Revisiting Copyright and Scholarly Communication Issues while Promoting Open Educational Resources (OER)

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Winter Meeting - December 16, 2016
The Dick Smith Library at Tarleton State University,
Stephenville, Texas
Outline

• **Background**
  • Open Access and Scholarly Communication

• **Trends and Initiatives**
  • Fostering Open Access to Scholarly Outputs

• **Open Educational Resources (OER)**
  • Local Vs. Global Perspectives

• **Copyright and Fair Use**
  • Revisiting Copyright Issues

• **Summary**
  • Conclusion
Background:
Open Access and Scholarly Communication
Numerous emerging trends fundamentally change the directions of scholarship:

- The development and availability of interoperable Open Access content
- Global and explosive growth of social networking,
- Inter-institutional data sharing,
- Cross discipline collaborations, etc.
Emerging Trends

• Expressions of scholarship are increasingly becoming more diverse
  • Rate of creation of new data and data sets
  • Storage format evolution and obsolescence

• Maintaining accessibility to data through links and search results
  • Different community inclined to share items at different level of normalization
  • Comparability of semantic and ontological definitions of data sets

• Access from anywhere, anytime, via whatever (mobile) devices
  • Embracing true user-centric in any context
  • Giving users what they need with freedom and flexibility

• Altmetrics for measuring impact in this diverse scholarly ecosystem
  • Traditional metrics vs. usage metrics vs. divorcing a metric from the scholarly work
  • Rethinking vs. revolutionizing the analysis of the value and impact of scholarly work
Emerging Roles of Academic Libraries

• **Scenario 1: Research Entrepreneurs**
  • “individual researchers are the stars of the story”. Academic institutions and disciplinary silos are no longer relevant for entrepreneurial researchers who chase short-to-long term contract work from private and public sources.

• **Scenario 2: Reuse and Recycle**
  • Outlines a world defined by an “ongoing scarcity of economic resources” which forces the reuse and recycling of research activities, with virtually no public support for research.

• **Scenario 3: Disciplines in Charge**
  • Utilizing advances in information technology “computational approaches to data analysis dominates the research enterprise”, fostering massive research projects aligned around “data-stores”.

• **Scenario 4: Global Followers**
  • As funding forces dry up in the West academic power shifts to the Middle East and Asia. Scholars continue to do their research but with new cultural influences from Middle Eastern and Asian funding agencies.
Emerging Roles of Academic Libraries

Source: (Pinfield et al., 2014: http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/76839/15/wrro 76839.pdf)
Trends and Initiatives to Foster Open Access to Scholarly Outputs
The Open Access movement is transforming scholarly communication

- **Open Access** - (provision of unrestricted online access to results/outputs of research & development)

Various factors, including local and national mandates for sharing the research outputs drive scholars to rethink traditional scholarship models.

- Since the late 1990s various national and international funding agencies have required grant applicants to describe not only the intellectual merit of the proposed research, but also its broader impact to society.
- More calls for open access and data management were issued by prominent funding agencies, such as NIH, NSF, NEH.
- White House directive (February 2013): - *Increase Access to the result of Federally Funded Scientific Research*
- More Local Initiatives: - *Denton Declaration*
New Initiatives: ORFG

• Just yesterday (December 15, 2016), eight prominent funding organizations team up to launch Open Research Funders Group (ORFG)

• Together, they represent nearly $5 billion in combined annual grant funding and have committed to foster efforts in sharing research articles and data.

• Such initiatives indeed, will accelerate the pace of discovery, reduce information-sharing gaps, encourage innovation, and promote better reproducibility in the research environment.
  • See: http://www.orfg.org/
For Immediate Release  
Contact: Greg Tananbaum, (510) 295-7504, greg@orfg.org

Prominent Funding Organizations Team Up to Launch Open Research Funders Group  
Collaboration promotes wider sharing of research articles and data

WASHINGTON, DC (December 15, 2016) - Eight highly-visible organizations today announced the launch of the Open Research Funders Group, a partnership designed to increase access to research outputs. With nearly $5 billion in combined annual grants conferred, these organizations are committed to using their positions to foster more open sharing of research articles and data. This openness, the members believe, will accelerate the pace of discovery, reduce information-sharing gaps, encourage innovation, and promote reproducibility.

Inaugural members of the Open Research Funders Group (ORFG) include the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the American Heart Association, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the John Templeton Foundation, the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, Open Society Foundations, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

“The Open Research Funders Group provides a unique opportunity for funders to speak with a single voice regarding open access, open data and open science,” said Trevor Mundel, President of Global Health at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. “It amplifies our shared commitment to accelerating access to the work we fund and the knowledge it generates.”
Added Dr. Ivor Benjamin, Chair of the American Heart Association Research Committee, “The ORFG aligns with the American Heart Association’s strategic goals and our core belief that investment in research is maximized through its wide availability to an expanding community of stakeholders and end users. We look forward to learning from peer organizations that have developed and implemented open access and open data policies, and, in turn, to sharing what we have learned from our own experience.”

The Open Research Funders Group will confer regularly to develop actionable principles that can be used by research funders to accelerate access to research and underlying data. The ORFG will compile and curate resources and best practices to help funding organizations develop and communicate open policies to internal and external stakeholders. Additionally, the group will identify opportunities to develop and/or support infrastructure that can accelerate openness globally. The ORFG will be assisted in its efforts by SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition), which will serve a coordinating role for the project. The group arose out of a forum of open access stakeholders convened by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and SPARC in late 2015.

More information on the Open Research Funders Group may be found at www.orfg.org. Membership is open to nonprofit organizations around the globe that maintain or aid charitable, educational, or other activities serving the public good. Potential members must fund and/or directly undertake scholarly or scientific research, select award recipients based on objective merit using a review procedure that is clearly documented, and make a list of awarded grants freely available to the public through publication of an annual report and/or publishing the list of grants on the organization’s website.
Open Educational Resources (OER)
Copyright and Fair Use
Revisiting Copyright Issues
Summary and Concluding Remarks
Thank you!