

06/08/2018

Wellcome's Open Access Policy Review

Q3 2018

Helena Wilcox and Diego Baptista





Open Access Policy Review – External Evidence Gathering Session

22nd May 2018

Wellcome Panel

Robert Kiley (Chair)

David Carr
Simon Chaplin
Andrew Chisholm
Charlene Colegate

Max Hastings
Hannah Hope
Margaret Hurley
Chris Moran

Head of Open Research, *Culture and Society*
Open Research Programme Manager, *Culture and Society*
Director, *Culture and Society*
Head of Cellular and Development Science, *Science*
Portfolio Developer - Communities and Knowledge, *Culture and Society*
Open Science Policy Lead, *UK Research and Innovation*
Open Research Coordinator, *Culture and Society*
Policies and Governance Officer, *Grants*
IP Senior Legal Counsel, *Legal*

Session 1: Journal Publishers

Gemma Hersh
Iratxe Puebla
David Ross
Carrier Calder

Martin Eve
Stuart Taylor

Vice President, Open Science at *Elsevier*
Managing Editor at *PLOS One*
Executive Director, Open Access at *SAGE Publications*
VP Business Development & Policy, Open Research at *Springer Nature*
Director at *Open Library of Humanities*
Publishing Director at *Royal Society*

Much of the discussions surrounded hybrid journals and their role in facilitating (or not) a transition towards open access. Many hybrid journals are well-known publications, with a perception of higher quality research. Supporting hybrid OA also offers greater author choice. There was a view that as the volume of gold OA increases over time, this may not be accompanied by a decrease in the number of hybrid offerings. Concerns were also raised over the pace of travel towards OA. Speakers differed in their opinions on the place of hybrid journals in a future Wellcome OA policy.

The session also considered centralised billing systems which would aim to provide financial efficiencies and greater transparency whilst reducing the administrative burden on researchers and academic institutions. Wellcome was reminded that transparency may not lead to market change but could deliver benefits regarding efficiencies.

In the closing remarks, Wellcome was encouraged to consider OA within a global context and to recognise the key role that funders can play in a transition towards OA.

Session 2: Book Publishers

Alison Jones
Craig Fowlie
Sven Fund
Simon Ross

Managing Editor, Open Access at *Oxford University Press*
Editorial Director at *Routledge/Taylor & Francis*
Managing Director at *Knowledge Unlatched*
Chief Executive at *Manchester University Press*

Authors continue to express a preference for their monographs and book chapters to be published in print form and that certain markets (e.g. academic libraries) prefer print.

The fees associated with OA book publishing are distinct from general book production and editorial processes. As there is limited evidence that OA depresses print sales, publishers need to ensure that OA book processing charge structures are transparent to avoid accusations of "double dipping". Wellcome was encouraged to consult scholars on the issue of embargoes as a means of addressing any concerns regarding payments for OA books.

The panel noted that Wellcome's current policy affords flexibility, particularly regarding licences. This flexibility is popular amongst authors. Whilst concerns relating to plagiarism and the publication of derivative works have been raised by some authors, it was noted that these issues do not only affect OA books.



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The OA environment and offer for book chapters and monographs is less mature than for journal articles. Wellcome is considered as a leading funder in this field and was encouraged to continue funding OA for book chapters and monographs.

Session 3: Academic Institutions

Danny Kingsley	Deputy Director, Scholarly Communications and Research Services at <i>University of Cambridge</i>
Catherine Sharp	Open Access Funding Manager at <i>University College London</i>
Liam Earney	Director at <i>JISC Collections</i>
Ian Carter	Director of Research and Enterprise at <i>University of Sussex</i>
David Prosser	Executive Director at <i>Research Libraries UK</i>
Philip Bejon	Director at <i>KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme</i>

Many Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have negotiated offsetting deals with publishers which has resulted in administrative efficiencies and a reduced overall cost burden, although the impact has been mixed. Central OA processing also reduces the administrative burden on researchers. Publishers vary in their engagement with offsetting and smaller publishers may not be able to offer or negotiate such deals. Furthermore, HEI and funding communities are not always clear on what a “good” offsetting deals is and consensus would be beneficial. There could be opportunities for Wellcome to better understand and engage with the issue of offsetting.

Furthermore, HEIs have significant knowledge and highly trained staff focussed on publication and OA which would be difficult (and expensive) to replicate elsewhere (e.g. by a research funder). Wellcome was encouraged to fully engage with HEIs on policy implementation.

HEIs remain conscious that author choice is valued by the research community. Price sensitivity among authors believed to be low (or non-existent) but it was suggested that transparency may go some way to further engaging authors on the issue of price.

There is often greater compliance with Wellcome’s OA policy compared with other funder policies. Policy alignment across funders was encouraged, though it was noted that Wellcome has assumed a leadership position in the past, and may need to do this again.

Session 4: Funders

Jennifer Hansen	Senior Officer, Knowledge and Research at <i>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation</i>
Mike Huerta	Associate Director, National Library of Medicine at <i>National Institutes of Health</i>
Dina Paltoo	Director, Division of Scientific Data Sharing Policy, Office of Science Policy at <i>National Institutes of Health</i>
Jean-Claude Burgelman	Head of Unit Open Data Policies and Science Cloud at <i>European Commission</i>
Katharine Rieck	Open Access Manager at <i>Austrian Science Fund</i>
Hans de Jonge	Open Science Adviser at <i>Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research</i>

Whilst funders generally find high levels of compliance with their OA policy, where restrictions or sanctions have been implemented these were communicated clearly to grantholders and concerns have largely been dispelled.

Funders agreed that, where possible, alignment across funder OA policies should be sought.

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Version 1

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