



**Chapter Council Presents
Sharing Roundtables
MLA Annual Meeting
San Antonio, TX
Monday, May 16, 2005**

Table 19A: Open Access & Scholarly Publishing

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There were a total of seven attendees at the roundtable, 5 from academic and 2 from corporate libraries.

The following comments were noted during the introductions:

- Currently teaching a class for researchers on Open Access (OA) so that they can learn what others are doing. Trying to increase the number of researchers willing to publish in OA journals. The class is usually attended by up to 5 researchers.
- Company is an active supporter of the Public Library of Science (PLoS).
- University held a colloquium on institutional repositories to learn more about the topic. The state invested in ContentDM as the institutional software.
- OA is being discussed at the faculty senate level, currently getting more lip service than actually being put into practice. The lack of buy in stems largely from the general academic side.

The following questions were raised and discussed:

- How does the group feel about current publisher participation in OA initiatives?
 - Feedback from the AMPA meeting
 - Publishers need to be educated on OA topics
 - Much of education takes place outside the classroom
 - Academic site licensing, although commonplace, should be streamlined
- What about the Elsevier model and their perspective on OA?
 - The publisher is extremely concerned about controlling access and in the quality and consistency of the journals

- Bundling journals is a problem when libraries want to select specific titles, and not others. The process should not be based on existing subscriptions.
 - Perpetual access issues persist. In what format are libraries “guaranteed” access?
 - Archival access needs to be work into licensing agreements.
- Does OA potentially eliminate peer review?
 - The momentum in support of OA must continue regardless of the process.
 - There is an unwillingness to include a lot of supplementary data, particularly from private industry.
 - Is there a willingness on the part of publishers to accept articles for publication that currently only exist in institutional repositories?
- What is the value added component from electronic-only publishers?
 - Prepublication history
 - Ability to see who reviewed a publication as well as their comments.
 - Rapid access to journal articles.
- Comments:
 - Open access journals are all not available in standard databases, therefore, it is harder for important articles to be identified and cited.
 - There is less risk for corporate authors submitting to OA publications as they are not subject to or dependent on academic promotion and tenure.
 - Corporate authors should become involved in the electronic submission process and become early adopters because they are less constrained than those in academia.
 - Publishers are concerned about trying to get their journals indexed in PubMed/Medline, because once rejected, it is very difficult to be accepted.
 - Because titles such as Nucleic Acids Research and The Proceedings of the National Academy of Science are fully open access, this provides greater momentum for other major highly cited journals to pursue this course of action.
 - BioMedCentral provides prepublication history including the original submission as well as comments and feedback on the submission.
 - Discussion of the “Faculty of 1000” database that consists of a core group of leading scientists worldwide who rate papers according to findings and provide a rating scale. There is a product that focuses in Biology and another in Medicine.
 - Corporate libraries are not covered by fair use.
 - Librarians are providing value-added services by licensing, accessing & teaching students and faculty. Also, libraries provide additional access points by including links in OpenURL programs and online public access catalogs.
 - Citation tracking using programs like the Web of Knowledge are very valuable.
 - Some of the pricing models are unreasonable and do not make sense.
 - Libraries should develop a 1-page “Fast Facts” that describes their institutional setting, FTEs, status (profit, non-profit) to provide to electronic publishers to facilitate provide improved understanding of the particular institutional environment.