The Open Journal System

Towards a Journal's Economic Sustainability, While Increasing Access to Knowledge

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OPEN ACCESS LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
Gaborone, Botswana
November 20-21, 2007
Current State of Scholarly Publishing

The capacity to create, produce and disseminate scholarship in Africa has for the past 5-10 years consistently decreased.

The capacity to research and produce scholarship in Africa is concentrated in a few countries:

- South Africa
- Nigeria, Egypt
- Morocco, Kenya
- Tunisia, Algeria...

The Rest of Africa

Scientific production in Africa

### Current State of Scholarly Publishing

#### Circulation numbers for African scholarly Journals

- True scholarly journals usually having a circulation of less than 500, usually in the order of 100-200
- Only one journal had more than 400 external subscribers
- The rest of the journals had a maximum circulation of 50 or even less
Current State of Scholarly Publishing

World Share in Publication / R&D expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>World share in publications</th>
<th>World share in R&amp;D expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU-25</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
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</table>

Observation:

From the above one can point to the fact that African scholarly works are *poorly distributed, barely marketed* and *hardly accessed*.

The African scientists do not have access to all the scientific literature they need to enable science to progress as *efficiently* and *effectively* as possible.

Are we able to close the Knowledge gap between the North and the South?
The Open Journal System

OJS is an online system developed to

a. Setup new Online Journal (BOOKS) or upload existing Print journal online

b. OJS was designed to facilitate the development of open access, peer-reviewed publishing,

c. providing the technical infrastructure not only for the online presentation of journal articles,

d. but also an entire editorial management workflow, including article submission, multiple rounds of peer-review, and indexing.
Open Journal System - Functions

e. Is designed to be downloaded at no cost, installed locally and locally controlled

f. Allows editors to configure editorial requirements, sections, review process
Step 2: The Author

Authors are able to register and submit items to the journal directly through the journal’s web site.

Step 4: The Section Editor

Having received responsibility for a new submission, the Section Editor assigns it to one or more reviewers and manages the Review and Editing process.
Journals using Open Journal System

Today, over 1,000 journals are now using Open Journal Systems (OJS).

Of these:
99% are academic
49% are fully open access
40% are delayed open access

NOT ONE JOURNAL USING OJS was found to be entirely subscription-bound

and …
AJOL is using OJS to make available to the world over 260 journals.
The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals
Using online Publishing System
(OJS, E-publishing Toolkit, Hyper Journal etc)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ECONOMICS OF ONLINE SYSTEMS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online Management</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Online Publication</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Open Access</strong></td>
</tr>
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Journals can now be managed and published online with open source (free) software that offers economic and quality advantages for scholarly communication.
## The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

### ONLINE MANAGEMENT

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<th>Economic Advantage</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Provides and manages website for editorial and <strong>publishing processes</strong>, while reducing need for editorial office.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Reduces clerical costs of handling submissions, subscriptions, correspondence, filing, photocopying, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Authors do not need to print, photocopy, and mail papers.</td>
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### Quality Advantage
# The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

## ONLINE MANAGEMENT

### Economic Advantage
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2. Reduces clerical costs of handling submissions, subscriptions, correspondence, filing, photocopying, etc.
3. Authors do not need to print, photocopy, and mail papers.

### Quality Advantage
1. Improves administration and **record-keeping**, while reducing processing time (e.g. OJS)
2. Enables editors, reviewers, and authors from anywhere to work together.
3. Enables editors to spend more time helping authors by reducing their management time with the journal.
The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

<table>
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<th>ONLINE PUBLISHING</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Economic Advantage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Journal is immediately available to subscribers and readers anywhere with no distribution, mailing, handling costs.</td>
</tr>
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<td>2. Can be used with or without print edition, enabling low cost start up of new journals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. One important advantage is that it makes the growth of both new and existing journals much easier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. No cost in offering free subscriptions or sample issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quality Advantage</strong></td>
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# The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

## Online Publishing

### Economic Advantage
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2. Can be used with or without print edition, enabling low cost start up of new journals.
3. No cost in offering free subscriptions or sample issues.

### Quality Advantage
1. Immediate full-text indexing with Google, Google Scholar, Yahoo, etc. leading to increased readership and citations.\(^1\)
2. Google Scholar citation indexing from first issue, assists in gaining a listing with commercial indexes (ISI, etc).
3. Supports reference linking, as well as additional reading tools that can search related databases.
4. Ability to include data sets and supplementary materials.

### Notes
## The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

### OPEN ACCESS

<table>
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<tr>
<td>1. Able to work with traditional economic models through a variety of different approaches (later slide).</td>
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<td>2. Improved reputation (next slide) can enhance other economic models (subscriptions, ads, etc.).</td>
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| Quality Advantage |
## The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

### OPEN ACCESS

#### Economic Advantage
1. Able to work with traditional economic models through a variety of different approaches (next slide).
2. Improved reputation (see below) can enhance other economic models (subscriptions, ads, etc.).

#### Quality Advantage
1. Further increases readership and submissions to journal, with citations going up 25-250\% depending on the field and journal.\(^1\)
2. The increased citation improves reputation and thus qualification for commercial indexing (e.g., ISI).
3. Provides greater public, professional, and educational contribution.
4. Maximizes critical scrutiny and appreciation of work, as well as global establishment of intellectual property claim.

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Note

## The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

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<tr>
<td>Archival OA</td>
<td>A more open approach to knowledge online (e.g., open biology, open data, Creative Commons) has led to different types of sustainable Open Access for journals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delayed OA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online OA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development OA</td>
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<td>Hybrid OA</td>
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## The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Archival OA*</td>
<td>Permit authors to archive pre-/postprint in institutional repository or own website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delayed OA*</td>
<td>Provide free access 6-12 months after subscriber access to print/online edition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online OA*</td>
<td>Provide free access to online edition, with subscriptions retained for print edition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development OA*</td>
<td>Provide free access to institutions and individuals in developing nations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid OA*</td>
<td>Enable authors or institutions to purchase open access for specific articles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete OA</td>
<td>Offer immediate access without restrictions, using article fees and grants.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OA with journal subscriptions (evidence to date shows no affect on subscription sales).
The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

What it all adds up to...

Online Management
Traditional Economic Models

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Enhanced Quality
Improved Economies
The Economic & Qlity Sustainability of Journals

What it all adds up to…

Online Publishing
Online Management
Traditional Economic Models

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Increased Access
Enhanced Quality +
Improved Economies +
The Economic & Quality Sustainability of Journals

What it all adds up to…

Open Access
Online Publishing
Online Management
Traditional Economic Models

Increased Access +
Enhanced Quality + +
Improved Economies +
Thank you for listening