "Quality Control in the Age of Open Science"
	11/09 The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018 "Roadmap for Open Access : The Road to OA2020"
02/08 The 3rd Governing Board Meeting	01/29 The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2018 "Open Science in the Humanities and Social Sciences: For Problem-Solving"

5 Publication

5.1 SPARC Japan Annual Report

・SPARC Japan (International Scholarly Communication Initiative) Annual Report FY2016

　http://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/publications/pdf/sparc_annual_2016 E.pdf

5.2 SPARC Japan NewsLetter

・SPARC Japan NewsLetter No. 35, Apr. 2018

　http://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/publications/pdf/sj-NewsLetter35E.pdf

5.3 Reference for SPARC Japan Seminar 2018

【The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2018】September 19, 2018

　"To Promote a Data Management Policy and Roles of Researchers and Librarians"

　https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20180919en.html

・Opening Greeting / Outline: Takanori Hayashi, Japan International Research Center for
　Agricultural Sciences

・"An Overview of the Integrated Innovation Strategy and the Aim of the Guideline for the
　"Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development
　Agency""

　Shinichi Akaike, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy / Cabinet Office

　Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy

・"The Data Policy of National Institute of Environmental Studies, a Step Toward Open Data"

　Tomoko Shirai, Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental
　Studies

・"Collaborative Database Construction in Digital Picture Library for Area Studies"

　Yuzo Marukawa, National Museum of Ethnology

　Shun Ishiyama, National Museum of Ethnology

・Discussion: [[Moderator]] Takanori Hayashi, Japan International Research Center for
　Agricultural Sciences

【The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018】　October 25, 2018

　"Quality Control in the Age of Open Science"

　https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20181025en.html

・Opening Greeting / Outline: Shigeru Yatsuzuka, National Bioscience Database Center, Japan
　Science and Technology Agency

・"Moving Beyond the Journal: A Changing Role for Publishers, Funders and Institutions"
Rebecca Lawrence, F1000
・"Innovations in Publishing - an Author's Perspective"
Ben Seymour, Center for Information and Neural Networks (CiNet), National Institute of Information and Communications Technology
・"Q & A": [[Moderator]] Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy
・"The Future of Ecosystem of Scholarly Communication - the State-of-the-Art of arXiv and More -"
Hideaki Takeda, National Institute of Informatics
・"Utility of Preprints in Life Science"
Hidemasa Bono, Database Center for Life Science
・Discussion: [[Moderator]] Kazuhiro Hayashi, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy

【The 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018】 November 9, 2018
　"Roadmap for Open Access : The Road to OA2020"
https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20181109en.html
・Opening Greeting / Outline: Yuki Ishiyama, Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University
・"The OA2020 Roadmap to Open Access"
Ralf Schimmer, Head of Information Provision, Max Planck Digital Library
・"Transformation from Subscription Model to Open Access Model: Challenges for the Future of JUSTICE"
Midori Ichiko, Mita Media Center, Keio University / The Chair of the Steering Committee of Japan Alliance of University Library Consortia for E-Resources (JUSTICE)
・"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
・Panel Discussion: [[Moderator]] Koichi Ojiro, Research Center for Open Science and Data Platform, National Institute of Informatics

【The 4th SPARC Japan Seminar 2018】 January 29, 2019
　"Open Science in the Humanities and Social Sciences: For Problem-Solving"
https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/en/event/2018/20190129en.html
・Opening Greeting / Outline: Chikahiko Suzuki, Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics
・"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

・"Towards Open Access Monograph Publishing in Japan"

Eriko Amano, Kyoto University Research Administration Office (KURA)

・"Digitization and Open Access of Academic Journals on Area Studies"

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

・Panel Discussion: [[Moderator]] Chikahiko Suzuki, Center for Open Data in the Humanities / National Institute of Informatics

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.

CONTENTS

■ 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/

arXiv.org member consortium

arXiv.org (archive dot org) is a pre-print server of physics, mathematics, computer science, and related fields established in 1991. In 2017, the fields of electric engineering system science and economics were added. The number of registered papers is about 1.50 million as of the end of 2018. The annual number of downloads is more than 220 million. The total number of downloads exceeded one billion in 2017. The Cornell University Library (CUL) had long been operating the system when administration was transferred from the CUL to the Cornell Computing and Information Science (CIS) in January 2019. The member advisory committee (selected from members) and the scientific advisory committee (scientists and researchers) are also installed for governance. Globally, 231 organizations in 27 countries are supporting the system as of the end of FY2018 through the arXiv membership program that started in 2013.

SPARC Japan defined "cooperation with international OA initiatives" and "advocacy activities related to the distribution of academic information" among its targets in the fifth term. Specific activities include the role of secretariat for arXiv.org's Consortium of Japanese

Research Libraries (coordinated by the National Institute of Informatics [NII] and NII Japan Consortia) to coordinate among participating organizations in Japan and carry out PR activities. Currently, 16 organizations (two new members joined in 2018) are participating in the global effort through this consortium. One seat is given in the member advisory committee based on the level of contribution. Professor Hideaki Takeda of the National Institute of Informatics (chairperson of SPARC Japan operating committee) is now participating as a representative.

Funds come from membership fees from members as well as support from the Cornell University Library and the Simons Foundation. The NII is gathering donations from participating Japanese organizations and presenting them to arXiv.org every year. Each participating organization is providing donations to the NII. The Sloan Foundation and the Heising-Simons Foundation are also providing funds to the next-generation arXiv initiative. Online donations have also been collected since a trial run was started in 2015.

- 550,000 dollars depending on funds raised from members (annually, forecast for 2019)
  The membership fee is 1,000 to 4,400 dollars per year depending on the average ranking based on uses (number of downloads) over the past three years (2015 to 2017).
- Cornell University Library: 170,000 dollars (annually) + indirect costs (37% of total cost)
- Simons Foundation: 100,000 dollars (annually), matching fund of 300,000 dollars (annually)
- Sloan Foundation: 450,000 dollars (next generation arXiv initiative, total amount)
- Heising-Simons Foundation: 322,000 dollars (next-generation arXiv initiative, total amount)
- Online donations: 56,666 dollars (annually, collected in 2017)

Note: Please refer to "arXiv Update - January 2019" for the latest information.
https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/arxivpub/arXiv+Update+-+January+2019

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

The 1st SPARC Japan Seminar 2018

"To Promote a Data Management Policy and Roles

of Researchers and Librarians"

Wednesday, September 19, 2018: National Institute of Informatics

12th floor Conference Room (Attendees: 70)

In this seminar, we discussed how to develop the data management policy and how to use it in library service with the scope and background of the guideline in mind.

See the SPARC Japan website for handouts and other details

(https://www.nii.ac.jp/sparc/event/2018/20180919.html).

Outline

For promoting open science in Japan, many institutions are making efforts to encourage research data sharing. However, a data management policy, which is a policy for realizing open science, and its operational framework has not been developed completely.

In June 2018, the Cabinet Office established the "Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency" (temporary translation) with this situation in mind. Not only national research and development agencies but also universities and private companies allocated publicly fund need to develop their own data management policy by the guideline.

The guideline shows the point to develop a research data management and its using policy, and some elements (purpose, definition, limitation, management, metadata, identifier, etc.). Researchers who generate, manage and publish research data on a daily basis and librarians involving in the quality management, distribution, and provision of research data through applying metadata are required to be engaged developing a data management policy actively.

For example, the guideline shows the requirement that research data should keep as possible with the "FAIR Principles" as the international research data management principle. These principles - "Findable," "Accessible," "Interoperable," and "Reusable" - are applicable not only for research data but also for the circulation of scholarly information including principal library services.

In this seminar, we discuss how to develop the data management policy and how to use it in library service with the scope and background of the guideline in mind.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

An Overview of the Integrated Innovation Strategy and the Aim of the Guideline for the "Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency"

Shinichi Akaike (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy / Cabinet Office)

Kazuhiro Hayashi (National Institute of Science and Technology Policy)

Open Science is placed as a main part of development of the "Knowledge base" in the Integrated Innovation Strategy decided by the Cabinet on June 2018. For its practical implementation, governmental research institutions were requested to set their research data policy and the cabinet office released the "Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency" (temporary translation) for their help. In this presentation, an overview of the Integrated Innovation Strategy and the guideline would be introduced with the background and purpose to encourage discussion to further advance of the utilization of research data.

Technology Agency (JST); Professor of Institute of Innovation Research, Hitotsubashi University; Senior Analyst, MEXT. He was in charge of Director, Science and Technology Foresight Center, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP) from April 2016 to March 2018, and was promoted as Senior Fellow, NISTEP in April 2018. His obtained MSA at Graduate School of Tokyo University, MSc in Science and Technology Policy at SPRU, Sussex University and Ph.D. at Graduate School of Tokyo Institute of Technology. He is interested in making linkage between policy formation and academic studies in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy.

Profile

Shinichi Akaike

Senior Fellow, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
Director, Bureau of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Cabinet Office.
Dr. Shinichi Akaike joined the Science and Technology Agency in 1992, and experienced various positions including First Secretary (Science Attache), Embassy of Japan in Sweden; Director, International Exchange Promotion, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT); Assistant to Deputy Director-General, Center for Research and Development Strategy, Japan Science and

Kazuhiro Hayashi

Member of SPARC Japan Governing Board Senior Research Fellow, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy.
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 Data Policy of National Institute of Environmental Studies, a Step Toward Open Data

Tomoko Shirai

(Center for Global Environmental Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies)

The National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) undertakes a broad range of environmental research in an interdisciplinary and comprehensive manner. NIES has developed and released its open data policy in April, 2017. I will introduce the NIES data policy and how it was developed, as well as some ongoing attempts to promote Open data at NIES.

Profile
Tomoko Shirai

Tomoko Shirai completed her PhD in atmospheric trace gases analysis at the University of Tokyo. Thereafter, she worked at the Earth Observation Research Centre of National Space Development Agency of Japan (currently JAXA) and participated in aircraft measurement campaigns and earth observation satellite projects. Since February 2002, she joined the Roland/Blake laboratory in the chemistry department at UCI as an associate research specialist to study intercontinental transport of air pollution. She joined National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) in 2004. Her present research is focused on the environmental impact of atmospheric trace gases, especially greenhouse gases (CO_2, CH_4, halocarbons). She also develops a database (Global Environmental Database) and fosters open science. She serves as a Planning section member for NIES since April, 2018.

Collaborative Database Construction in Digital Picture Library for Area Studies

Yuzo Marukawa (National Museum of Ethnology) /Shun Ishiyama (National Museum of Ethnology)

"Digital Picture Library for Area Studies" (DiPLAS) is a database that accumulates images photographed by researchers on area studies. The National Museum of Ethnology is promoting the construction of the database DiPLAS, which is the support project for "Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas - Platforms for Advanced Technologies and Research Resources". In this presentation, we will report on the detail of information system and supports in collaborative database construction works.

Profile

Yuzo Marukawa

Associate Professor, Department of Advanced Human Sciences, National Museum of Ethnology.
Doctoral Degrees: 2003, Doctor of Engineering (Tokyo Institute of Technology)

Research Fields: Informatics of Association and Information Services for Cultural Assets

Shun Ishiyama

Project Research Fellow, National Museum of Ethnology.
Shun ISHIYAMA is a Project Research Fellow of Digital Picture Library for Area Studies (DiPLAS) project at National Museum of Ethnology. He contributes his Anthropological and Area studies mainly in Afro-Eurasian dry lands, Sahara Oasis and Sahel-Sudan dry land.

Panel Discussion

Summary:

In the panel discussion, there was a lively discussion based on questions from panelists, attendees at the venue and online viewers through social media, such as YouTube.

Though developing a data policy is not an obligation, we need to be prepared because the situation is progressing in the direction that a data policy will be required to apply for research funds.

Organizing research data and applying metadata by researchers is a somewhat typical approach by a librarian. Therefore, I think that dialogs between researchers and librarians will lead to an organized movement of all research activities.

Moderator: Takanori Hayashi

(Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences)

Profile
Head of Information Management Subsection, Publications and Documentation Section, Information and Public Relations Office, Research Planning and Partnership Division,Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences.
Takanori Hayashi joined Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences in 2014. He received his Ph.D. degree in informatics from the University of Tsukuba in 2016. He is in charge of library and web service operations including collect and provider of research information, and support developing databases.

Attendee Feedback

(person affiliated with business/others)
– I was aware that researchers considered providing data bothersome; consequently, I attended today's seminar with an interest in whether a research support system or software that could easily tag data had been developed in Japan in accordance with a data management policy. I believe that improvements in data cataloging tools will allow librarians and RAs to become actively involved and cooperate in the provision of data.

(person affiliated with university library)
– The seminar was so informative that I learned of the trends in open science in Japan and overseas, as well as the real status of how institutes that actually disclosed data were promoting efforts, as well as the problems, achievements, and responses they had.

(person affiliated with university library)
– We just built our repository. I am concerned that the situation regarding open science may not progress unless the person in charge of the repository (librarian in our case) acquires a higher level of knowledge and implements interim measures until the realization of open science. The presentations by the National Museum of Ethnology have been very useful, since we are now building a digital archive.

(person affiliated with university library)
– This was a very productive seminar because I caught a glimpse of specific cases and active researcher's viewpoints. However, I personally wanted to know more about overseas cases. In the seminar, they said that a data policy might be mandatory in the future to receive Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research. I also wanted to know more about the situation as to whether there are nations or organizations that are actually imposing or plan to impose such requirements. In addition, it would have been a more multifaceted seminar with a legal perspective on what to keep in mind when we formulate the policy for research data on personal information, such as in the medical field.

Afterword

☺ In this seminar, I think we could hear about a variety of different cases ranging from the development of a policy required for disclosure of research data to the actual disclosure of the data. The disclosure of research data and development of a data management policy are an approach based on the Integrated Innovation Strategy at the policy level. Through the discussion, we recognized the goal of the disclosure of research data and development of a data management policy as well as the flow from the policy level to the actual research level including the library. As one of the project personnel, I would like to express my gratitude to all who attended the seminar. We would like to continue this seminar as an opportunity for researchers and librarians to collaborate.

Takanori Hayashi
(Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences)

☺ I was in charge of posting on our official Twitter account. I tweeted about the lecture in real time, but I am afraid that I could not manage to fully follow the details. Several times the audience listening to the lecture posted supplementary tweets to the account. One of the topics of this seminar was collaboration on research data. I think that operating staffs and attendees indeed collaborated in the seminar.

Shigeru Yatsuzuka
(National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency)

☺ The Development Guideline of the Data Management Policy for National Research and Development Agency (temporary translation) recommends defining an open-and-close strategy according to each organization's mission. I would like to regard development of the data management policy not as an obligation but as a good opportunity to reconsider about what academic information and research activities in our organization should be.

Yuki Ishiyama
(Department of Libraries and information, Hitotsubashi University)

SPARC✳Japan NewsLetter

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.

CONTENTS

■ 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/

About the Committee for the Promotion of the Scholarly Communication

The International Scholarly Communication Initiative (SPARC Japan) started in 2003 to work on the digitalization and globalization of academic magazines published in Japan. Since 2003, the operations of SPARC Japan have been reevaluated alongside changes which have occurred to the distribution of academic information. At the end of the fifth term (FY2018), however, it steered its course toward the role of promoting the academic information distribution infrastructure development by coordinating among stakeholders rather than focusing on specific operations.

Thus, the name of the organization designated to establish action policies was changed from the Steering Committee of the International Scholarly Communication Initiative to the Committee for the Promotion of the Scholarly Communication (SPARC Japan Committee) in FY2019. The new SPARC Japan Committee will conduct activities based on the basic policies the following basic policies.

With the recent advancement of information and communications technologies, open science has become common in and outside of Japan, where research processes including

research data are digitalized and shared in addition to the open access of academic journals. Increased sharing of academic journals and research processes contribute to the creation of new knowledge. Thus, in the first term, the SPARC Japan Committee will identify trends in, and actual situations of, the distribution of academic information in and outside of Japan to promote open access and open science. The Committee is also going to explore strategies related to the release and utilization of academic information based on the findings and carry out advocacy activities with the participation and cooperation of stakeholders, mainly those in the academic community.

The SPARC Japan Committee will focus on the following activities based on the basic policy in the first term (FY2019 to FY2020): (1) cooperation with stakeholders in Japan; (2) examination of strategies related to international cooperation and submission of proposals; (3) implementation of advocacy activities; and (4) proposing investigations related to the trends in the distribution of academic information. Details of the activities will be posted on the website.

■ SPARC Japan Seminar Report

The 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018 (Open Access Summit 2018)

"Quality Control in the Age of Open Science"

Thursday, October 25, 2018: National Institute of Informatics
12th floor Conference Room (Attendees: 53)

The theme of the second seminar was quality control in the age of open science and how we can guarantee quality of content. The participants gave talks about their latest attempts under the current situation.

At the seminar held in 2017, quality assurance for content that was recorded in preprint servers and institutional repositories was chosen as a subject for discussion. The participants reaffirmed that the need for quality assurance is a universal challenge in science. At the 2018 seminar, we covered our practices of peer review and version control in F1000 Research and publishing or posting research results on other platforms than traditional journals, such as arXiv and BioRxiv. In addition, some researchers spoke about what they pay attention to when they choose a medium for publication, how they are using various publication platforms, and problems and challenges with publication platforms from the viewpoint of the researcher.

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/2018/20181025en.html).

Outline

Open Science is foreseen and expected to make fundamental transform of science itself. Various efforts such as a digitization of academic journal have already done for advancing Open Science, even aiming publishing broader research results with ICT. Then the quality control of information is crucial to utilize open research results and also to accelerate Open Science. The way of the peer review had been argued many times in the past, even before digitization of academic journal. Nowadays, digitization and openness lead various new attempts about the quality control, for example open peer review and lightweight peer review. While use of preprints is becoming the main method to publish research results in some research fields such as computer science, the evaluation method of research results without conventional peer review is a pressing issue. On the other hand, the "Wellcome Trust", a biomedical research charity in UK, launched the "Wellcome Open Research" which was the platform for peer-reviewed open paper and data publishing.

Under these circumstances, we once recognized the importance of deepening the discussion about quality control through a discussion of preprint server and institutional repositories on the 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017. In addition, we talked about a history of science and beginning of the peer review on the 3rd SPARC Japan Seminar 2017, which reconfirmed that the quality control was a universal issue of all time. ICT and openness develop revolutionary research environments. Thus, it is very important for looking into the future of the scholarly communication that developing system for quality control, beyond conventional peer review in a specific research community, in inter- and trans-disciplinary filed or in citizen science field. Therefore, on the 2nd SPARC Japan Seminar 2018, we will discuss perspective of quality control in the age of Open Science and how we could guarantee quality of contents. We will share information about recent concrete cases, too.

Presentation Abstracts and Speakers

Moving Beyond the Journal: A Changing Role for Publishers, Funders and Institutions

Rebecca Lawrence (F1000)

The traditional approach of publishing new findings in research journals is becoming outdated, costly and unsustainable, and can delay and damage scientific progress. With a growing worldwide shift towards more open access and open science policies, together with significant technological advances, it has now become possible to address many of these problems. In 2013, F1000 launched the world's first open research publishing platform, F1000Research, combining the ability to publish rapidly with functionality to ensure greater transparency, robustness and reproducibility of research. Our approach uses near-immediate publication together

with FAIR data sharing, followed by transparent invited peer review and article versioning. It brings control back to the author(s) and aims to remedy many of the problems associated with traditional and increasingly outdated modes of publishing research, to facilitate the transition to more transparent, collaborative and efficient ways of doing research and delivering impact.

Testimony to the rising interest in, and demonstrable benefits of, open research publishing, we are now providing publishing platforms to a large number of high-profile research-funding agencies and research-performing institutions across the world (e.g. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Wellcome Trust, African Academy of Sciences). This approach changes the respective role of publishers, funders and institutions in the ecosystem, and has the chance to finally address many of the well-known problems with the current research and researcher evaluation system.

Profile
Rebecca Lawrence is Managing Director of F1000, providers of a series of tools and services to support the research community in writing, publishing, discovering and evalua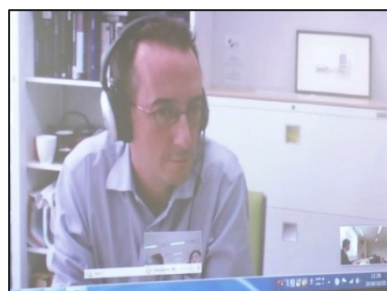ting new scientific findings. She was responsible for the launch of the novel open science publishing platform F1000Research. She has subsequently led the initiative behind the recent launches of Wellcome Open Research, Gates Open Research, and many other funder-and institution-based publishing platforms that aim to start a new trajectory in the way scientific findings and data are communicated and ultimately research and researchers are evaluated.

She is a member of the High-Level Advisory Group for the EC's Open Science Policy Platform, chairing their work on next-generation indicators and their integrated advice: OSPP-REC. She has been a co-Chair of a number working groups focussing on data and peer review, for organisations including the RDA, CASRAI and ORCID. She is also an Advisory Board member for the data policy and standards initiative, FAIRsharing, and for DORA (the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment). She has worked in STM publishing for almost 20 years for several publishers including Elsevier where she built and ran the Drug Discovery Group. She originally trained and qualified as a pharmacist, and holds a PhD in Cardiovascular Pharmacology.

Innovations in Publishing - an Author's Perspective

Ben Seymour

(Center for Information and Neural Networks (CiNet), National Institute of Information and Communications Technology)

I will provide an author's perspective on the current state of publishing. I aim to talk about what drives decisions about where to publish, and what authors like and don't like about the current publishing environment. I will discuss issues like journal prestige, open access, data availability, submission process, publishes ethics, and try to give an insight into the equation that goes through the mind of the author. I'll also present and compare my experience with Wellcome Open Research, especially in the context of other new open research publishing platforms.

Profile

My lab addresses the computational and systems neuroscience of pain. This is primarily basic science level research, but with some translational research in clinical populations. I am a Wellcome Clinical Fellow at the Computational and Biological Learning Lab at Cambridge University, and Principal Investigator at the Center for Information and Neural Networks (National Institute of Information and Communications Technology) and ATR (Kyoto) in Japan. I am also Professor at Osaka University in Japan, an honorary consultant neurologist at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge, and Sackler Senior Research Fellow at Magdalene College, Cambridge.

The Future of Ecosystem of Scholarly Communication - the State of-the-Art of arXiv and More -

Hideaki Takeda (National Institute of Informatics)

The ecosystem of scholarly communication is dynamically changing now due to use of the Internet and dissemination of Open Access activity. There are many different ways to publish research results instead of the traditional ways such as publishing articles in journals. We overview the current ecosystem of scholarly communication and in particular the role of preprint servers. Furthermore we discuss the state-of-the-art of arXiv.

Profile

Managing Director of SPARC Japan Governing Board
http://www.nii.ac.jp/en/faculty/informatics/takeda_hideaki/

Utility of Preprints in Life Science

Hidemasa Bono (Database Center for Life Science)

The preprints are now getting widely used in life science. In the preprint server, researchers can share not only the information about biological results before the peer-review process, but also the information about newly developed commercially available machine and the documents about publicly available databases and webtools. In 2018, I uploaded a new research manuscript to BioRxiv, the most famous preprint server in life science, and one of my collaborators also did the same before we submitted the manuscript to peer-reviewed journal. I will introduce the current utility of preprints in life science and try to discuss how to annotate the quality of information in preprints.

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 in tight collaboration with DNA Data Bank of Japan(DDBJ) in the National Institute of Genetics

Panel Discussion

Summary:

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

・What are the ideal relationship styles between pre-print servers and conventional research communities such as journals and academic societies? Should we regard pre-print servers and others as functions which play different roles within the same system rather than completely different things?

・What are possible roles of librarians in the era of pre-print servers? Can librarians introduce various channels to release journals including pre-print servers to researchers and students, educate them, and support data sharing such as curation?

Moderator: Shigeru Yatsuzuka

(National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science andTechnology Agency)

Profile

Researcher, National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency. Shigeru Yatsuzuka joined National Bioscience Database Center in 2015 after working as a system engineer. He is in charge of the project to collect life science data scattered across various subjects and institutes, to research and coordinate data, to create metadata and to publish data with clear licenses.

Attendee Feedback

(University/fields related to university and education)
– We were able to learn about the new directions of academic publications.

(Company/fields related to academic publications)
– We were able to learn about researchers' views on pre-print, which was very useful.

(Academic association/fields related to academic publications)
– We were able to understand trends in open science, the positions of researchers, and quality warranties. We appreciate the sharing of the latest information about academic fields through online broadcasting.   [From a live broadcast viewer]

Afterword

☺ I was involved with this from planning for the first time. It was really stimulating to work closely with Rebecca, who said no to the conventional distribution of academic information through commercial publications, and researchers who were actually using pre-print servers. A difficult question we had since the planning phase was whether or not it was okay for librarians to become involved with the warranty of research quality. Yet, we recognized its importance when the guideline of data management was presented in the panel session.

Yumiko Nakahara
(University of Tsukuba)

☺ I became a working group member this year and worked from the planning phase for the first time. I may have learned the most among the members, because themes such as the latest trends in pre-print and the control of research quality in the era of open access and open science was quite different from the daily work of a librarian. I would like to take this opportunity to explore how libraries could change from here.

Misa Nakamura
(University of Tokyo Library System)

☺ This project was challenging in many ways. The first was the theme. I was able to explore open science from a completely different angle from before as the theme was how quality could be warranted. The second was the method. Speakers in distant locations gave lectures through the online conference system. I imagine the preparation was quite time and labor consuming for the secretariat, but it widened the opportunities for many people, including those overseas. I expect that SPARC Japan seminar will keep tackling many challenges.

Shigeru Yatsuzuka
(National Bioscience Database Center,
Japan Science and Technology Agency)

☺ As a member of the planning staff, I visited Wellcome Trust in January 2017 and discussed with people there about Wellcome Open Research, which was new back then. I then spoke at the OEDC workshop with Rebecca in April 2017, which constructed the practical foundation of this project. The discussion was difficult, but I believe it is important to record the self-directed discussions on this theme that took place in Japan when no clear answer was yet to be found even on the global stage.

Kazuhiro Hayashi
(National Institute of Science and
Technology Policy)

☺ I started participating in the working group this year. The discussion was founded on the philosophy of how researchers and publishers could promote and spread open access and open science. It was simulating for the operating staff as well. In the backyard, Rebecca asked us to suggest good tourist spots to visit during her busy schedule with many meetings. The request kept some of the staff members thinking for a while. As I am involved with Edo and Tokyo research, I realized the importance of making information open, including research information and daily information.

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

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CONTENTS

■ 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/

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.

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)

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CONTENTS

■ SPARC Japan Activity Reports

SPARC Japan Governing Board

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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 SCOAP3 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.

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)

SPARC Japan　(International Scholarly Communication Initiative)

Annual Report

FY2018

(English Version)

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