Open Access: Challenges and Opportunity

Background

- Effective 2021, the Plan S initiative is going to bring about a major shift in ways scholarly communication has been traditionally carried out. All public-funded research output are demanded to be openly available upon publication, with copyright owned by authors. [Source]

- To prevent double-dipping from both subscription fee and Article Processing Charge (APC), funders, research institution, and libraries are finding the best way to efficiently allocate budget. One of the examples is negotiating transformative agreement with publishers. [Source]

- With publications being openly accessible, funders, as well as institutions, are taking research outreach more seriously and are encouraging scholars to communicate their research better to harness social impact. [Example]

Challenges

- Structure an effective budget management system to balance between APC and subscription fee
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- Improve university branding through showcasing research impact
- Implement OA policy and educate researchers to be OA compliant
- Publish in OA compliant journals approved by funding agencies
- Engage in active outreach planning and execution to gather research impact
- Inaccurate mindset of just publishing in Scopus/WebofScience-indexed journals
To move towards a seamless OA compliant workflow, here are some possible systematic approaches:

**Manuscript Submission**
- Journal selection compliant to funder’s OA requirement
- Minimize the risk for predatory publishing

**Budget Management**
- Manage fund allocation between subscription fee and APC
- Monitor APC transactions
- Improve research visibility and citation
- Observe live publication performance and collect research impact evidence

**Publication Status Reporting**
- Continuous tracking of data and analytics on outputs per grant, subject area, etc.
- Special terms between institutions and publishers could be applied without effort

**Research Outreach Planning**
- Improve research visibility and citation
- Observe live publication performance and collect research impact evidence

**Example of Solution Providers**

**Chronos**
- Transparent research funding, APC and publishing management

**Kudos**
- Research outreach and impact evidence management

**iES Research**
- Sharing research story globally, improve research visibility and increase scholarly engagement

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