Open access and China

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Associate Editorial Director (Research Integrity)
About BioMed Central

- Open Access since 2000
- First commercial open access publisher
- Office in Greater China since 2009: Hong Kong; Beijing in 2010; Shanghai in 2013
- 14 staff dedicated to China and Chinese researcher’s needs
- Now covers non-biology and medicine areas, including hard sciences and social sciences through SpringerOpen
- Research Integrity team offers advice on standards and ethics to all of our editors and publishing staff
Growth of open access

2000

2015

 STM and CAST industry day. Open access and China
My presentation today

What is open access?

Open access in China

Journal quality and open access
What is ‘open access’?
The old world of access to knowledge
The new world of access to knowledge
What is open access literature?

• Digital
• Online
• Free to access for readers
• Free of most copyright and licensing restrictions
**Types of open access**

- **‘Gold’ Open Access**
  - Article freely available from publisher website

- **‘Full’ Open Access**
  - Whole journal is published Open Access

- **‘Green’ Open Access**
  - Self-archiving of author manuscript on author website, institutional or subject-based repositories

- **‘Hybrid’ Open Access**
  - Article level Open Access option in subscription journals

- **‘Delayed’ Open Access**
  - Articles made freely available to non-subscribers after a certain period, usually 12 or 24 months

- **Author Payment**
  - Author/funder/institution pays for publishing

- **Sponsored**
  - Journal sponsored by a non-profit institution or organization
Are open access journals different from subscription journals?

Same quality and standards

• Peer review
• Editors in chief
• Editorial boards
• Indexing
• Permanent

Distribution is different

• No subscription barriers
• Universal access
• Openly licensed to allow reuse
What is different for authors?

Traditional journals

Researchers transfer their copyrights to the publisher

Publisher covers costs by selling access to the content

Open access journals

No exclusive rights retained by the publisher

Publisher is paid for the service of publication
Advantages of open access

• Continuous publication
• No limits on size
• High-quality peer review
• Focus on increasing visibility
• Articles can be widely reused
• Allows text mining of data and literature
Open access and China
R&D Investment China

China R&D Investment 2010-2012

- **2010**: R&D Investment (billion RMB) = 706.26, R&D/GDP (%) = 1.76
- **2011**: R&D Investment (billion RMB) = 868.7, R&D/GDP (%) = 1.84
- **2012**: R&D Investment (billion RMB) = 1029.84, R&D/GDP (%) = 1.98

Legend:
- R&D Investment (billion RMB)
- R&D/GDP (%)
Research Output China

ANNUAL RESEARCH PUBLICATION OUTPUT OF THE FIVE BRICK COUNTRIES

Source: Building BRICKS, Exploring the Global Research and Innovation Impact of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Korea, Jonathan Adams, David Pendlebury and Bob Stembridge, February 2013, Thomson Reuters
Citation Impact China

CITATION IMPACT OF THE FIVE BRICK COUNTRIES RELATIVE TO WORLD AVERAGE

Source: Building BRICKS, Exploring the Global Research and Innovation Impact of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Korea, Jonathan Adams, David Pendlebury and Bob Stembridge, February 2013, Thomson Reuters
Who is feeling the pressure the most?

The proportion of global reviews completed by the US is much greater than its proportion of global research articles.

China produces 18% of the world's research articles. Its contribution to global reviews is 6%. However, this low number is not because Chinese researchers are unwilling.

Ideally a country should sit on the line - its proportion of world reviews should match its proportion of world papers.

A slide from The Future of Peer Review presentation given by Elsevier's Research Director, Adrian Mulligan, at the ALPSP (Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers) Seminar in November 2013.
Results of Nature’s Author Insight Survey 2015

Chinese authors

• Prioritise **efficiency**
  - Important factors are likelihood of acceptance, speed of production and option of transfers to another journal

• Impact factor is important

• Value additional publisher services

• 20% of the China respondents had published OA only in the last three years
BREAKTHROUGH: A National Mandate in 2014

Announced on May 15th 2014 with immediate effect

- **Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)**
  - Requires deposition of final, peer-reviewed manuscripts in institute’s open access repository within **12 months**
  - Encourages deposition of previously published articles into institutional repositories
  - Authorizes libraries and information departments to develop detailed open access guidelines in accordance with copyright laws.

- **National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)**
  - Requires deposition of articles into NSFC repository within **12 months** of publication;
  - To build NSFC institutional repository.
Green OA: Institutional Repositories in China

• Major Institutional Repositories
  
  2005  Xiamen University, the first university library launching IR
  
  2009  CAS IR Grid
  
  2011  CALIS
  
  2015  NSFC

• CHAIR-China Academic Institutional Repository: 31 IRs by May 29th 2014

Special Libraries

  Launched: AMMS (Academy of Military Medical Sciences)

  Under development: CAAS, ISTIC

• China IR Implementation Group: established Oct 2012, 14 institutions

Source: Lin LI, New Developments of Open Access Activities in China, presentation at Asia-Pacific regional meeting of Global Research Council
Green OA: Institutional Repositories in China

Proportion of Repositories by Country - Asia

- Japan: 31.8%
- India: 13.6%
- Turkey: 11.8%
- Taiwan: 10.4%
- Indonesia: 9.7%
- Korea, Republic of: 7.7%
- Malaysia: 6.7%
- Other: 7.7%

Total = 595 repositories

OpenDOAR - 21-Aug-2015

(source Open DOAR on Aug 21, 2015)
**Gold OA: China OA Journals**

- **Increase in numbers**
  
  140 titles in 2007 to 308 in 2011, out of 820 of STM society journals were OA

- **OA journals are still at an early stage**
  
  License: Only 7% formally adopts CC licenses
  
  Business model: **Only 7 titles** charge APC

- **Top 3 societies in OA publishing:**
  
  Chinese Medical Association
  
  Chinese Physical Society
  
  Chinese Chemical Society
Gold OA: China OA Journals in DOAJ

DOAJ, 51 titles (40 in English, 17 in Chinese, 1 in French)*

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<tr>
<th>Total number of journals in DOAJ-China</th>
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*some of them are bilingual

Gold OA: Partnership with International Publishers

Science China--Life Science
Transformed to OA in 2011
SpringerOpen,
http://www.springer.com/life+sciences/journal/11427

Light: Science & Applications
born OA in 2012
CIOMP & NPG
http://www.nature.com/lsa/index.html
Gold OA: China based OA Journals in partnership with BMC (growing from 0 in 2011 to 11 in 2015)
Gold OA: Institutional Support for APC Payment

Member Institutions from China (BioMed Central)

• Chinese Academy of Sciences
• Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences
• The Academy of Military Medical Sciences
• China Agricultural University
• Shanghai Jiao Tong University
• Fudan University
• National Institute of Parasitic Disease, Chinese CDC
• Shenzhen Beike Biotechnology
Summary

- China is pushing ahead in many aspects of OA

- The OA mandate by CAS and NSFC is expected to be an exciting step to increase OA awareness and boost the development of Green OA in China

- OA publications from Chinese authors will continue to grow.

- There is increasing interest in OA publishing.

- There are successful partnerships between OA journals from China and international publishers.
How to recognise a quality open access journal
The basis of trust

Motives: e.g. benevolence, integrity, honest, fairness

Competence: e.g. ability, expertise, knowledge
How do we recognize quality in a journal?

Do we trust the **competence** of the people and processes involved: peer review, publication ethics, lack of bias?

Do we trust the **motives** of the people involved: publishers, authors, editors and reviewers?
Building trust

Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association

- Promotes **best practices** for maintaining and disseminating OA scholarly communications, and ethical standards of publishing.
- Members meet **strict criteria** – relating to integrity and commitment to open access publishing.

http://oaspa.org/
Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing

Principles of Transparency

1. **Peer review process**: All of a journal’s content, apart from any editorial material that is clearly marked as such, shall be subjected to peer review. Peer review is defined as obtaining advice on individual manuscripts from reviewers expert in the field who are not part of the journal’s editorial staff. This process, as well as any policies related to the journal’s peer review procedures, shall be clearly described on the journal’s Web site.

2. **Governing Body**: Journals shall have editorial boards or other governing bodies whose members are recognized experts in the subject areas included within the journal’s scope. The full names and affiliations of the journal’s editors shall be provided on the journal’s Web site.

3. **Editorial team/contact information**: Journals shall provide the full names and affiliations of the journal’s editors on the journal’s Web site as well as contact information for the editorial office.

4. **Author fees**: Any fees or charges that are required for manuscript processing and/or publishing materials in the journal shall be clearly stated in a place that is easy for potential authors to find prior to submitting their manuscripts for review or explained to authors before they begin preparing their manuscript for submission.

5. **Copyright**: Copyright and licensing information shall be clearly described on the journal’s Web site, and licensing terms shall be indicated on all published articles, both HTML and PDFs.

6. **Identification of and dealing with allegations of research misconduct**: Publishers and editors shall take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred, including plagiarism, citation manipulation, and data falsification/fabrication, among others. In no case shall a journal or its editors encourage such misconduct, or knowingly allow such misconduct to take place. In the event that a journal’s publisher or editors are made aware of any allegation of research misconduct relating to a published article in their journal – the publisher or editor shall follow COPE’s guidelines (or equivalent) in dealing with allegations.

7. **Ownership and management**: Information about the ownership and/or management of a journal shall be clearly indicated on the journal’s Web site. Publishers shall not use organizational names that would mislead potential authors and editors about the nature of the journal’s owner.

8. **Web site**: A journal’s Web site, including the text that it contains, shall demonstrate that care has been taken to ensure high ethical and professional standards.
### Basic Journal Information

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<th>1) Journal Title</th>
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<td>8) Platform, Host or Aggregator</td>
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<td>9) Name of contact for Inq</td>
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### Quality and Transparency of the Editorial Process

33) What is the URL for the Editor Board page? [ ]

A journal must have an editor and an editorial board. Only in the case of Humanities journals we will accept a form of editorial review using only two editors. The name of editor must be published in the journal.

34) What is the URL for the journal's instructions for authors? [ ]

Yes

35) Does the journal have a policy of screening for plagiarism? [ ]

Yes

36) What is the average number of weeks between submission and publication? [ ]

No

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**NATURE | NEWS**

**Open-access website gets tough**

Leading directory tightens listing criteria to weed out rogue journals.

**Richard Van Noorden**

06 August 2014
Building trust

Journals should be members of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)

• Follow the highest standards of publication ethics
• Follow the Code of Conduct for Journal Editors
New Science Europe Principles on Open Access Publisher Services

(Brussels, 27 April 2015) At its General Assembly meeting in Vienna on 15 April, Science Europe’s members - comprising 50 major public research organisations in Europe - adopted four new common principles on Open Access Publisher Services. The Principles, which were prepared by Science Europe’s Working Group on Open Access to Scientific Publications, complement the existing Science Europe ‘Principles on the Transition to Open Access to Research Publications’ published in April 2013.

Minimum expected services:

Indexing (e.g. DOAJ, Web of Science, Scopus, PubMed)

Copyright held by authors without restrictions; publication under CC BY

Sustainable archiving: immediate availability in third-party repositories, persistent address

Machine readability via open standards
Dear Colleague,

Introducing 'Erudite Journals'!

Erudite Journals is an open access, peer-reviewed research community that covers areas of interest in Biotechnology, Science and Biodiversity, Pharmacology, Medicine and Medical Sciences, Microbiology and Genetics, Environmental Science, Social Sciences, Business Administration and Management, etc.

Scholoxy Publications journals are international Journals of Education and Research. We welcome and acknowledge high quality theoretical and empirical original research papers, case studies, review papers, literature reviews, and technical notes from researchers, academicians, professors, practitioners and students from all over the world.

We request you to visit us @ www.scholoxy.org and submit your paper at this offer publication fee.

The scope of the Journal Includes: *Chronicles of Science* The scope of the Journal focuses on all areas of the branches of science, i.e. natural and clinical sciences with vast subject areas covered, ensuring high quality publishing.

Advice on predatory journals and publishers

On this page,

- Background
- How to check for 'predatory' journals?
- Contact the Library

Background

Open Access (OA) 'predatory' journals are now part of the scholarly communication landscape. We strongly recommend that University of Manchester researchers always check the credibility of unfamiliar publishers and journals prior to submission.

There is now more research done and more research papers published than ever before. There are currently approximately 28,000 journals publishing 1.5 million papers annually. New journals are launched every year, many of which offer OA.

Sometimes a newly launched journal is associated with a well-established publisher or learned society. This connection validates the journal's status. However, an academic journal may emerge from a new enterprise which lacks any prior history or reputation. In such cases journals often offer benefits by adopting new approaches to the publishing process, and they quickly develop a good reputation through endorsements from the academic community and from librarians. Recent examples of new, trustworthy OA journals are eLife and PeerJ.

- eLife
- PeerJ

Although the majority of new journals are legitimate, the credentials of some are questionable. Such journals and publishers are referred to as 'predatory'. They commonly send spam emails to potential authors, solicit submissions and request payment of article processing charges, but lack any discernible scholarship, academic rigour or credibility. Authors should not use such journals.

How to check for 'predatory' journals?

Key indicators of the legitimacy of newly launched OA journals are:

- Entry in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) – journals must meet strict criteria to qualify
- Publisher’s membership of Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA) – members are bound by a code of conduct based on standard publishing practices and transparency
- Publisher’s membership of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) – membership demonstrates commitment to widely accepted publishing practices
Summary – key features of quality open access journals

- Journals are members of COPE, OASPA
- Included in DOAJ
- Articles are indexed
- Copyright retained by authors
- Clear policies
- Clear details about staff with contact details
New international initiative for authors

Think  Check  Submit

• Collaboration between Springer Nature (including BioMed Central), OASPA, STM Association, DOAJ, INASP, ISSN Centre, Dutch KB

• Highlight key actions authors can take to ensure they are publishing in a reputable journal

• Website resource with practical suggestions

• Going live from September 2015
Acknowledgement and references

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Thank you

Contact: Jigisha.patel@biomedcentral.com