

# Open Access: A Refresh

## Webinar Q&A

**Question:** How reliable is Beall's list as a list of predatory journals?

**Answer:** It is out of date and there has been controversy over some of the titles included. We recommend using the checklist at Think.Check.Submit. Also, do check whether the journal and/or its publisher are listed at the Directory of Open Access journals, which has a rigorous assessment process.

[www.thinkchecksubmit.org](http://www.thinkchecksubmit.org) and [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)

**Question:** Can you submit the same article to an Open Access journal and to your institutional repository?

**Answer:** This depends on the journal and the publisher. Many journals are happy to peer-review and publish articles that have already been posted on an institutional repository. There may be restrictions about posting the finally accepted version or the published version. Check the publishers' website. Cambridge's policy is below.

<https://www.cambridge.org/gb/academic/cambridge-open-access/green-open-access-policy>

**Question:** If I want to publish Open Access, where should I start?

**Answer:** Check the journal that you want to submit to and find out if publishing Open Access is an option: many traditional subscription journals are now "hybrid", in that upon payment of a fee (article processing charge – APC) an article can be made Gold Open Access immediately upon publication. Then check against your funder requirements to see if the journal matches your funder requirements: several will only fund publishing in a fully gold journal.

**Question:** Interesting stat that in 2018, 20% of total articles were OA. Do the panel have any forecast/future prediction/target of OA as a % of total amount of articles in the next 5-10 years?

**Answer:** It depends on the changing funder and policy landscape. Our hope is that there is a high increase in Open Access output as this is better for research - both those who benefit from the results of the research, and those who carry it out and hope to make an impact - and why funders invest in research.

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**Question:** Besides APC, are there other options for the publisher to get the compensation for the subscribe fee?

**Answer:** Cambridge University Press has made a number of "Read and Publish" agreements with institutions and library consortia to support open access publishing in Cambridge journals. The 'Publish' element covers the article processing charges (APCs) for authors from affiliated institutions who wish to publish in the Press's hybrid and fully Open Access journals, depending on the agreement. Under the 'Read' element, affiliated institutions are granted access to read the Press' journals.

**Question:** Are you flipping and launching OA journals in all subject areas or just where there's more OA funding?

**Answer:** We have flipped a number of journals from the subscription model to Open Access in areas where increasing numbers of authors are seeking Open Access venues, and where there is growing Open Access funding for authors. Many of our recent journal launches have also been Open Access for the same reasons. Our Read and Publish arrangements (see above) are supporting the transition to Open Access for the less well funded areas. We will therefore continue to look at individual journals and community needs going forward.

**Question:** Concerning costs and how to cut them down -- does CUP offer packages? I am thinking of the case of a Humanities project that produces a number of monographs during its duration?

**Answer:** Currently, we charge a book processing charge (BPC) for each volume. This is intended to offset the print sales that we have from a traditional monograph. It is quite carefully calibrated and may change over time. We are also experimenting with other models where the author doesn't have access to funding through their institution or funding body, considering options like crowdfunding and other experimental models. Where you are planning to publish more than one monograph from a single project, we would recommend that you contact the relevant Commissioning Editor to discuss this directly.

**Question:** Is there an Open Access option for monographs?

**Answer:** Yes – we warmly encourage the Open Access publication of monographs, and other book forms. Please see the links below for our Open Access books policy, and a list of all the OA books we have published to date.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/open-access-books/gold-open-access-books>

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/what-we-publish/open-access>

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**Question:** Apologies for the very basic question - does Academia.edu rank among the depositories where one could upload a Green OA article published with a CUP journal?

**Answer:** At Cambridge University Press, academia.edu and similar websites platforms, like ResearchGate and Academia.edu do not count as eligible for deposit, as they are commercial repository. We allow deposit in non-commercial institutional subject repositories.

Our Core Share function is a way of supporting social sharing on commercial sites by legitimately posting a link to a read-only version of the article. See also our social sharing guidelines at below.

Social Sharing Guidelines: [www.cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/social-sharing](http://www.cambridge.org/core/services/open-access-policies/social-sharing)  
Sharing Content: [www.cambridge.org/core/services/sharing-content](http://www.cambridge.org/core/services/sharing-content)

**Question:** Fees payable by authors are a major barrier for academics in South Africa (where I work), and insurmountable for most students. Few institutions will pay \$2000 or more, which converts to large amounts in local currency. Are there any ways in which journals can offer access to READERS of articles in developing countries?

**Answer:** We recognise that there are these regional inequalities in funding and also subject-based inequalities. That's why we're working on models to help institutions cover the cost of APCs for their researchers and their ability in their institutions.

We referred to the Read & Publish model above. We plan to convert much of our institutional sales reach around the world to Read & Publish model over the coming years (see slides). We see that as a major factor in the making Open Access much more affordable and democratizing the process.

We have an a waivers policy for fully Gold Open Access journals, and discounts to authors in low and middle income countries. Please head to Research for Life to view the country list.

[www.research4life.org/access/eligibility/](http://www.research4life.org/access/eligibility/)