



Special Issue Reprint

Open Access and the Library

www.mdpi.com/books/reprint/1211

Edited by
Anja Oberländer
Torsten Reimer



ISBN 978-3-03897-740-7 (Softback)
ISBN 978-3-03897-741-4 (PDF)

Libraries are places of learning and knowledge creation. Over the last two decades, digital technology—and the changes that came with it—have accelerated this transformation to a point where evolution starts to become a revolution.

The wider Open Science movement, and Open Access in particular, is one of these changes and is already having a profound impact. Under the subscription model, the role of libraries was to buy or license content on behalf of their users and then act as gatekeepers to regulate access on behalf of rights holders. In a world where all research is open, the role of the library is shifting from licensing and disseminating to facilitating and supporting the publishing process itself.

This requires a fundamental shift in terms of structures, tasks, and skills. It also changes the idea of a library's collection. Under the subscription model, contemporary collections largely equal content bought from publishers. Under an open model, the collection is more likely to be the content created by the users of the library (researchers, staff, students, etc.), content that is now curated by the library.

Instead of selecting external content, libraries have to understand the content created by their own users and help them to make it publicly available—be it through a local repository, payment of article processing charges, or through advice and guidance. Arguably, this is an overly simplified model that leaves aside special collections and other areas. Even so, it highlights the changes that research libraries are undergoing, changes that are likely to result of initiatives such as Plan S.



This special issue investigates some of the changes in today's library services that relate to open access.

Order Your Print Copy
You can order print copies at

www.mdpi.com/books/reprint/1211

MDPI Books offers quality open access book publishing to promote the exchange of ideas and knowledge in a globalized world. MDPI Books encompasses all the benefits of open access – high availability and visibility, as well as wide and rapid dissemination. With MDPI Books, you can complement the digital version of your work with a high quality printed counterpart.



Open Access

Your scholarly work is accessible worldwide without any restrictions. All authors retain the copyright for their work distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License.



Author Focus

Authors and editors profit from MDPI's over two decades of experience in open access publishing, our customized personal support throughout the entire publication process, and competitive processing charges as well as unique contributor discounts on book purchases.



High Quality & Rapid Publication

MDPI ensures a thorough review for all published items and provides a fast publication procedure. State-of-the-art research and time-sensitive topics are released with a minimum amount of delay.



High Visibility

Due to our global network and well-known channel partners, we ensure maximum visibility and broad dissemination. Title information of books is sent to international indexing databases and archives, such as the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB), and the Verzeichnis Lieferbarer Bücher (VLB).



Print on Demand and Multiple Formats

MDPI Books are available for purchase and to read online at any time. Our print-on-demand service offers a sustainable, cost-effective and fast way to publish MDPI Books printed versions.