

Recent and upcoming developments around the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

Nordic Perspectives on Open Access and
Open Science

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- Founded 2003 at Lund University – launched May 2003 with 300 journals (provided by Bo-Christer Björk!).
- Initially funded by minor project grants from SPARC and Open Society Institute.
- Additional grants from among others SPARC Europe, INASP and OpenAccess.se.
- Membership and Sponsor funding model introduced 2006.

- Constant growth during the years
- End of 2012 - +8.000 journals
- Increasing importance for the OA-movement
- Slow but steady increase in support (funding from the community)



Higher expectations

- Situation 2010/2011:
- Increasing expectations as OA gets momentum.
- Difficulties in getting resources as expectations grow.
- As OA matures demands from funders and libraries increase and become more differentiated and advanced.
- Increasing backlog and lack of curation of the collection.



Growing concerns

- Stakeholders began more or less explicit expressing their concerns about the future of the DOAJ.
- OASPA approaches Lund University to discuss possible scenarios.
- After 2 years of discussions and negotiations (on and off) an agreement was in place between LU and IS4OA.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES FOR OPEN ACCESS

www.is4oa.org



Founded by
Caroline Sutton,
Alma Swan &
Lars Bjørnshauge



INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES FOR OPEN ACCESS

A not-for-profit Community Interest Company (C.I.C.), registered in the United Kingdom.

What we said we would do!

- IS4OA took over January 1st 2013:
- We said we would:
 - Involve the community in the development and operations
 - Respond to demands and expectations by
 - Developing new tighter criteria
 - Reengineer the editorial back office work
 - Monitor for compliance and weed accordingly

we also said we
would

- Develop the DOAJ into a significantly improved service by
 - introducing more functionality
 - extending the coverage of journals around the world and...
 - working more closely with publishers to improve the quality of the information about the journals listed.
 - Integrate with other infrastructure services
 - Develop sustainable funding

Involving the community

- What we have done:
 - Set up an Advisory Board
 - Done a survey (to learn more)
 - New criteria out for public comment
 - Reach out to organizations and initiatives to address general issues for open access journals

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF
OPEN ACCESS
JOURNALS

Advisory Board

Community/Consortia

Kevin Stranack, PKP , Canada

Tom Olijhoek, OKNF , The Netherlands

Caren Milloy, JISC, United Kingdom

Jean-Francois Lutz, Couperin, France

Jan-Erik Frantsvåg, University of Tromsø, Norway

David Prosser, RLUK , United Kingdom

Iryna Kuchma, EIFL Italy

Stuart Shieber, Harvard University, U.S.A.



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Advisory Board (contd.)

Publishers/Aggregators

Leslie Chan, Bioline International,

Martin Rasmussen, Copernicus Publications,

Paul Peters, Hindawi Publishing Corporation,

Cameron Neylon, PLOS,

Bettina Goerner, Springer,

Arianna Becerril-García, Redalyc,

Susan Murray, AJOL, South Africa



Ciencias Sociales Online
revista electrónica
ISSN 0718-1671



JOURNAL OF PSYCHOSOCIAL RESEARCH ON CYBERSPACE
CYBERPSYCHOLOGY

Improvements

- New platform launched
- Facets search:
 - language **9911** journals
 - publication year **5593** journals searchable at article level
 - license **121** Countries
 - business model (APCs or not) **1516253** articles
- Very good feedback!

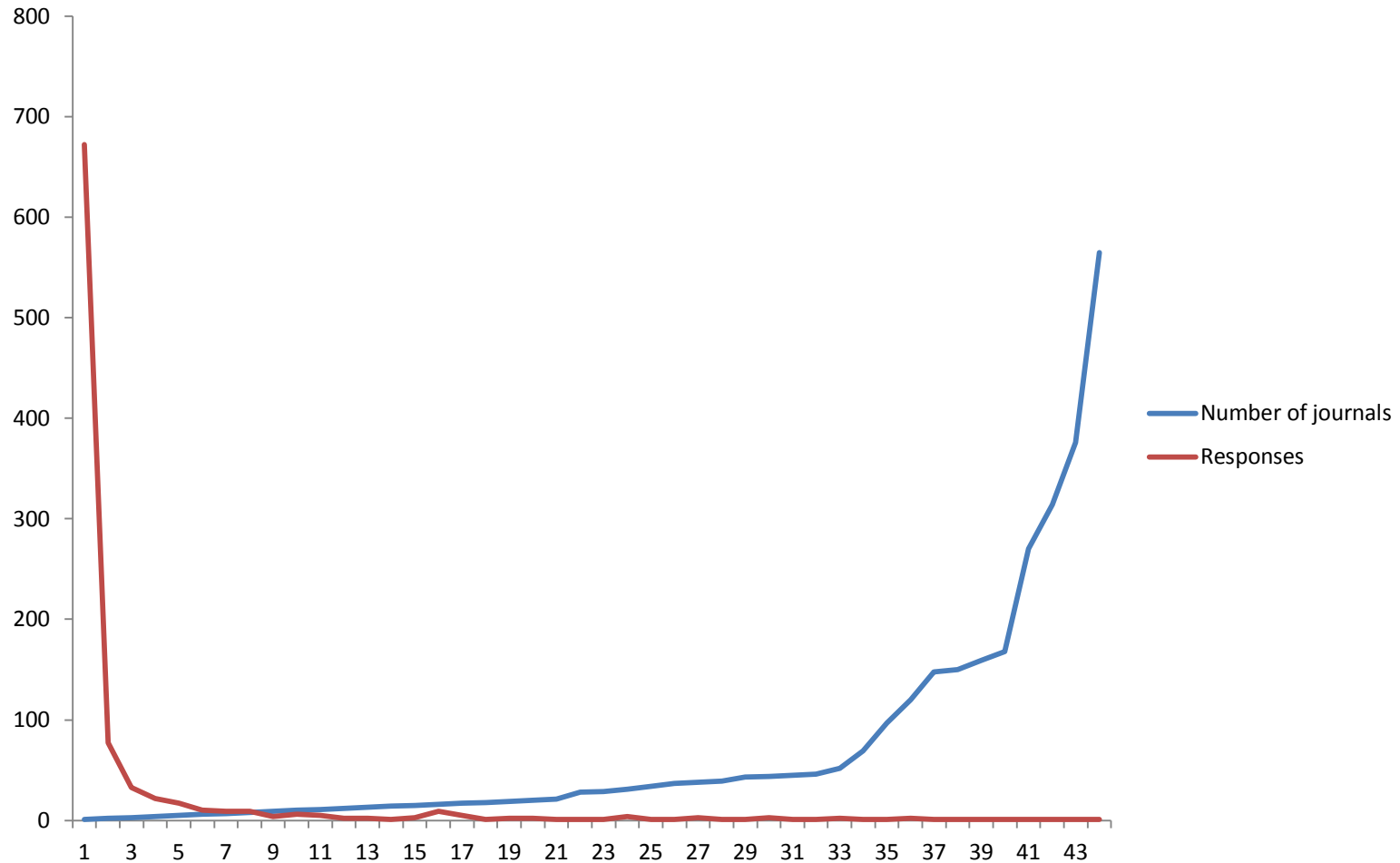
- Journals added Jan-Oct 2013: 1892
- (Journals added 2012): 1248

- We are weeding as well:

- August 1st – October 15th 2013:
- Journals added: 370
- Journals removed: 397

- We did a survey among the publishers in the DOAJ (Spring 2013)
- 3000+ e-mails
- 1250 responses
- 56% of journals represented in the response

The long tail



- Main Findings
 - Persistent Identifiers (DOIs)
 - Archiving
 - Metadata delivery to DOAJ
 - Benefits

- Has your journal(s) implemented DOIs:
- Yes: 35%
- No: 55%
- Don't know: 10%

- Discussions with
 - OASPA
 - INASP
 - PKP
 - Redalyc
- as to how to work together on this and with CrossRef for efficient and affordable arrangements

- Does your organisation or your journal(s) have an arrangement for long term preservation and availability (LPTA) or partake in any LPTA program?
- Yes: 14%
- No – I'm not interested: 41%
- Would you be interested in DOAJ providing/facilitating a fee-based LPTA service?
- I'm interested. Tell me more: 49%

- Many, many journals
 - lack the financial & technical resources to go beyond just publishing the content.
 - haven't addressed the archiving issue yet, but would like to do so, provided smart and cheap solutions are available.
- Discussions with OASPA, INASP, PKP, Redalyc, CLOCKSS, Keepers Registry and approached by Portico

- Does your journal(s) provide DOAJ with article-level metadata for the journals listed in the DOAJ?
- Yes: 55%
- No: 24%
- Don't know: 21%
- Actual figure 56% - up from 50% since January + 1250 journals and + 600.000 records (60% increase) – as of today 1.5 million

- Important/extremely important benefits of being listed:
- Increased visibility : 97%
- Increased traffic : 85%
- Prestige : 86%
- Certification : 87%
- Eligibility for support from OA-publication funds: 64%
- Better promotion : 80%
- Increased submissions : 72%

Why tighter criteria?

- Better opportunities for funders, universities, libraries and authors to **determine** whether a journal lives up to standards – transparency!
- Enable the community to monitor compliance
- Addressing the issue of fake publishers or publishers not living up to reasonable standards both in terms of content and of business behavior.
- DOAJ SEAL – promote best practice

New criteria

- New tighter criteria will address:
- “Quality”
- “Openness”
- “the delivery”
- They will be more detailed
- Publishers will have to do more to be included
- Criteria must be **binary** (either in or not in!)

Quality!

- This is tricky!
- Funders, libraries and researchers want to be able to judge whether a journal is a quality journal.
- No quick fixes – no clear, accepted definition!
- Only proxy measures available.
-

- **QUALITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF THE EDITORIAL PROCESS**
- The journal must have an editor or an editorial board, all members must be easily identified
- Specification of the review process
 - Editorial review, Peer review., Blind peer review, Double blind peer review, Other (please specify)
- Statements about aims & scope clearly visible
- Instructions to authors shall be available and easily located
- Screening for plagiarism?
- Time from submission to publication

- CC-license – if Yes, which?
- Reader rights
- Reuse rights
- Copyrights
- Author posting rights

“The delivery”

- Publisher
 - ISSN/eISSN
 - Journal Title
 - URL of Journal Homepage
 - Editor
 - Editor e-mail address
 - Editorial Board
 - Contact person
 - Contact person –email address
 - Country
 - **Journals must publish 5 articles/year**
(rule of thumb & does not apply for new journals)
- (name)
 - (e-mail address)
 - URL to info re editorial board
 - (name)
 - (e-mail address)
 -

“The delivery”

- Article Processing Charges (APC)s (in relevant currency)
- Whether the journal has article submission charges (in relevant currency)
- Waiver policy (for developing country authors, etc)
- Persistent Identifiers
- Link to download statistics
- Start year (since online full-text content is available)
- Please indicate which formats of full text are available (PDF, HTML, ePUB, XML, other)
- Article level: provision of metadata
- Yes/No – if Yes: then currency and amount
- Yes/No – if Yes: then currency and amount
- Yes/No – if Yes: link to information on the journal homepage
- Yes/No ,
- Yes/No
-
- Yes/No

- The first draft of new criteria were out for public comment – we received a lot of comments – and learned a lot!
- “Our” - Western European/North American services, standards and business models are not universal!
- For instance:

- We had **CC-licenses** as mandatory – these are not universal – in fact several countries cannot as yet implement those – we are investigating this with CC and experts
- Regarding **author deposit rights** we recommended listing in SHERPA/RoMEO – there are similar services out there – not as comprehensive – we accept these, while trying to convince those to exchange data
- We promoted **DOIs** – there are other persistent identifiers out there – definitely not as good as DOIs – we will promote DOIs and make it more attractive for the journals to come on board

- We were asking for identification of **archiving** arrangements – we will clarify which archiving organisations we will endorse
- We promoted machine-readable formats and indicated that PDFs would not qualify in that regard – now we just ask for specification of in which formats the full-text is published
- APCs is not invented in Latin America & Africa – a minority of journals actually implements APCs
- We promoted OAS – it is not well known – yet – we will work with PLoS/SPARC/OASPA on that

- The process highlighted the dilemma:
- Respecting different publishing cultures and traditions
- Not primarily exclude, but rather facilitate and assist the smaller journals from other continents to come into the flow
- **While at the same time** promoting standards, transparency and best practice

- Promoting best practice (anno 2013/14) – qualifiers for the DOAJ SEAL:
- DOIs
- Article level metadata to DOAJ
- Archiving arrangement with an archiving organisation (list to be developed and maintained)
- CC-BY (embedded machine readable in article metadata)
- Authors retain copyright without restrictions
- Deposit policy registered in Sherpa/RoMeo and the likes

To conclude!

- We believe that we are on track!
- Lots of work ahead.
- We will continue to contribute to the momentum of open access publishing by
 - carefully promoting standards, transparency and best practice
 - without losing the global view
 - collaborating
- This will benefit **all** open access publishers!

Our ambition: DOAJ to be **the**
white list!

and make other lists superfluous –
that is:

if a journal is in the DOAJ it complies
with accepted standards

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF
OPEN ACCESS
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Part of an emerging
infrastructure for (Gold) OA



Thank you for your attention!
and
Thank you for your support!



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