

A researcher perspective: what they want and how to pay for it

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RIN








12th Fiesole Retreat
Leuven 9 April 2010

1. Researchers as creators
2. Researchers as users
3. Costs and funding

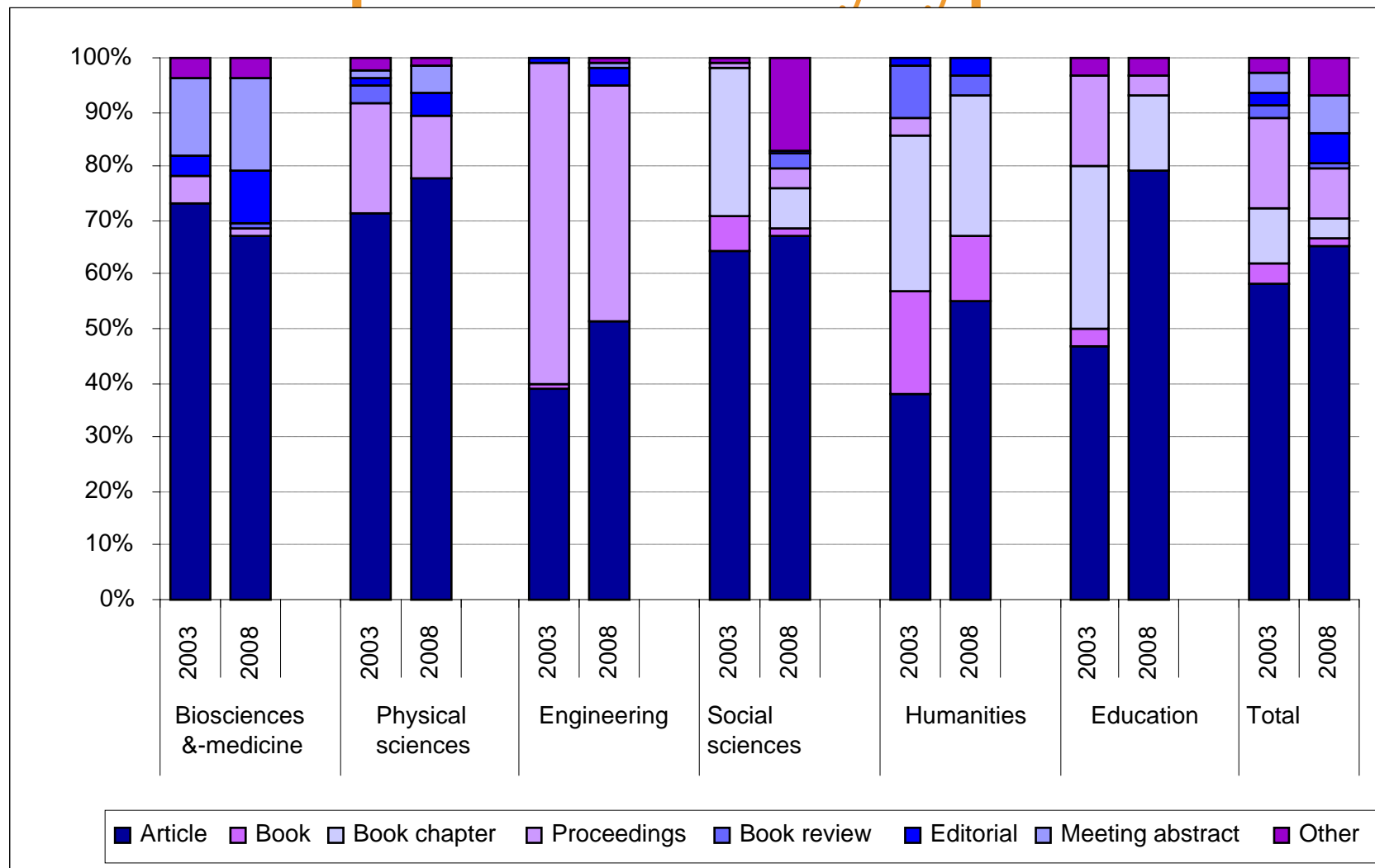
1. Researchers as creators

where, when and how to publish?

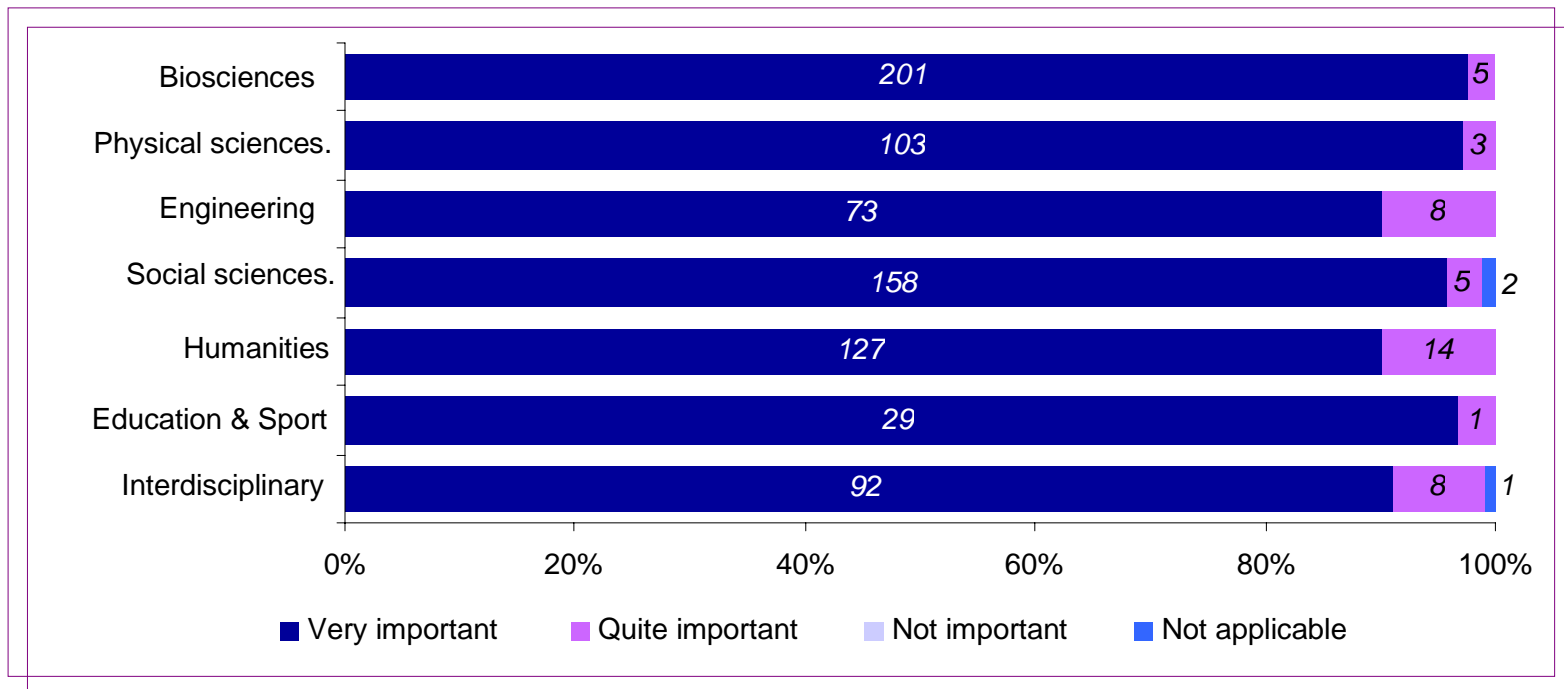
key motivations

-  register claim
-  maximise dissemination
-  peer recognition (and the rewards that flow from that)
-  tensions between effective dissemination and recognition/prestige
-  power of disciplinary cultures
 -  and some important disciplinary differences
-  mixed messages from funders and institutions

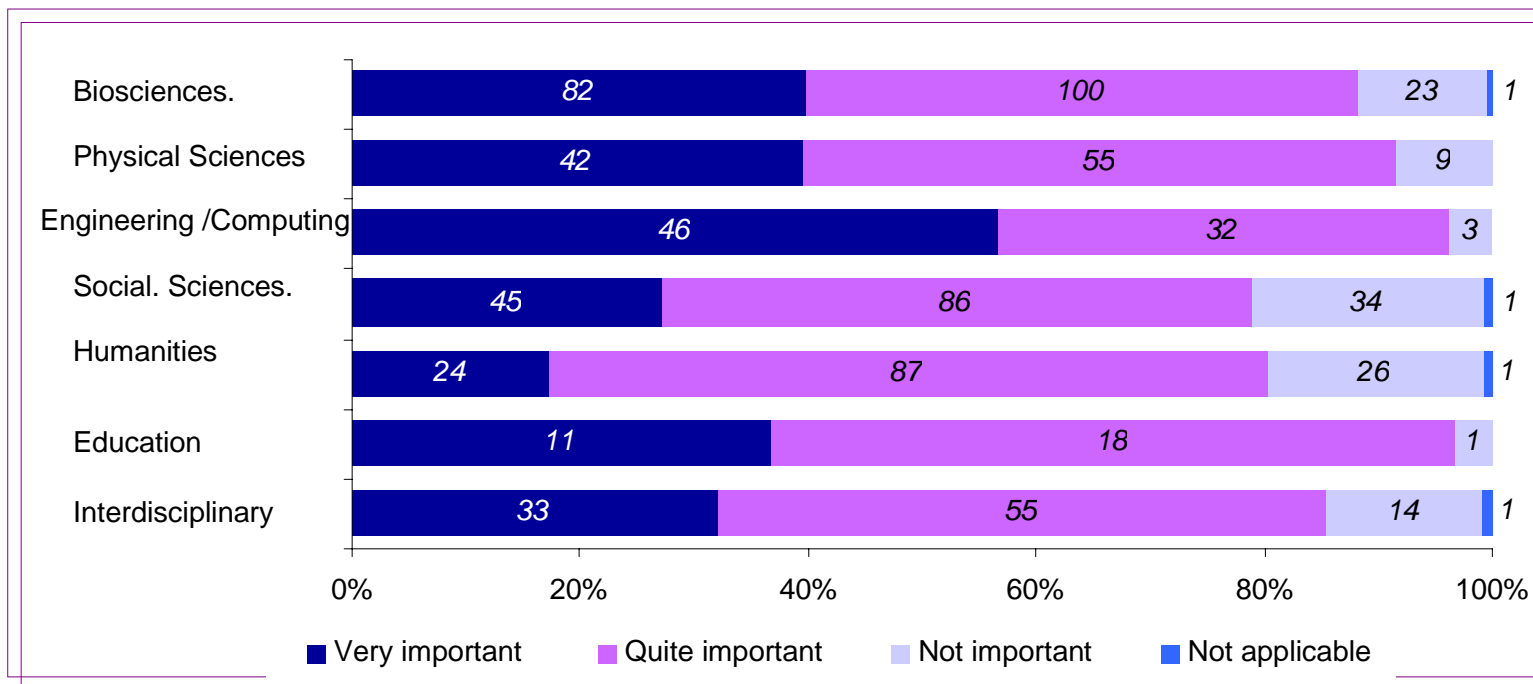
publications by type



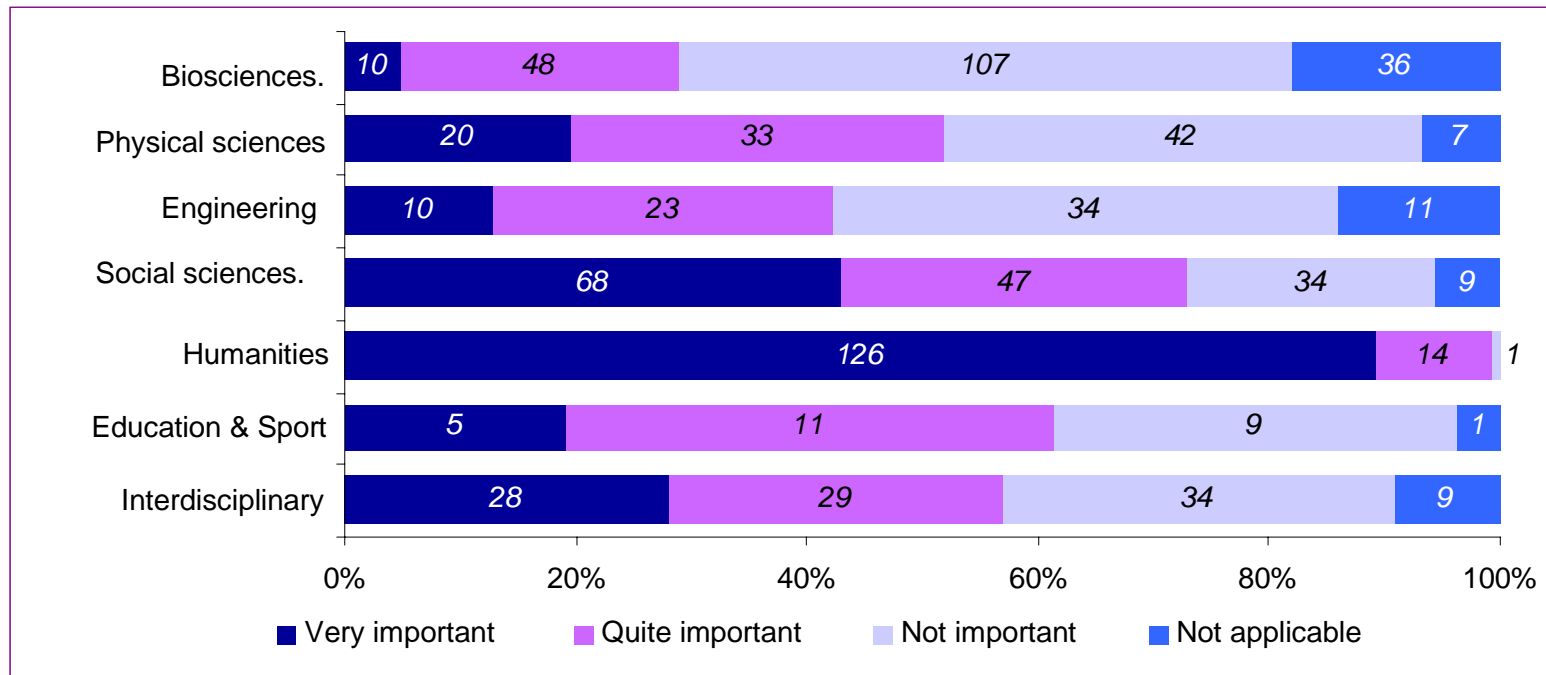
importance of scholarly journals



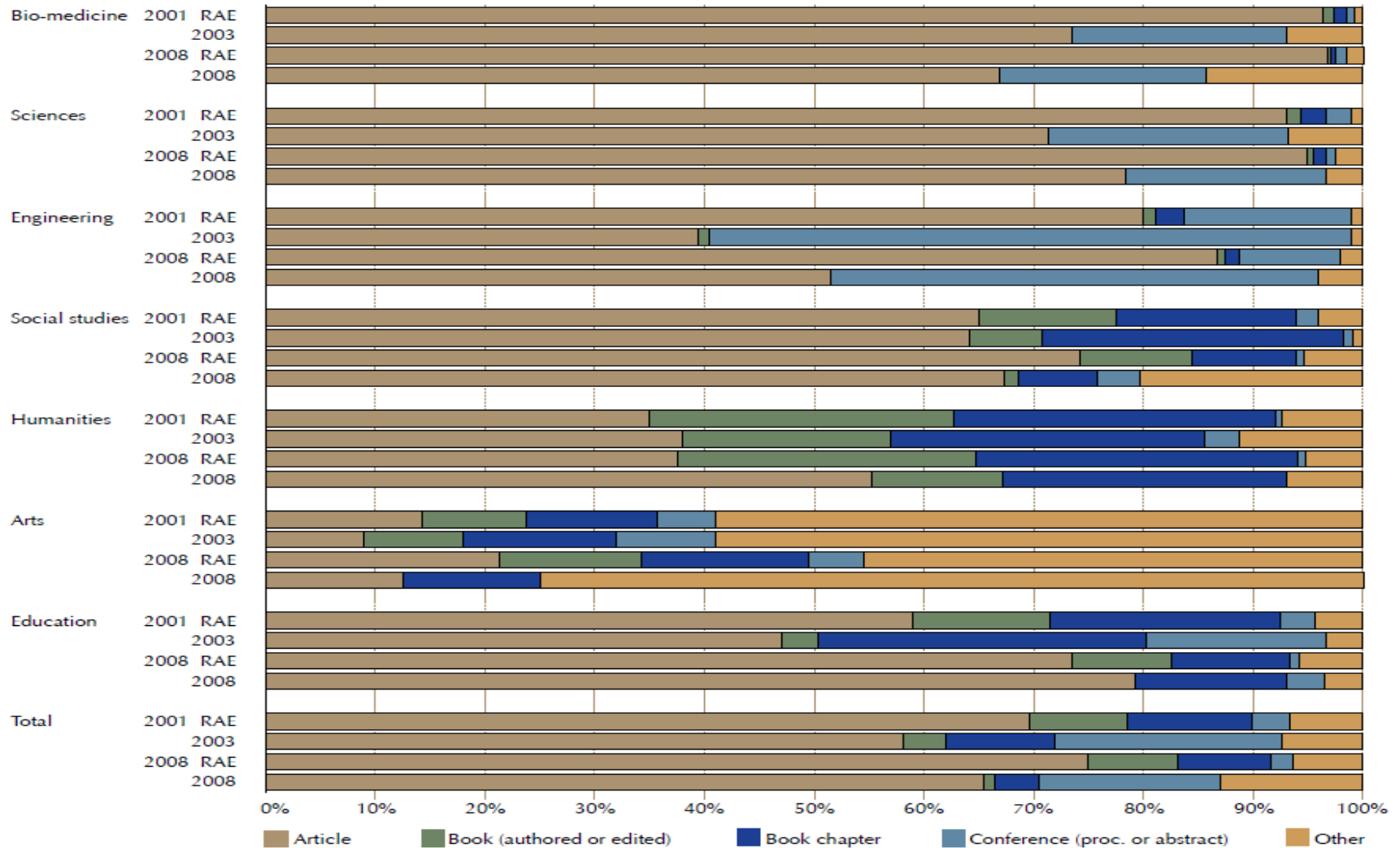
importance of conference proceedings



importance of monographs



what's published and what's submitted to the RAE



three key messages

- differences between
 - what researchers actually produce
 - what they think is important
 - what they submit to be assessed
- increasing dominance of journal articles across all disciplines
- the influence of performance assessment
 - individual, departmental, institutional
 - roles of peer review and of (increasingly sophisticated) bibliometrics
 - written policies vs perceptions of how it's done

....and an important footnote

- ▣ increasing collaboration → more co-authorship
 - ▣ implications for measures of productivity and impact

	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	over 65
Write a blog					
Never	79%	80%	85%	91%	100%
Occasionally	6%	12%	10%	6%	0%
Frequently (At least once a week)	4%	6%	2%	0%	0%
I do this outside of work	11%	2%	3%	3%	0%
Comment on other people's blogs					
Never	69%	68%	81%	82%	93%
Occasionally	17%	22%	16%	15%	7%
Frequently (At least once a week)	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
I do this outside of work	15%	8%	3%	3%	0%
Contribute to a private wiki					
Never	80%	75%	78%	85%	86%
Occasionally	18%	17%	17%	14%	7%
Frequently (At least once a week)	2%	8%	4%	1%	7%
I do this outside of work	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Contribute to a public wiki (e.g., Wikipedia)					
Never	69%	74%	75%	80%	80%
Occasionally	22%	21%	23%	18%	13%
Frequently (At least once a week)	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%
I do this outside of work	10%	4%	2%	3%	7%
Add comments to online journal articles or more general media publications					
Never	81%	76%	80%	73%	93%
Occasionally	17%	21%	14%	27%	7%
Frequently (At least once a week)	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%
I do this outside of work	2%	2%	4%	0%	0%
Post slides, texts, images, code, algorithms, videos or other media on an open content sharing site					
Never	65%	56%	52%	52%	93%
Occasionally	19%	30%	40%	30%	7%
Frequently (At least once a week)	8%	10%	5%	11%	0%
I do this outside of work	8%	4%	3%	6%	0%

prospects for change?

- strong(ish) sense that further change is on the way
- relatively small groups of early adopters
- power of disciplinary cultures
- power of recognition/reward systems

2. Researchers as users

what do they want to find and use?

	Yes	No
journal articles	99.5%	0.5%
chapters in multi-authored books	97.0%	3.0%
organization's web sites	90.8%	9.2%
expertise of individuals	90.1%	9.9%
conference proceedings	85.8%	14.2%
monographs	83.3%	16.7%
datasets – published or unpublished	62.0%	38.0%
original text sources, e.g. newspapers, historical records	61.5%	38.5%
preprints	54.7%	45.3%
non-text sources, e.g. images, audio, artifacts	47.0%	53.0%
other	18.0%	82.0%

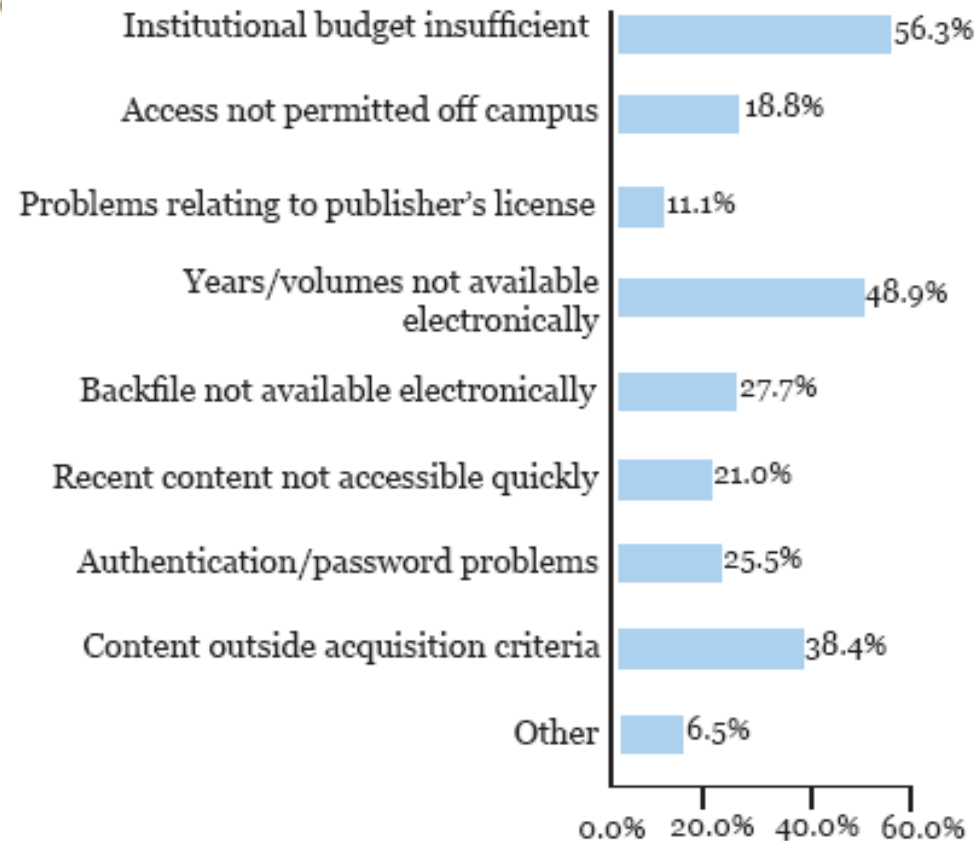
e-journal usage in the UK

Table 22: Annual COUNTER downloads (CIBER estimates based on Sconul)

Mean for sector (Huber's M-estimator)					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	783,870	1,377,603	1,846,121	2,211,245	2,795,825
Pre-1992 institutions	439,813	632,144	665,926	819,335	1,001,521
Post-1992 institutions	283,760	332,251	443,027	521,350	592,253
Total	432,693	632,758	772,600	930,415	1,134,165
Index 2004=100					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	100	175.7	235.5	282.1	356.7
Pre-1992 institutions	100	143.7	151.4	186.3	227.7
Post-1992 institutions	100	117.1	156.1	183.7	208.7
Total	100	146.2	178.6	215.0	262.1

but access still causes problems....

Figure 2: Reasons why content believed to be unavailable



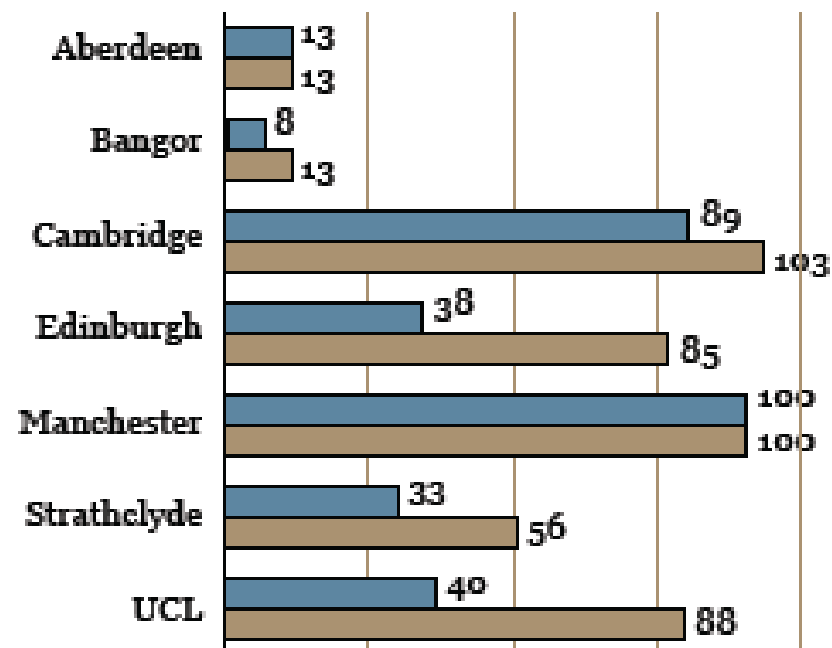
usage in different disciplines.....

	Journal titles viewed	Most popular 5% of journals accounted for % use	Page views (<i>average per session</i>)	Abstract views (<i>% sessions</i>)	Gateways (<i>% page views arriving via gateways</i>)
Chemistry	196	39.5	3.2	23.3	49.2
Environmental sciences	248	29.6	3.6	22.7	41.4
Economics	132	46.9	3.8	30.4	19
Life sciences	531	38.1	2.0	19.5	65.9
Physics	204	26.6	2.5	20.1	57.8

levels of usage in different universities....

Economics

- Relative use
- Relative size



profile of journals varies too.....

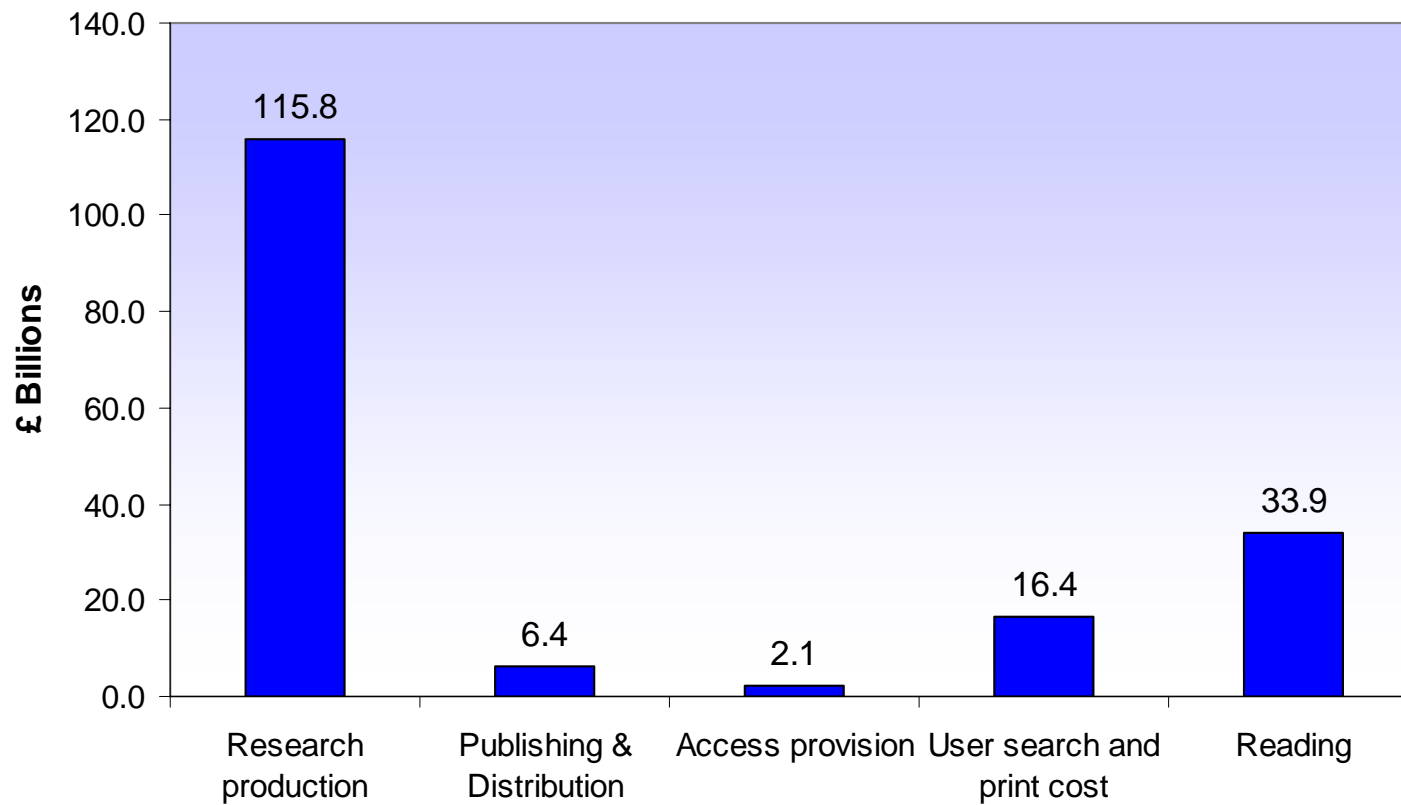
Case study	Average impact factor of journals viewed	Relative impact
Aberdeen	3.0	1.2
Bangor	2.3	0.9
Cambridge	5.0	2.0
Centre for Ecology and Hyrology	2.6	1.0
Edinburgh	3.7	1.5
Manchester	3.9	1.6
Rothamsted	2.6	1.0
Strathclyde	2.7	1.1
Swansea	2.5	1.0
UCL	4.1	1.7

three key messages.....

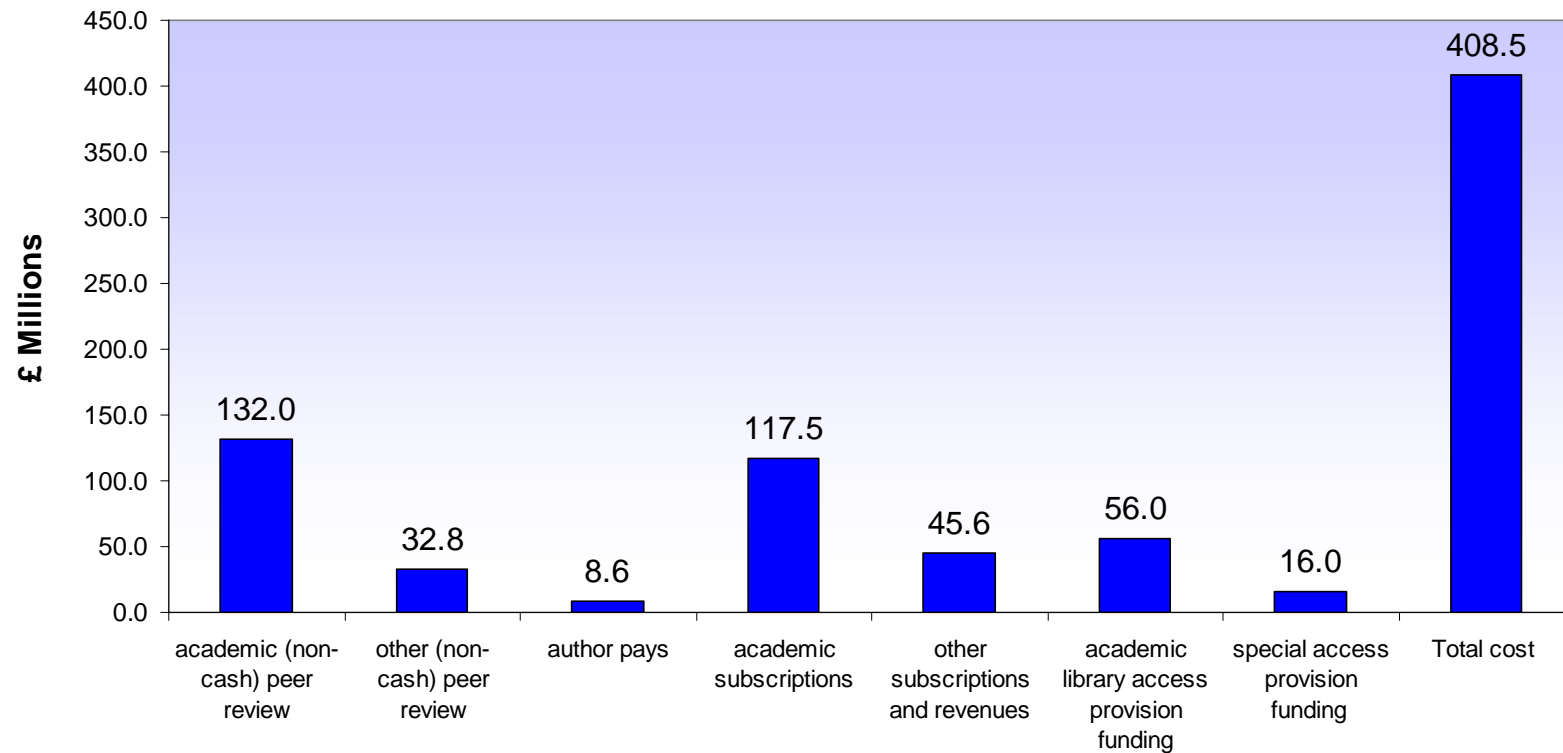
- we haven't come to the end of the success story for e-journals
- we haven't entirely cracked the access issue
- we don't understand enough about reasons for variations in patterns of usage

3. Costs and Funding

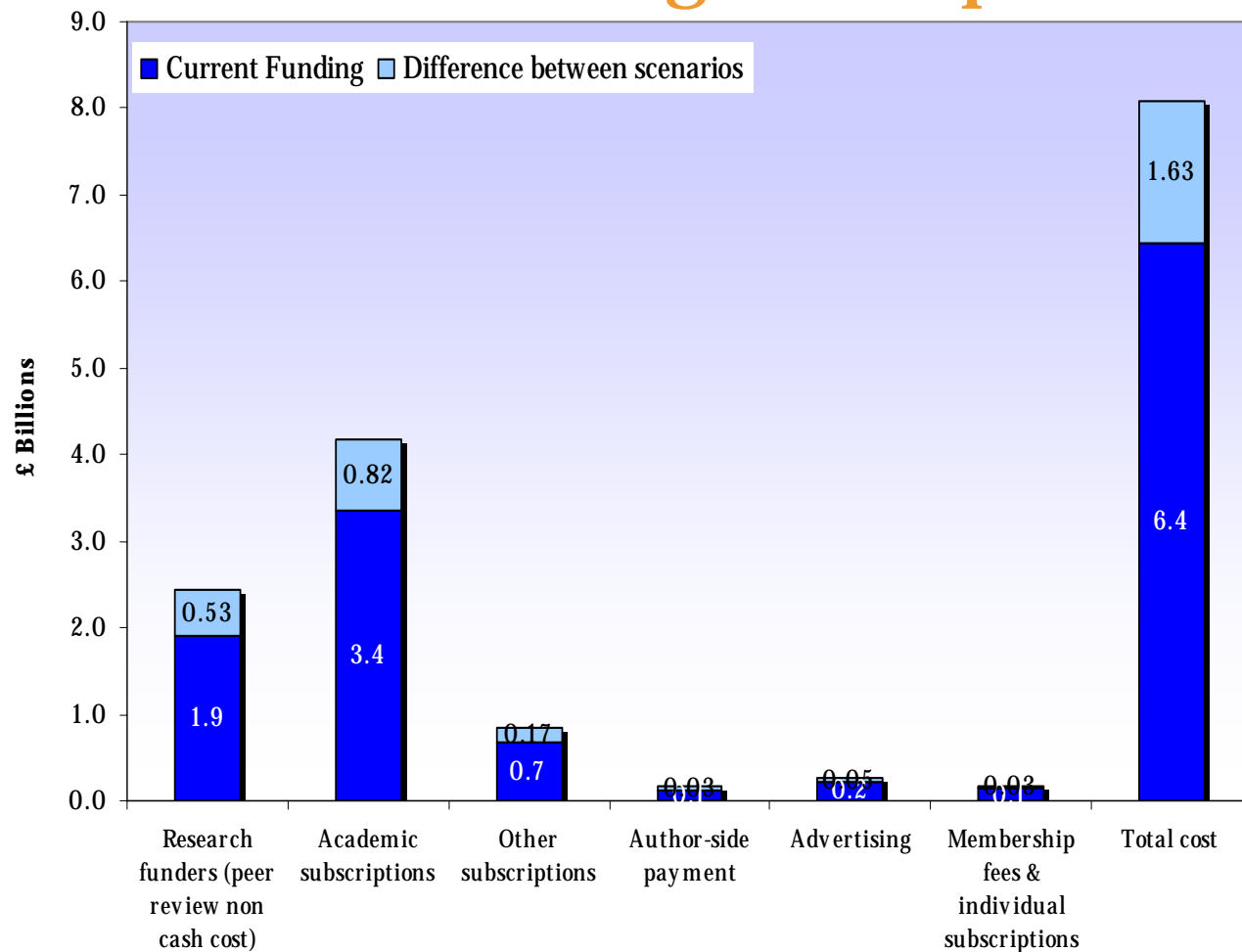
overall costs of the current system



UK contribution to meeting publishing and distribution costs



Increases in article production over 10 years: funding consequences



 Sources of funding and other contributions

rising costs for libraries....

Table 7: Expenditure on journals, all formats, at constant prices (Sconul/CIBER)

Mean for sector					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	£2,106,712	£2,125,288	£2,151,794	£2,613,344	£2,570,239
Pre-1992 institutions	£761,958	£781,493	£794,405	£837,120	£864,936
Post-1992 institutions	£450,127	£451,434	£488,010	£484,714	£510,960
Total	£859,228	£870,952	£896,100	£990,559	£1,005,685
Index 2004=100					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	100	100.9	102.1	124.0	122.0
Pre-1992 institutions	100	102.6	104.3	109.9	113.5
Post-1992 institutions	100	100.3	108.4	107.7	113.5
Total	100	101.4	104.3	115.3	117.0

but research income rising too.....

Table 26: Research grants and contracts at constant prices, £000s (Hesa/CIBER)

Mean for sector					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	£94,427	£98,087	£95,797	£112,302	£121,336
Pre-1992 institutions	£18,236	£18,853	£19,985	£20,068	£21,671
Post-1992 institutions	£3,403	£3,618	£3,618	£3,642	£3,807
Total	£24,937	£25,901	£25,978	£28,822	£31,082
Index 2004=100					
YEAR	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	100	103.9	101.5	118.9	128.5
Pre-1992 institutions	100	103.4	109.6	110.0	118.8
Post-1992 institutions	100	106.3	106.3	107.0	111.9
Total	100	103.9	104.2	115.6	124.6

and rising usage means that costs per download are falling.....

Table 23: Direct cost per download at constant prices (Sconul/COUNTER/CIBER estimates)

YEAR	Mean for sector (Huber's M-estimator)					Index 2004=100				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Russell Group	£1.73	£0.99	£0.82	£0.74	£0.66	100	57.2	47.4	42.8	38.2
Pre-1992 institutions	£1.20	£0.96	£0.98	£0.91	£0.81	100	80.0	81.7	75.8	67.5
Post-1992 institutions	£1.01	£0.85	£0.73	£0.68	£0.65	100	84.2	72.3	67.3	64.4
Total	£1.19	£0.91	£0.83	£0.77	£0.70	100	76.5	69.7	64.7	58.8

relationships between usage and research success???

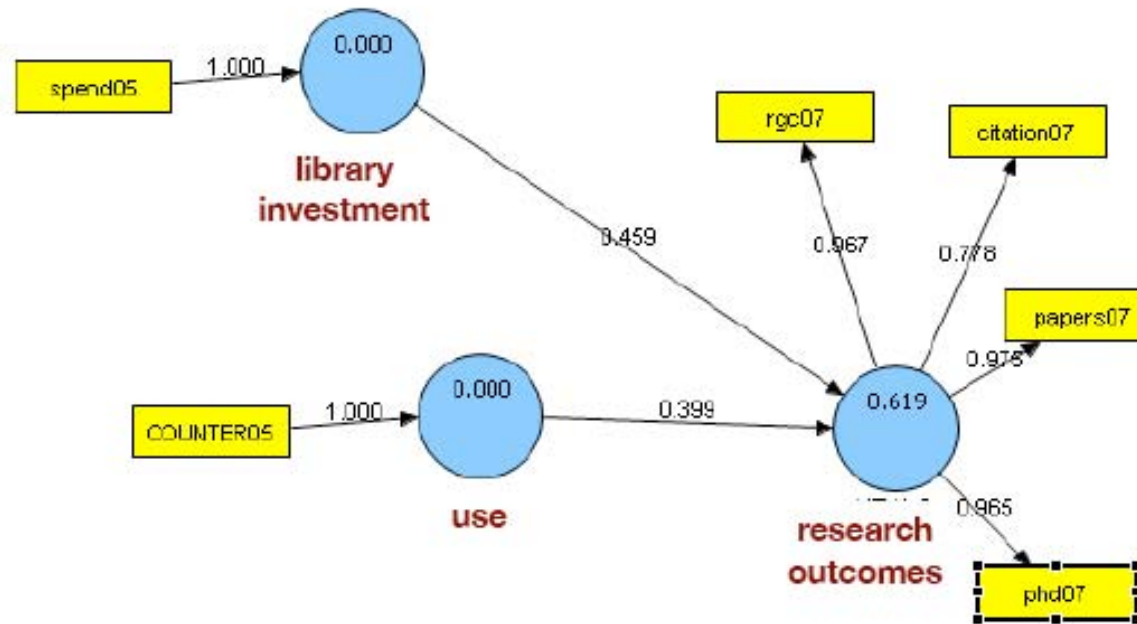
RGC income and article downloads, 2006/07
n=12 UK universities

Unc
Resear

e-j
//

Hc1

Hc2



COUNTER ARTICLE DOWNLOADS

three key messages

- the costs of scholarly communications fall mainly on universities and on researchers
- costs are rising in real terms
- there are strong but elusive relationships between expenditure, usage and research outcomes

4. A coda.....

transitions....

- policy and financial drivers for change are strong
 - but transitions cost money
- behavioural drivers are less strong
 - and in difficult economic circumstances, researchers will fight harder for funds to sustain their research than for funds to support the information services on which they depend.....
- we need to understand more about what transitions might look like

Understanding transitions: a portfolio of work

- ***Transitions to e-only publication***, to investigate the barriers – from the perspectives of libraries, publishers and users – to moving to e-only publishing, and how those barriers might be overcome;
- ***Gaps in access***, to investigate the extent to which journal articles and other research outputs are available, or not, to different parts of the research and other communities; and to identify priorities in seeking to fill gaps in access, barriers to filling them, and actions that might be taken to that end;
- ***Dynamics of improving access to research papers***, to develop a better understanding of the dynamics of transition towards some plausible end-points, and the costs and benefits (cash and non-cash), opportunities and risks involved..
- ***Futures for scholarly communications***, to develop a series of challenging scenarios for scholarly communications in ten years' time, bearing in mind current trends and underlying drivers in user cultures, needs and expectations; and likely developments in technologies and services.



Thank you

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