

Scholarly Communication Task Force Report and Recommendations

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Executive Summary

To address issues resulting from the serials crisis at Kansas State University, Provost Charles Taber, Faculty Senate President Tanya González, and Dean of Libraries Lori Goetsch created the Scholarly Communication Task Force during the 2019 fall semester. The purpose of this task force is to gather stakeholders in the K-State community to review the current landscape of scholarly communication practices on campus and offer recommendations to improve not only access to information at K-State but direct our institutional participation in the movement toward open scholarship. The task force reviewed scholarly communication initiatives at K-State and other higher education institutions and sought input from the campus community. Based on this information, the task force made several recommendations with accompanying budget implications. Recognizing that maintaining the status quo is not fiscally sustainable, we make the following recommendations:

- We recommend that the University adopt an Open Access Policy to self-archive articles that it produces
- We recommend the Library continue to monitor/manage subscription efficiencies
- We recommend greater usage of interlibrary loan as an option for materials not subscribed to by K-State Libraries, while transitioning to transformational agreements and multipayer models
- We recommend changes to how research is evaluated based on best practices
- We recommend that faculty to write publication costs into their grant proposals
- We recommend, continuing the Open Access fee fund, only if it is fully funded and higher priority recommendations are adequately supported

Additional information about the task force's findings and process for gathering information from the campus community are included later in this report.

Task Force Recommendations

The task force supports and recommends the principles outlined in the recommendations to researchers and research communities as well as universities and research institutions put forth by the Expert Group to the European Commission in Chapter 5 (pp. 43 – 46) of [Future of Scholarly Publishing and Scholarly Communication](#) with one exception. At this time, we are not recommending supporting greater transparency through the publishing of signed reports as was recommended for researchers and research communities. We provide below specific recommendations for Kansas State University that fit within this holistic strategic solution in light of the serials crisis.

Open Access (OA) Policy

In the context of helping mitigate the ongoing impacts of the serials crisis and increasing the availability of scholarly articles from Kansas State University, we recommend that the University adopts an open access policy.

- Green open access/self-archiving of journal articles supports librarians' ability to better make strategic collection development choices by allowing them to focus collections budgets in the most needed areas.
- Permissions for self-archiving exist for many journals and publishers. An OA policy would commit the university and faculty to dedicating resources to exploiting this under-utilized opportunity.
- Enhances and affirms research mission and supports our land-grant mission, which is to provide access to a practical, quality education for all.
 - Providing access to research and other creative endeavors comprise an essential component of K-State's mission in an atmosphere of open inquiry and academic freedom.

To accomplish this, the following will be needed:

- Work with the Library, Vice President for Research, Graduate Council, and Faculty Senate to pass a policy and support ongoing education efforts to fully realize the purpose of the policy
- Educate faculty and students on what the policy entails
- Staff resources to:
 - Coordinate the collection of the accepted manuscripts
 - Checking green open access/self-archiving permissions for journals
 - Depositing articles in K-State's open access repository, the Research Exchange (K-Rex)

We endorse exploring cooperation with other Kansas Board of Regents research institutions or more broadly through a research library consortium such as Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA), in consolidating open access repository services and technical infrastructure.

Subscriptions

- Subscription negotiation and cancellation should follow the [Greater Western Library Alliance Licensing Principles](#) and [MIT Framework for Publisher Contracts](#), both of which Kansas State University has endorsed.
- The Libraries' interlibrary loan infrastructure/processes, and campus understanding of copyright clearance requirements and resulting access delays, need to be readied, for if subscription cancellation does occur, and greater utilization is needed. We recommend the Libraries continue to work with faculty to determine the journal subscriptions that need to be maintained.
- Have the F&A Distribution Task Force benchmark F&A distribution and library support compared to peer institutions with special consideration of inflation. Based on the results of the benchmarking, work with the Vice President for Research to reallocate funds appropriately to the library to support these recommendations.
- Plan to reallocate current subscription support towards transformational agreements and open access.
- Implement a multipayer model that shares cost of open access publishing between Libraries and research funds secured by individual researchers like the [Springer Nature University of California System transformational agreement](#). We recommend that we consider and pursue transformational agreements in the negotiation process.
- Become an [OA2020 Expression of Interest](#) signatory along with Iowa State University and the University of California system in transitioning resources currently supporting subscription publishing to OA publishing.

Principles to Guide Research Evaluation

- Kansas State University should follow [DORA](#) and the [Leiden Manifesto](#) in guiding the evaluation of research.
- Work toward increased recognition and appreciation of peer-review work as core research tasks. To this end, support greater transparency. Support better training and inclusion, and focus on quality of the research in peer review.

Recommendations for Researchers

- Scholars at Kansas State University should strive for balance and diverse representation (including race, gender, geography, career stage, and more) when seeking collaborations, organizing conferences, convening committees, and assigning editors and peer-reviewers, and building communities such as learned societies.

- Scholars at Kansas State University should include funds for open access publication costs within grant proposals.

Open Access Fee Funds

The goals of an Open Access (OA) Fee Fund have not changed since its inception at K-State in 2013. The OA Fee Fund seeks to normalize open access publishing by **raising awareness and acceptance of OA publishing** amongst faculty and academic administrators. An OA Fee Fund is not an end itself, but rather a transitional step toward exploring how to create a sustainable scholarly communication system centered around open access. The Scholarly Communication Task force finds the OA Fee Fund to be an important step to advancing OA publishing of K-State scholarly products, if funding is available to fully fund the Open Access fee fund initiative. If funding is scarce, under-funding or under-staffing the Open Access fee fund initiative decreases its value to the campus community. The Open Access fee fund should be either fully supported or, if not fully supported, de-prioritized to make sure resources are available to support an Open Access policy, subscriptions, and interlibrary loan. We make the following recommendations to fully fund the OA fee fund initiative:

- Three-year commitment to funding the OA Fee Fund at \$100,000. The OA Fee Fund should be adequately funded and staffed in a manner that increases faculty use of the fund. Highly successful OA Fee Funds (Virginia Tech as an example) succeed by making application simple and likely to result in funding. K-State should reverse the current cuts to the OA Fee Fund and instead increase the fund to an effective level.
- The recommended \$100,000 per year funding commitment does not fully restore the Fund to pre-2016 levels of resources or staffing, but does reverse the decline in K-State's support of the fund. The taskforce recognizes that the recommended funding level must come from University-wide sources, as K-State Libraries alone cannot sustain the fund.
- The risks of inadequately resourcing this effort include failure of the fund to meet its goals. K-State faculty have shared experiences that indicate being turned down for funding once the fund is depleted is a deterrent to using the fund and pursuing OA publishing.
- Priority for available OA fee funds should be for new faculty and faculty who are not supported by large grant funds to support publication costs. When possible Principle Investigators should include funds for open access publication costs within grant proposals.
- The continued OA Fee Fund should include incentives for Arts and Humanities faculty to participate, since in the first 6 years of the fund, it was not well-used by this audience. Engage constituents in these disciplines to help define what OA resources/assistance is most appropriate to their fields.
- The ongoing serials crisis may transfer the burden of university investment from the 'back end' (subscriptions) to the 'front end' (publishing fees). It is an inherent weakness of any OA fee fund that it may feed into the artificial scarcity pricing structures of scholarly publishing. Therefore, the continued OA Fee Fund at K-State should be viewed as transitional in nature and be time limited.
- The continuation of the OA Fee Fund should include a timeline and review criteria to evaluate the success of the fund in increasing awareness and acceptance of OA publishing. The review criteria should also identify pitfalls of the fund and include criteria for identifying when such a transitional step toward OA publishing should end.

Budget Implications

Based on the recommendations above, there are three primary areas that would require additional funding support: (1) Open Access policy, (2) subscriptions and interlibrary loan, and (3) Open Access fee fund for publishing. We have included the associated costs in priority order.

Research Grant Support

To support the increased open sharing of research and scholarship, scholars at Kansas State University should include funds for publication costs within grant proposals.

Staffing

To support the recommended priorities, we will need to realign efforts of some existing library staff. Even with this realignment, additional library staff will also be needed to carry out the recommendations. An additional library staff member is needed to enhance the Libraries' interlibrary loan infrastructure/processes in order to move toward subscription cancellation. This will help mitigate expressed concerns regarding researchers' ability to access needed paywall journals in a timely manner. The individual should be cross trained to work in various departments that contribute to the delivery of publications to users.

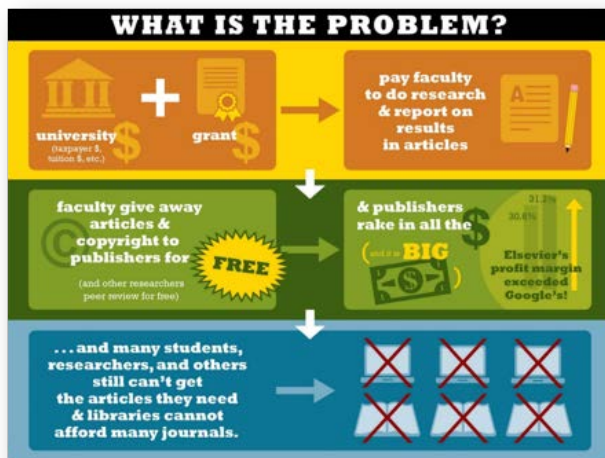
In order to support the recommendations relating to Open Access policy, subscriptions, and Open Access fee fund, two additional library staff members are needed. One library staff member is needed to support K-REx to fulfill the OA policy, if it is passed, and to help administer the review and approval as well as accounting activities for the OA fee fund.

Open Access Fee Funds

In order to support the open access fee fund at adequate levels to support faculty's engagement in OA publishing, it is recommended that \$100,000 be allocated to this fund on an annual basis. This is an increase of \$90,000 per year above current allocations. The \$100,000 would support OA fees for publishing a minimum of 33 articles (based on a maximum award of \$3,000 per article).

Background Information

Kansas State University is one of many colleges and universities grappling with the effects of an unsustainable scholarly communication model. Access to publicly-funded research is increasingly facilitated by for-profit corporations, which charge ever-increasing prices to the institutions creating the work. Dubbed "The Serials Crisis" by the academic library community, this model has negatively impacted research and scholarly communication at K-State and around the world. Scholars, librarians, universities, and advocacy organizations around the world are responding to the need for open access to publicly-funded research and data.



Subscription Inflation Costs for K-State



Source: K-State Libraries

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To address these issues at K-State, Provost Charles Taber, Faculty Senate President Tanya González, and Dean of Libraries Lori Goetsch created the Scholarly Communication Task Force during the 2019 fall semester. The purpose of this task force is to gather stakeholders in the K-State community to review the current landscape of scholarly communication practices on campus and offer recommendations to improve not only access to information at K-State but direct our institutional participation in the movement toward open scholarship. The charge includes:

- Reviewing scholarly communication initiatives to date on campus and preparing a report to include activities of our peer institutions and institutional leaders.
- Creating campus forums for discussion and consideration of alternatives to the system of scholarship including sustainability of current economic models, access to publicly funded research, author rights, open educational resources, and distribution channels.
- Making recommendations regarding new campus policies, guiding principles, and other strategies that will support increased open sharing of research and scholarship at K-State.
- Making recommendations that the university could enact at all levels including provost, senate, departments, and individual faculty to move towards open access publishing.
- Assessing budget implications of expanding current and establishing new open access initiatives.

The task force created three subcommittees to thoroughly review scholarly communication initiatives to date in three primary arenas: (1) professional societies, (2) the United States, and (3) internationally. The primary findings from each of these three areas are provided below. Also included are the current scholarly communication initiatives in which K-State is already involved. The information provided in this brief report focuses on one type of scholarly output, primarily journal articles, which does not account for all types of scholarly output in which faculty and graduate students are engaged in at K-State.

Professional Societies: Summary

Major Players:

- [Society Publishing Coalition \(SocPC\)](#) is a group of not-for-profit learned societies and membership charities who publish as part of their charitable objectives, comprised of mostly societies and publishers.
- [Transitioning Society Publications to OA \(TSPOA\)](#) is a group of libraries (primary membership base), academic institutions, publishers, and consortia organized to connect with and support useful resources related to transitioning society publications to open access (OA).
- [Library Publishing Coalition](#)
- Academic Libraries
- Faculty members of societies
- 3rd party publishing contractors with whom societies contract to publish

Where things stand:

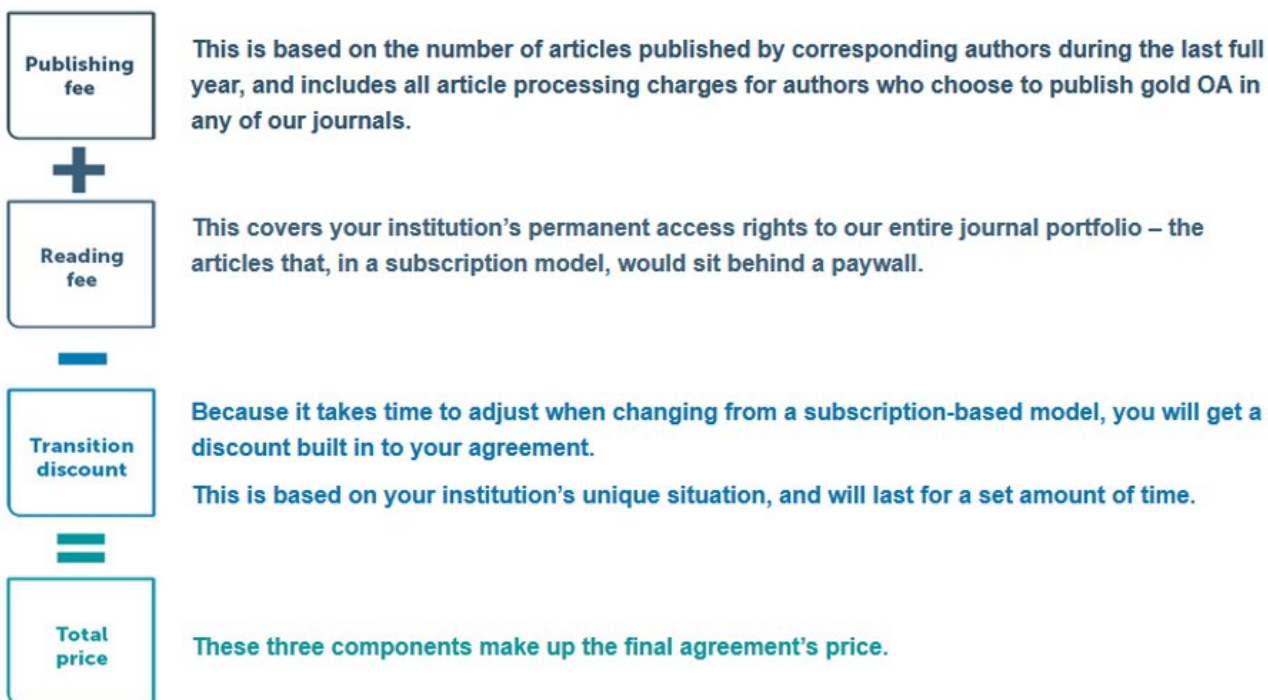
Neither the societies nor the libraries necessarily have a keen understanding at the moment of which transition approach might be best to experiment with or adopt in a move towards OA. But there are several major initiatives, platforms, and good ideas being discussed.

Major Issues:

- Publishing has become important to societies not just to disseminate information, but to fund other activities. Publishing provides the main stream of income for many societies.
- Library budgets are shrinking nationwide – historical mission is to support access to research, not support learned society activity. There is discussion around how this might be shifting.
- Challenges include:
 - Conflicting international systems
 - Timeframes for change are concerning
 - Impact on scholar's ability to choose where to publish
 - Impact on early-career, underrepresented scholars is of concern
 - Scalability of models
- Publishing is expensive no matter the access levels – who should bear the cost?
- Although some societies self-publish their work (and, one might argue, be in a better position to engage in OA-type initiatives), a good number (perhaps more) depend on private publishing companies to do this for them; for example, two-thirds of SocPC member societies have contracts with commercial firms for this very purpose.

Major Models:

Read and Publish Transformative Deals



Source: [Royal Society of Chemistry](#)

The benefits of Read & Publish

Tailored & transparent



Your version of Read & Publish will be built around your publishing output and the RSC's output as a whole, and priced accordingly

Easy to use



During the publishing process, the system will identify you as being from an R&P institution and show you available options

Simple to manage



If you are responsible for managing your agreement, you will get monthly usage reports and activity notifications

Mandate-friendly



The scheme will support you (author and institution) as you work to meet funding requirements and make open access your default publishing choice

Profile-raising



Overall, articles published open access in Royal Society of Chemistry journals are downloaded more often, raising the visibility of your work, and of you as an author

Transformative



The open access landscape is changing fast. Our model has the potential to support a global transition which prioritises the needs of the scientific community

Source: [Royal Society of Chemistry](https://www.rsc.org/chemistry/2020/01/01/read-and-publish)

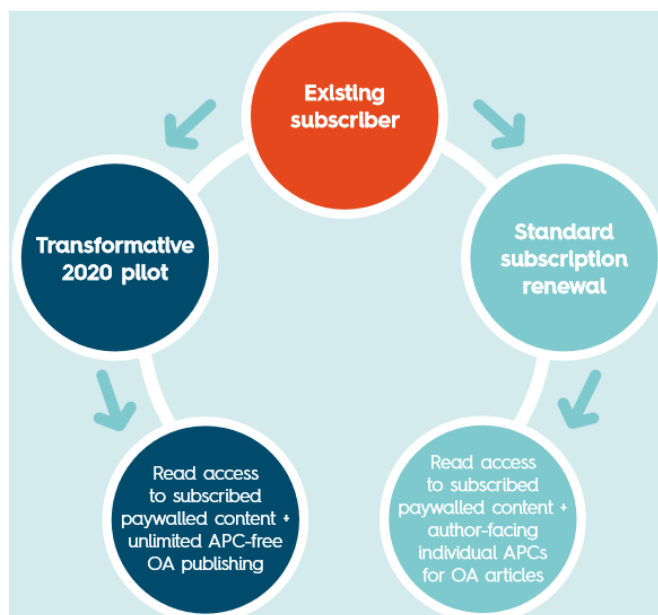
Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Transformative Agreements:

ACM journal funding, under these agreements, is based on tiers of articles published by an institution over a 3-year period. These transformative agreements result in the institutions with largest published article output seeing increased cost, while at nearly all other institutions the cost will be significantly decreased compared to the current subscription model. Faculty at institutions in these agreements publish in ACM journals open access without article processing charges (APC) or page charges.

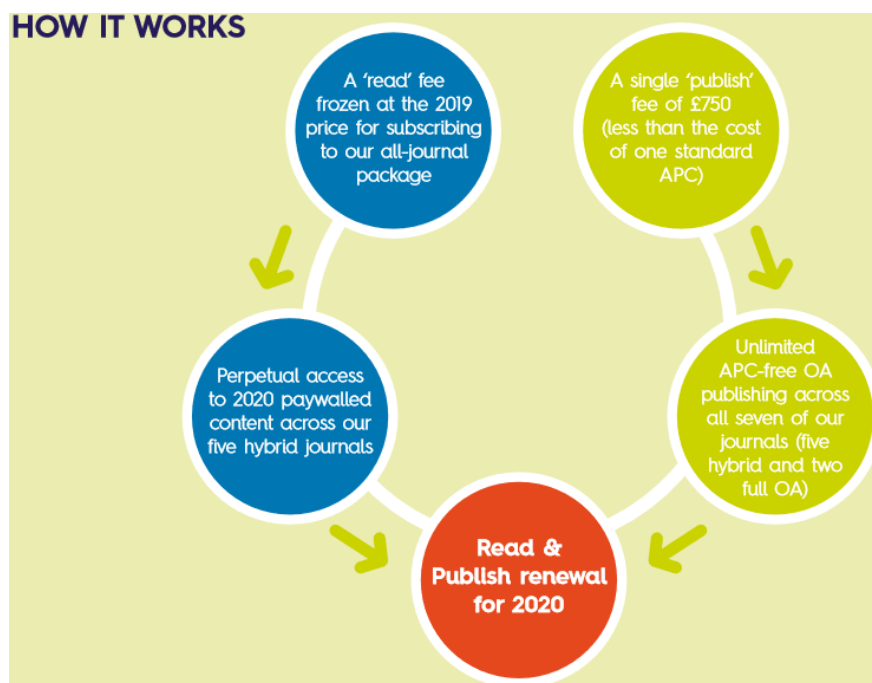
Tiers Level	Article Output Range	Tier Pricing (\$)
1	75+	\$100,000
2	60-74	\$75,000
3	40-59	\$60,000
4	30-39	\$45,000
5	20-29	\$35,000
6	16-19	\$25,000
7	12-15	\$17,500
8	8-11	\$12,500
9	4-7	\$10,000
10	0-3	\$8,000*

Source: [Association for Computing Machinery](#)

All Inclusive Transformative Renewals (similar to read and publish)



Source: [Portland Press](#)



Source: [Portland Press](#)

[Subscribe to Open \(S2O\) model](#)



Source: [Annual Reviews](#)

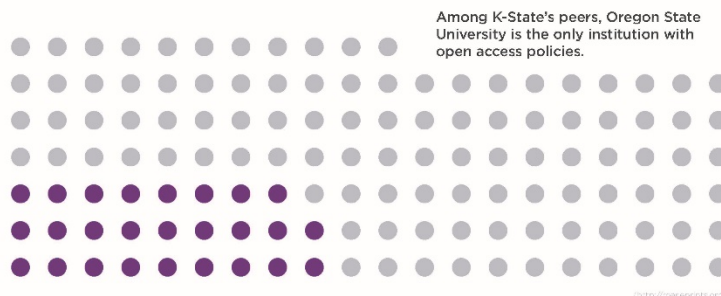
[Library as publisher of society journals/content](#)

Scholarly Communication in the United States: Summary

Open Access Policy –Among 131 of the R1 institutions, 26 of them offer open access policies. The majority of the policies were established through the institution’s library, supported by the University’s administration, and voted by the faculty senate. The policies were encouraged but not enforced, and they all provide a waiver (opt out)/embargo option. Among K-State’s peer institutions, Oregon State University is the only institution with open access policies.

Open Access Policies at Universities

Out of **131** R1 institutions, **only 26** offer open access policies.



Source: K-State Libraries from taskforce findings

Open Access Publishing Fund – Nine universities we reviewed offered an open access publishing fund. Most were supported by library budgets and some received funding from the central research office. Amount of funding available each year varied from \$20,000 to \$140,000 and had funding limits for each journal article (ranging from \$1500 to \$3000); some required matching funds. Some universities support PeerJ Lifetime Publication Plans for authors.

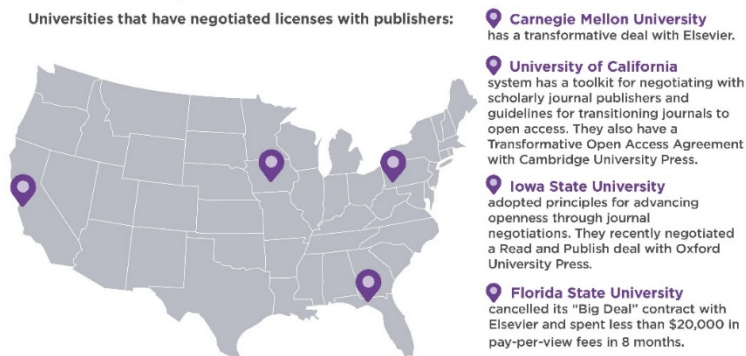
Consortia for Negotiating with Publishers – Universities in the United States have a broad range of involvement in consortia to leverage collective power in negotiating subscription contracts with publishers. K-State is part of the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA), a consortium of 39 research libraries located across the United States. GWLA is part of the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC), which has [developed principles and techniques for negotiating with publishers](#). Other consortia we learned of include statewide consortia (e.g., Colorado, Arizona, Louisiana, Virginia) and the Big10Academic Alliance.

License Negotiation – Universities that have negotiated licenses with publishers:

- **Carnegie Mellon University** has a [transformative deal with Elsevier](#).
- **University of California system** has a [toolkit for negotiating with scholarly journal publishers](#) and [guidelines for transitioning journals to open access](#). They also have a [Transformative Open Access Agreement with Cambridge University Press](#).
- **Iowa State University** adopted [principles for advancing openness through journal negotiations](#). They recently negotiated a [Read and Publish deal with Oxford University Press](#).
- **Florida State University** cancelled its “Big Deal” contract with Elsevier and [spent less than \\$20,000 in pay-per-view fees in 8 months](#).

License Negotiation

Universities that have negotiated licenses with publishers:



Source: K-State Libraries from taskforce findings

Institutional Repositories – Most institutions have their own institutional repository serving their campus and community. Of the universities reviewed, only a few had institutional repositories that faculty are **mandated** to use: **Oregon State University, University of California system.** The large majority of institutions only encourage their faculty to use their repositories rather than require them to do so: **Carnegie Mellon, Colorado State University, Virginia Tech, Iowa State University, Louisiana State University, University of Kansas, and University of Missouri.** The platform for the repository is either an open source, which requires development support, or vendor supplied web-based, which bears annual subscription fee. The fee is supported by the libraries. Those repositories support open access, but can embargo research upon requests. The more automated repositories, the more successful they are. Some universities (**Virginia Tech**) used a data harvester to be notified when faculty had published in order to request they deposit the work into the repository, and they automatically deposited any articles that copyright permissions allow.



Source: K-State Libraries from taskforce findings

Executive Order – There is an [impending US Executive Order](#) rumored to being considered from the U.S. Office of Science and Technology Policy that would create a zero embargo on published journal articles from federally funded research. The [Association of American Publishers](#) wrote a letter to President Trump urging him to oppose the proposed policy. This letter was signed by numerous professional organizations. Since that time, the [University of California](#), [American Library Association](#), and a number of [open access publishers](#) have written letters to President Trump supporting the signing of the Executive Order. Additionally, some organizations have since come out indicating they regret signing the AAP letter.

Scholarly Communication in Europe and Latin America: Summary

Scholarly communication infrastructure, services, and practices are similar between European and United States based research institutions and universities. A key difference is Europe demonstrates, on a wider scale than the U.S., the ability and willingness to align legislation, regulation, and infrastructure development, collectively at national and international levels, with policy to support open access and, more broadly, open science.

Negotiations with Journal Publishers in Europe - Project DEAL (2019). In Wikipedia. [Link](#)

Future of scholarly publishing and scholarly communication: Report of the Expert Group to the European Commission

- [Link](#) – To Download, click PDF icon under EN (English)
- **Key Sections - Step by Step Recommendations to Key Actors in The Scholarly Communication System**, Researchers and research communities (pg. 43), **Universities and research institutions (pg. 44)**; Key Functions of Scholarly Communication (pg. 24); Key Shortcomings of Current System (pg. 30); **Graphical depiction of financial flows in scholarly publishing in the UK (pg. 19)**.

Europe Kicks Off the Push for Open Access: Founding Declarations

- **Budapest Open Access Initiative**. One of the earliest initiatives to define and characterize open access. Two foundational principles were identified for open access programs: self-archiving and open-access journals. [Link](#)
- **Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities**. One of the milestones of the Open Access movement, the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities asserted that scholarly research results and cultural heritage shall be freely accessible and usable for scientists and the public. [Link](#)
 - [Kansas State University](#) is signatory #335 of the Berlin Declaration.

Plan S

Plan S is a coalition of 23 European funding agencies and organizations, with support from the European Commission and the European Research Council, who have agreed to require open access publication of the research they fund by 2021. This includes charitable and international funders such as the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation and the World Health Organization.

[Principles and Implementation](#) - The Plan S Principles; Guidance on the Implementation of Plan S; Technical Guidance and Requirements. [Addendum to the cOAlition S Guidance on the Implementation of Plan S](#) - Mandatory criteria for Transformative Journals; Recommended additional criteria for publishers of transformative journals

Latin America and an Alternative Vision to Plan S

The science and technology agencies of Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico, and Peru all agreed to work cooperatively, and, importantly, to put significant planning and resources toward the development of repositories, one of the key needs in large-scale open-access publishing systems. Such repositories now exist in the form of regional open-access consolidators such as [AmeliCA](#), [La Referencia](#), [SciELO](#), [Redalyc](#), and [Latindex](#). This scholar-led, community owned, and no-Article Processing Charge (APC) based OA publishing system has led to estimated open access adoption rates ranging from 51% to 95%.

Current Scholarly Communication Initiatives at K-State

Advocacy and education – Scholarly communication services at K-State Libraries, based out of the Center for the Advancement of Digital Scholarship (CADS), supports K-State's research lifecycle and land-grant mission by being a resource to the campus community on open access, copyright, digital publishing, OER, data management, and how we can build a healthy and sustainable scholarly communication environment.

K-REx - <https://krex.k-state.edu/dspace/community-list>

- Key Points
 - First launched in 2004
 - 38,429 Items. Of those, 17,692 theses, dissertations, and reports
- ETD Program Breakdown. Note: From a presentation to repository managers outside of K-State. - https://ksuemailprod-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/rwotto_ksu_edu/ETry25FpIIFHurdZrAGcd7cB-fpbms0FGT5xZoku7yyWnw?e=CxtbTd

New Prairie Press, K-State Libraries Publishing Imprint - <https://newprairiepress.org/>

- Usage data since 2013, almost 2 million downloads and 16K works posted - <https://dashboard.bepress.com/?dashboardToken=5e2f54ac9840cf04cee32a7dT8XU6vplZDqOcKvOfc2bHndFuauWH0ipf6veDDG6>
- K-State was one of the initial founding institutions for the Library Publishing Coalition - <https://librarypublishing.org/about/>

K-State Open Access Publishing Fund - <https://www.lib.k-state.edu/publishing-fund>

- FY19 Report - https://ksuemailprod-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/rwotto_ksu_edu/EcYVH2xJ5vRBkzbfXh0doABBP4buQLnOEgi69BRiilFSQ?e=rjGB9U
- Conference poster and condensed overview - “Six Years of Running a Campus Open Access Publishing Fund. Where are we?” - <https://krex.k-state.edu/dspace/handle/2097/40201>

Copyright Information Services - <https://www.k-state.edu/copyright/>

Open Access Policy (Failed to Pass in Faculty Senate in 2014) - <https://www.lib.k-state.edu/sites/default/files/documents/OAPolicy.pdf>

- Faculty Senate Concerns - https://ksuemailprod-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/rwotto_ksu_edu/EfNdBTBpoqxGoWTQcDjLfqYBvfY2BlnnWX4knS1AhLfZ7Q?e=SLpTHd

K-State Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative (Partners: Dr. Brian Lindshield, Dr. Andy Bennett, Libraries' CADS Office) - <https://www.lib.k-state.edu/open-textbook>

K-State is a member of the [Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition \(SPARC\)](#)

Task Force Process for Gathering Information from Campus Community

It was important for members of the Scholarly Communication Task Force to hear from constituents on campus to learn their perspectives about current K-State open access initiatives as well as open access alternatives K-State could pursue.

The Scholarly Communication Task Force held a listening session on March 2nd to which we invited all Associate Deans of Research, Department Heads, and Graduate Program Directors. During this session, task force members shared some background information regarding scholarly communication and then asked a number of questions about our current initiatives at K-State, sustainability of current economic models, author rights, and more. The following conclusions were made from the listening session:

- Open access is viewed differently by different disciplines.
- It is critical for faculty and graduate students to be able to have timely access to paywall journals. Some disciplines have already been negatively affected by past journal cancellations.
- More so than journal impact factors, journal reputation is very important in the promotion and tenure process.
- There was concern about predatory open access journals.
- There was interest in subscription cancellation, but there was concern about having access to needed paywall journals. There was also interest in K-State pairing with other institutions in order to have a larger impact on publishing companies.
- There was also interest in increased education for faculty when publishing and having increased institutional funds available for open access publishing.
- Regarding open access policies, there was interest, but also concern that we need to protect the individual faculty member and that there would be challenges in crafting a policy that would meet the needs of various disciplines.

We learned a great deal through the listening session. We felt it was important to also hear from the broader campus community. To that end, we created a Qualtrics survey and posted information about the survey in K-State Today that went to all faculty and staff. The survey was open May 8 – 22 and 36 individuals completed the survey. From this survey we learned the following:

- 72% of respondents were supportive (19% opposed, 8% neutral) of having an open access policy.
- A majority of respondents (55%) were supportive (15% opposed, 30% neutral) of K-State following DORA and the Leiden Manifesto in guiding the evaluation of research.
- 79% of respondents indicated they would be more likely to pursue OA publishing (21% not more likely) if K-State were to expand its open access fee fund.
- 63% of respondents were supportive (21% opposed, 15% neutral) of K-State cancelling subscriptions to unaffordable resources (e.g., the Big Deal with Elsevier) and instead relying on interlibrary loan.
- 60% of respondents were supportive (15% opposed, 24% neutral) of K-State becoming an OA2020 Expression of Interest signatory in transitioning resources currently supporting subscription publishing to OA publishing.

Based on our review of scholarly communication initiatives, both at K-State and elsewhere, as well as the feedback we received from the campus community, we have developed a series of recommendations that could be implemented at K-State. We have also assessed the budget implications of expanding open access initiatives at K-State.

Glossary

Embargo: The amount of time before a scholarly article will be made available to the public after it is published by a journal and/or a publisher.

Gold Open Access: The practice of making the final version of an article freely and permanently accessible for everyone immediately after publication. The publisher typically requires the author to bear the costs of production.

Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA): A consortium of 39 research libraries, including Kansas State University.

Green Open Access: The practice of self-archiving or placing a version of an author's manuscript into a repository (e.g., K-Rex), making it freely accessible for everyone.

Multipayer: Sharing costs between libraries and research funds secured by individual researchers. Library funding provides baseline financial support with authors with grant funding paying a portion of the article publication costs.

Open Access: The free availability of scholarly literature on the public internet, permitting users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles for any lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet.

Open Access Repository: Any digital platform designed to store digital text and objects and make them discoverable and freely available via the internet with clearly defined legal restrictions on their use or circulation. The K-State Research Exchange (K-REx) platform is the open access repository used at K-State.

Paywall: Access is restricted to users who have paid to subscribe to the content.