

The Royal Society of Biology

Research Communication Newsletter

A collection of online information and opinion pieces.

March 2020

This newsletter provides links to published news articles, preserving the original title and summary line. Views or opinions presented are those of the original author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Royal Society of Biology.

Top story(ies)

[Publishers make coronavirus \(COVID-19\) content freely available and reusable](#)

COVID-19 Bulletin

For further detail on COVID-19 research, news and updates, RSB has developed a periodic bulletin collating some of the bioscience behind the outbreak and response, see [our webpages](#) for further information.

Royal Society of Biology news

UKRI Open Access Review Consultation

UKRI is reviewing its open access policies for peer-reviewed research articles and academic books that result from research supported by UKRI. UKRI will review and develop its open access policies to ensure policy is joined up across UKRI constituent bodies, encourage the development of new models of open access publishing and support the adoption of open access through collaboration and alignment with national and international partners. The RSB response to this consultation is currently in draft. Please contact consultation@rsb.org.uk for more information and if you would like to contribute.

Closes: 29 May 2020

Spotlight on open access debate

[Open Access and Plan S: 5 key activities](#)

[Subscribe to Open: A Mutual Assurance Approach to Open Access](#)

[Publishers roll out alternative routes to open access](#)

[Springer Nature achieves new milestone in 2019 in publishing over 100,000 OA articles in one year, and is the largest OA publisher of primary research](#)

[Wiley strikes 'read-and-publish' deal with UK universities](#)

Four-year deal with Wiley hailed as 'step-change' moment in switch to open-access publishing

[The "Pure Publish" Agreement](#)

Publication policy and debate

[Guest Post — Report: Gender Diversity in Research is Improving, But We Still Have Work To Do](#)

[Hundreds of scientists have peer-reviewed for predatory journals](#)

Many of these titles have some editorial oversight — but the quality of reviews is in question.

[UK universities ‘paid big publishers £1 billion’ in past decade](#)

Huge bill for journal access revealed as UK institutions begin strategy talks over Elsevier renewal deal

[How to Improve Academic Publishing for Early Career Researchers: Our Letter to the Editor](#)

[Unlock ways to share data on peer review](#)

Journals, funders and scholars must work together to create an infrastructure to study peer review.

[In praise of replication studies and null results](#)

More funders and publishers must support such work and emphasize its value to the research community.

International publishing

[China increases remote access to scientific information for students in response to Coronavirus lock down](#)

[New Chinese Policy Could Reshape Global STM Publishing](#)

[French National Fund for Open Science support to three international infrastructures](#)

[Scholars in poorer states should pay less to publish, funders say](#)

High APCs are a barrier to academics in low- and middle-income countries, says Coalition S

[White House formally invites public comment on open-access policies](#)

[First US-based university press signs Jisc transitional open access agreement for UK higher education](#)

Metrics

[New: Journal Metrics for Editors With Wiley Journal Insights](#)

Publication ethics

[Editor’s investigation reveals missing and suspicious data](#)

Researchers must be prepared to share their raw data if their work is to be considered scientifically sound, says geneticist

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