Open Access To Academic Scholarship: Lessons and Ideas for KU Graduate Students

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Why Open Access???
Monograph and Serial Expenditures in ARL Libraries, 1986-2006*

Serial Expenditures (+321%)
Serial Unit Cost (+180%)
Monograph Expenditures (+82%)
Monograph Unit Cost (+78%)
Serials Purchased (+51%)
Monographs Purchased (+1%)

*Includes electronic resources from 1999-2000 onward.
Why Should You Care?

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• Can’t have access to the literature
• Can enjoy open access advantages
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as I am able within the constraints of national law, I hereby assign the rights of the above-named article to the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene according to the terms above.

Manuscript Number: ATMM-12-0452.R1 (if known)

Article title: Current knowledge of Loxomma vectors in Mexico: how species' geographic distributions relate to transmission areas

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Print Name

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Charge is $25 per figure.
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How Big is the Access Problem?
An Experiment for EEB Scholarship

Note that:
- only 2 colleagues achieve 100% success
- no US colleague had 100% success
- access can be quite unsatisfactory, even in the US

Percent Success
- 10.000000 - 21.000000
- 21.000001 - 41.000000
- 41.000001 - 71.000000
- 71.000001 - 91.000000
- 91.000001 - 100.000000
How Available are Different Journals?
i.e., percent success of colleagues in accessing papers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Success rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Systematic Biology</td>
<td>91.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Biology and Evolution</td>
<td>91.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecology</td>
<td>73.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nature</td>
<td>70.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecology Letters</td>
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<tr>
<td>BioScience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution</td>
<td>55.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal of Mammalogy</td>
<td>44.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology</td>
<td>41.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herpetologica</td>
<td>41.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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The Open Access citation advantage: Studies and results to date


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of OA citation advantage when found (and where explicitly stated by discipline)</th>
<th>% increase in citations with Open Access</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physics/astronomy</td>
<td>170 to 580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>35 to 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>-5 to 36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical engineering</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer science</td>
<td>157</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political science</td>
<td>86</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>300 to 450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications studies (IT)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural sciences</td>
<td>200 to 600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic publishing has been “bought out” by an opportunistic commercial publishing world, and is fast becoming inaccessible to the academic community, and particularly to the global scholarly community.
What Can You Do?

• Select journals for publication at least partly with an eye to open access considerations
• Read copyright transfer agreements carefully and negotiate to retain as much of your rights as you can
• Participate (with your KU faculty colleagues) in KU’s faculty open access program
• Step up to the plate and develop a KU student open access program?
More What You Can Do...


• Start a student group: http://www.righttoresearch.org/act/organizations/index.shtml

• They can join the coalition: http://www.righttoresearch.org/act/join/index.shtml

• Become the first graduate student body (in US) to pass an OA resolution!
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