

Reclaiming Our Published Research

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What Faculty Want in a Journal

[Chronicle of Higher Education, 4/22/04]

From a study by Ithaka, percentage of faculty reporting “very important”:

- 87% wide accessibility
- 84% indefinite archiving
- 69% free to authors
- 59% free to readers
- 52% high selectivity
- 47% accessibility in developing nations



Overview

Why journals are expensive

Why they needn't be

Typical worries about open access dispelled

What faculty, libraries, and universities can do

Why Journals Are Expensive

<i><u>Activity</u></i>	<i><u>Actor</u></i>	<i><u>Cost</u></i>
Writing	author	free
Triage	editor	free
Reviewing	peers	free
Revision	author	free
Copy editing	peers/author	free
Typesetting	author	free



Why Journals Are Expensive

<u><i>Activity</i></u>	<u><i>Actor</i></u>	<u><i>Cost</i></u>
Writing	author	free
Triage	editor	free
Reviewing	peers	free
Revision	author	free
Copy editing	peers/author	free
Typesetting	author	free
Access	publisher	€
Archiving	publisher	€
Marketing	publisher	€



Why Access, Archiving, and Marketing Are Expensive

Access

Copies,
lots,
widely distributed

Archiving

Copies,
widely distributed,
on paper

Solution

Copies,
lots,
widely distributed,
on paper

costing €

requiring
marketing

costing more €



Why Access, Archiving, and Marketing Needn't Be Expensive

Access

Copies,
lots,
widely distributed

Archiving

Copies,
widely distributed,
on paper

Solution

Copies, lots,
widely distributed,
electronically

Copies,
a few,
widely distributed,
on paper



The JAIR Model

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Volume 18 Contents

- [Volume 18 Articles](#)
- [Volume 18 Masthead](#)
- [JAIR Contents by Author](#)
- [Complete JAIR Contents with Abstracts](#)

JAIR Volume 18 Articles

Each entry in this table of contents provides links to an individual article and its appendices (if any).

Thompson, C.A and Mooney, R.J. (2003) "Acquiring Word-Meaning Mappings for Natural Language Interfaces", Volume 18, pages 1-44.

- [Abstract](#)
- [PostScript article thompson03a.ps](#) (601K)
- [Compressed PostScript article thompson03a.ps.Z](#) (278K)
- [PDF article thompson03a.pdf](#) (454K)
- [Hypertext \(HTML\) version](#)

Cemgil, A.T. and Kappen, B. (2003) "Monte Carlo Methods for Tempo Tracking and Rhythm Quantization", Volume 18, pages 45-81.

- [Abstract](#)
- [PostScript article cemgil03a.ps](#) (1M)
- [Compressed PostScript article cemgil03a.ps.Z](#) (278K)
- [PDF article cemgil03a.pdf](#) (801K)

Grumberg, O., Livne, S. and Markovitch, S. (2003) "Learning to Order BDD Variables in Verification", Volume 18, pages 83-116.

- [Abstract](#)
- [PostScript article grumberg03a.ps](#) (581K)
- [Compressed PostScript article grumberg03a.ps.Z](#) (262K)
- [PDF article grumberg03a.pdf](#) (279K)

Peral, J. and Ferrandez, A. (2003) "Translation of Pronominal Anaphora between English and Spanish: Discrepancies and Evaluation", Volume 18, pages 117-147.

- [Abstract](#)
- [PostScript article peral03a.ps](#) (471K)
- [Compressed PostScript article peral03a.ps.Z](#) (235K)

Writing, editing,
reviewing,
typesetting:
As usual, \$0

Access:
Via web, \$0

Archiving:
*Via printed volumes,
published by Morgan-
Kaufmann, \$75*

Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences
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Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

Electronic journals aren't indexed

No one wants to read articles online

Electronic journals aren't archival



Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

<i>Journal</i>	<i>ISI Impact %ile</i>	<i>Cost</i>
J of Machine Learning Research	100%	\$0
J of AI Research	66%	\$0
Average of Elsevier journals	56%	\$1695



Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

Electronic journals aren't indexed

- J of Artificial Intelligence Research
 - INSPEC
 - Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet
 - Science Citation Index Expanded
 - ...and unknown others



Typical Worries

Electronic journals have less prestige

Electronic journals aren't indexed

- J of Machine Learning Research
 - ACM Computing Reviews
 - CompuMath Citation Index
 - Computer and Information Systems Abstracts
 - Current Contents/Engineering, Computing and Technology
 - INSPEC
 - Linguistics Abstracts
 - Mathematical Reviews/MathSciNet
 - PsycINFO/Psychological Abstracts
 - Research Alert
 - Science Citation Index Expanded
 - Zentralblatt MATH



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- So *print them out*.



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Typical Worries

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- True, but *open access* journals can be
- So *print them out*.



The Dystopian Future

“Some of our advisors tell us it is essential at least to experiment with Open Access and try the author-pays-to-publish model. The problem is that the current pioneers such as the Public Library of Science (PLOS) or BioMed Central are, for whatever reason, charging substantially below the actual cost of publication. They are subsidizing the process with grants or private capital. It is not possible for a publisher that is accountable to a society membership or shareholders to act in this financially untenable way. Therefore, if we are to experiment, *we would have to charge the real cost of publication, effectively pricing ourselves out of the current Open Access market.* And we would be endorsing a model that at the moment is unsustainable.”

— Karen Hunter, Elsevier, in *Nature*, 3/19/04

The Dystopian Future (cont'd.)

“Consider what would happen if Open Access was mandated and all authors had to pay for publication. Over and above the problems of editorial independence, disenfranchisement of the researcher who does not have funds for publication nor a favoured environment for those with generous funding (as could be expected by those working with corporate grants), at some point publishing would be commoditized and *there would be pressure to compete by offering lower author charges*. ‘Good’, one might say — ‘we want the system to be as low-cost and productive as possible’. Yes, but *what of the investments to improve and innovate: where will the funding for that come from?* There will be an inevitable pressure to settle on a plain vanilla, lowest common denominator form of publishing.”

— Karen Hunter, Elsevier, in *Nature*, 3/19/04



The Dystopian Future (cont'd.)

“Consider what would happen if Open Access was mandated and all authors had to solve the problems of editorial peer review. The researcher who does not publish in an environment where the work is expected to be freely available would be *at some point* *under pressure to* *publish or perish* — might say — ‘we can do it if it’s possible’. Yes, *but we will the* *pressure to* *publish or perish* in some form of publishing.”



— Karen Hunter, Elsevier, in *Nature*, 3/19/04



What Faculty Can Do

As editorial board members:

- Move journals to the JAIR Model
- *Work for more open copyright agreements*

As authors

- Only publish where open access is possible
 - Open access journals
 - Journals that allow noncommercial redistribution
 - Journals that allow alternative copyright arrangements
- Submit to and review for open access journals
- Stop supporting egregious publishers
- *Make papers available through other channels*



Alternative Copyright Agreements

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What Libraries Can Do

Cancel journals

Support open access

- Run and facilitate open access servers
- Publicize open access journals to faculty
- *Archive printed copies of electronic journals*

(Negotiate lower prices with publishers

- But it won't help in the long run)



What Universities Can Do

Mandate open access archiving for their scholarly output

Underwrite open access publication charges

Support open access initiatives



*Presented to the UConn Libraries Forum: Who Stole Your
Published Research?, University of Connecticut, April 26, 2004.*

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