WFU Scholarly Communications Workshop

MARCH 13, 2008
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Framing the Issues

THE CHANGING WORLD OF SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ROLE FOR LIBRARIES
Scholarly communication – what’s that?

- The process through which researchers and faculty worldwide find, build, disseminate and collect new information
- Eventually leads to the accumulation, analysis and synthesis of information to formulate knowledge
- Most recognizable method is peer-reviewed journal articles and scholarly monographs
Libraries’ traditional role

• “...it is evident that library operations were built on a paradigm of scholarly communication based on [published] sources”

• Institutions rely on libraries to provide access to the fruits of scholarly communication – HOWEVER...

• It is also evident that changes in scholarly communication will force changes in libraries and their ability to provide access to research

Understanding the crisis

- The crisis in scholarly communication is forcing libraries to make tough purchasing decisions.
- Between 1986 and 2004, research library expenditures for journals rose 273% – during the same time period, the Consumer Price Index rose 73%.
- More money spent purchasing fewer journals, and far fewer monographs.

http://www.arl.org/sc/marketplace/jnlprices.shtml
In addition to the serials pricing crisis, other challenges in scholarly communication include:

- Publisher mergers
- Shift to electronic resources
- Course websites, course management systems, and e-reserves
- Copyright management
- Calls to revise and strengthen peer-review
- New publishing and full-text archiving options...
What is Open Access (OA)?

- Digital
- Online
- Freely available to readers
- Free of most permission barriers (e.g., copyright and licensing restrictions)

http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm
History of Open Access

• 1990 – *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*

• 1991 – arXiv launched

• 1994 – Stevan Harnad first proposed self-archiving

• February 14, 2002 – Budapest Open Access Initiative

• June 20, 2003 – Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing

• October 22, 2003 – Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities

Colors of Open Access

- **Gold OA**
  - Authors pay publication fees to make articles freely available in OA journals upon publication and without most use restrictions
  - e.g., Public Library of Science, BioMed Central

- **Green OA**
  - Archiving of articles published in non-OA journals, usually after an embargo period
  - e.g., PubMed Central, arXiv

- **Hybrid OA journals**
  - Publishers make articles from subscription-based journals publicly available for an additional publication fee
  - e.g., Oxford Open, Wiley Funded Access, Springer Open Choice

Significant Developments in the US

- Howard Hughes Medical Institute
  - First foundation to cover open access publication fees
- National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy
  - Effective April 7, 2008
  - Policy applies to all peer-reviewed journal articles stemming from research funded either in whole or in part by the NIH
- Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences
  - Grant permission to the President and Fellows of Harvard to make their scholarly articles available in Harvard’s open access repository
Open Access @ WFU

- WFU Libraries are creating an institutional repository

- Z. Smith Reynolds Library has established a new fund of $5,000
  - Designed to assist the Reynolda Campus faculty in paying open access publication fees
  - Publication fees will be divided equally between the Z. Smith Reynolds Library, Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, and the home department