



Keynote – Fiesole meeting

Saturday 14 April

Blaise Simqu, CEO, SAGE
with Stephen Barr, President, SAGE
International

Los Angeles | London | New Delhi
Singapore | Washington DC

Academic publishing in the spotlight

“Who are the most ruthless capitalists in the western world? Whose monopolistic practices make Walmart look like a corner shop and Rupert Murdoch a socialist? You won't guess the answer in a month of Sundays. While there are plenty of candidates, my vote goes not to the banks, the oil companies or the health insurers, but – wait for it – to academic publishers. Theirs might sound like a fusty and insignificant sector. It is anything but. Of all corporate scams, the racket they run is most urgently in need of referral to the competition authorities.”

George Monbiot, The Guardian, 29 August 2011



- **SOPA**
- **PIPA**
- **RWA**



RWA

AAP – ‘Why the research works act is necessary’: “While the federal government may fund research or some portion of it, it does not fund the scholarly, technological or financial investments made for value-added journal articles produced by private-sector publishers. The federal government should not be permitted to give away these private-sector products without the prior consent of the publishers.”

RWA reactions

“Academic publishers have become the enemies of science”

Mike Taylor, The Guardian, 16 Jan 2012

“This is the moment academic publishers gave up all pretence of being on the side of scientists. Their rhetoric has traditionally been of partnering with scientists, but the truth is that for some time now scientific publishers have been anti-science and anti-publication. The Research Works Act, introduced in the US Congress on 16 December, amounts to a declaration of war by the publishers.”

*Dr Mike Taylor is a research associate at the Department of Earth Sciences,
University of Bristol*

FRPAA

“Each Federal research public access policy shall provide for—

- (1) submission to the Federal agency of an electronic version of the author’s final manuscript of original research papers that have been accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals and result from research supported, in whole or in part, from funding by the Federal Government;
- (2) the incorporation of all changes resulting from the peer review publication process in the manuscript described under paragraph (1);
- (3) the replacement of the final manuscript with the final published version if the publisher consents to the replacement; and the goals of the Federal agency for functionality and interoperability are retained;
- (4) free online public access to such final peer-reviewed manuscripts or published versions as soon as practicable, but not later than 6 months after publication in peer-reviewed journals; etc”

Wellcome Trust

- In 2005 the Trust introduced an OA mandate that requires all its funded researchers to either self-archive their final peer-reviewed manuscript in the UKPMC repository within six months of publication, or to publish them in Gold or Hybrid journals. To help them do the latter the Trust agreed to pay any OA charges incurred.
- Costs arising from the Trust's OA policy have grown over the past five years from £622,000 (\$1 million) to just over £3 million
- In a wholly OA environment Wellcome expects these costs to grow to around \$12m per annum, representing around 1.25% of its total research spend
- 2011 announce launch of eLife, a new Open Access journal in collaboration with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Max Planck Society.

Public Library of Science

- PLoS One articles published:

2006	138
2007	1,200
2008	2,800 – largest OA journal
2009	4,406 – 3 rd largest journal
2010	6,749 – largest journal by count
2011	13,798 – over 1% of all PMC articles

Some key questions

- The double dipping question: have publishers committed to offset income from OA fees in hybrid journals against their subscription income?
- The sustainability question: will libraries continue long term to purchase journals whose content is available through repositories after 6 months? What embargo would be sufficient?

Row Labels	Halftime
Behavioral Science	5 Years
Biomedical and Life Sciences	3 Years
Business and Economics	4 Years
Chemistry and Materials Science	4 Years
Computer Science	4 Years
Earth and Environmental Science	4 Years
Engineering	4 Years
Humanities, Social Sciences and Law	4 Years
Mathematics and Statistics	8 Years
Medicine	2 Years
Physics and Astronomy	6 Years
Grand Total	3.5 years

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- The sustainability question: will libraries continue long term to purchase journals whose content is available through repositories after 6 months? What embargo would be sufficient?
- The funding question: will other funders join Wellcome in recognizing that gold OA charges are a reasonable proportion of the costs of funding research?
- The quality question: does a transition to an author pays model, or to publication in journals like PLoS with lesser selectivity, compromise anything critical to the functioning of science?
- The risk question: is OA an overriding goal which should be pursued, even if this entails risks to established models of how science works? Or is preserving those models a priority against which any steps towards OA should be assessed?

“The economics of open access are crucial, but they should not dominate how we think about scientific publishing. We must protect the core principles of scientific publishing no matter what the model: the critical, independent scrutiny of scientific claims and long-term archiving of validated research.”

Maria Leptin, Director, EMBO
Science, March 2012



About SAGE

- **SAGE was founded in 1965 by Sara Miller McCune with a mission to support the dissemination of scholarly research and education.**





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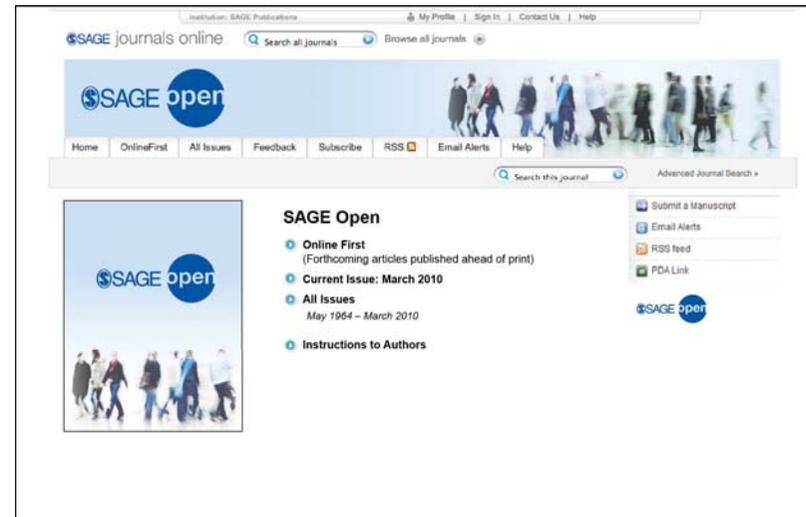
SAGE Future



- **Sara's will transfers ownership of SAGE to charities and establishes a trust whose purpose is to maintain the company as an independent publisher for the indefinite future.**

SAGE steps in Open Access

- SAGE Choice
- SAGE-Hindawi journals
- Joint projects including Study on OA Publishing with CERN, Springer, Max Planck etc
- SAGE Open



ICA Newsletter

- “I am very disturbed, as was the colleague who received the email, by the introduction of a "pay to play" system in which authors pay to have their work published.”
- Larry Gross, ICA President, 2012





Thank you

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