

Towards Interoperable and Equitable Scholarly Communications Ecosystems: Values-based Questions to Ask Infrastructure Providers

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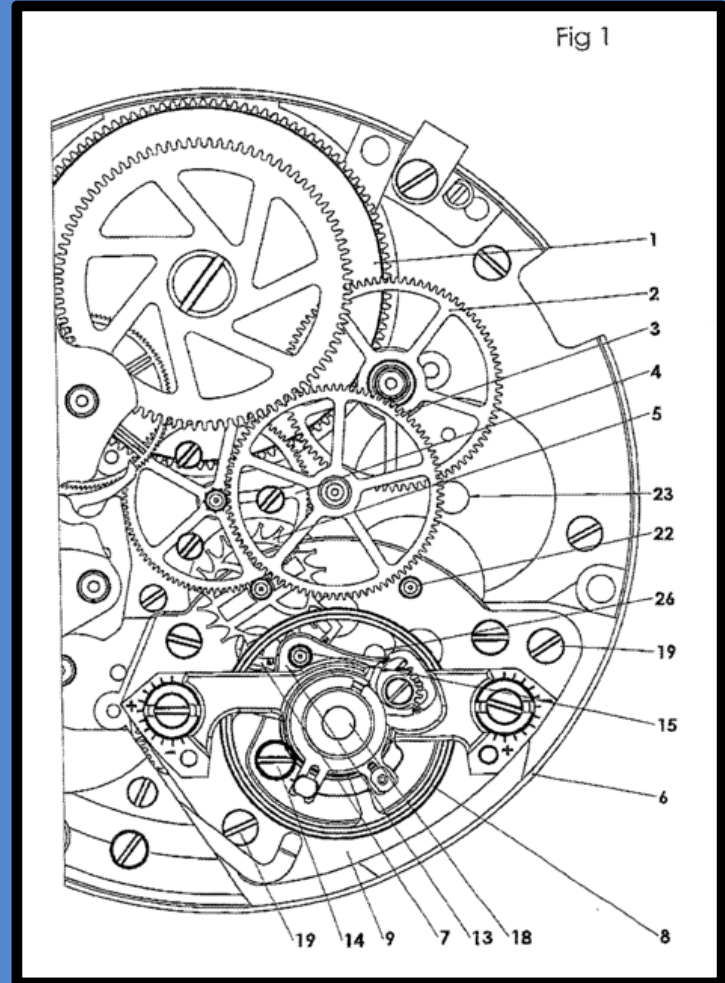


@UCSDScholCom
@cni_org #cni18f

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The brief

- Describe, share, and get input on a pair of workshopped tools that are:
 - intended to raise awareness of an issue among campus stakeholders.
 - guide campus stakeholders to make more intentional, values-based, and economical infrastructure decisions
- What is the issue?
- Background to the project
- The tools



The issue- commodification

“The current scholarly communication landscape is populated by a variety of actors and powered by **an ever-increasing array of complementary and competitive systems for the production, publication, and distribution of scholarship.**”

Clement, G., Agate, N., Searle, S., Kingsley, D. and Vandegrift, M., 2018.
JLSC Board Editorial 2018. JLSC, 6(1), p.eP2261. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2261>

Actors [Stakeholders]: Operating in silos and unaware of the connections across the ecosystem

Landscape [ecosystem]: Includes all of the products and processes that result in tenure and promotion or winning grant funding

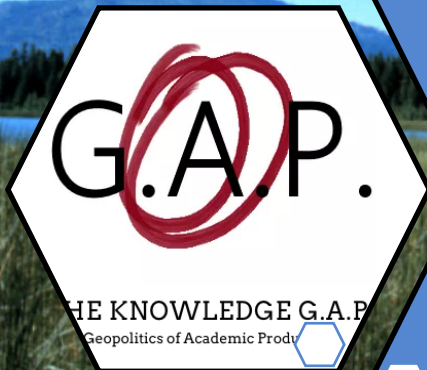
The

- Scholarly communication ecosystem has become a battleground
- The big infrastructure providers are intent on owning the entire ecosystem
- Conversations and actions are mostly concentrated on values statements or publishing negotiations
- How do we make principles and statements actionable? How can we help our institutions benefit more and buy-back less?



By Adam Jones from Kelowna, BC, Canada - Replica of Trojan Horse –
Canakkale Waterfront – Dardanelles - Turkey, CC BY-SA 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=64144380>

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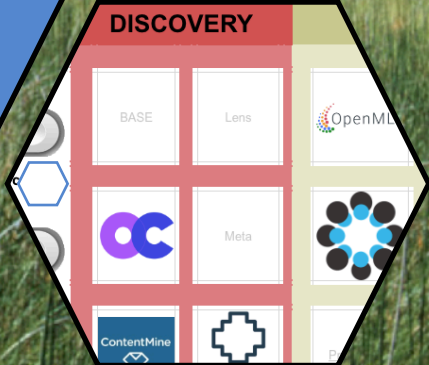


Outsource infrastructure?

Of Vendors and Values



CP20A18





Meanwhile at UC San Diego

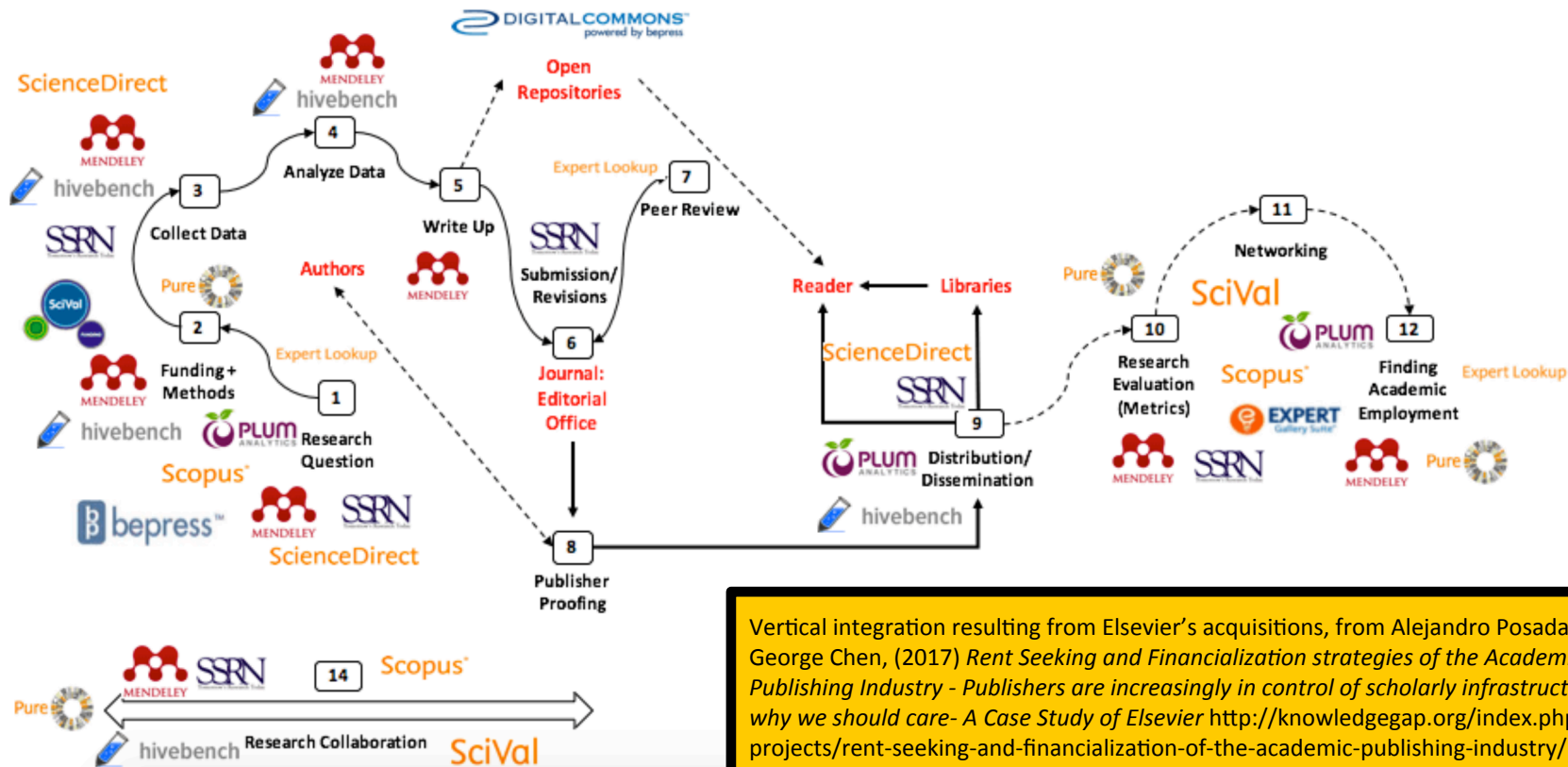
'Balletje balletje' Parijs on flickr <https://flic.kr/p/Qkpvf9> CC-BY 2.0

The Academic Knowledge Production Process

The Research Process

The Publishing Process

The Research Evaluation Process



Vertical integration resulting from Elsevier's acquisitions, from Alejandro Posada and George Chen, (2017) *Rent Seeking and Financialization strategies of the Academic Publishing Industry - Publishers are increasingly in control of scholarly infrastructure and why we should care- A Case Study of Elsevier* <http://knowledgegap.org/index.php/sub-projects/rent-seeking-and-financialization-of-the-academic-publishing-industry/preliminary-findings/>

Fundamental Truth: If we do not create the open scholarly commons, Elsevier, Springer, Wiley, et. al. ***will own the scholarly record and continue to exploit the academy.*** What should be a public good will be used for private gain.

- David Lewis and Mike Roy

*“Let me make it clear that we are not **EVER** going to take our hands off the content,”*

- Youngsuk ‘YS’ Chi
Chairman, Elsevier



Roger C. Schonfeld  @rschon · Nov 29

Guthrie: In the shift to analytics, how are you planning to lead in the areas of privacy and data management? [#ithakatnw18](#)



1



Roger C. Schonfeld  @rschon · Nov 29

Chi: Let me make it clear that we are not **EVER** going to take our hands off the content, because having the content in a structured and curated way is very important to the analytics business. [#ithakatnw18](#)



3



2



Roger C. Schonfeld  @rschon · Nov 29

Chi: Our strategy is about growth. In the research domain, probably a good two digit percentage of our revenue comes from non-publishing revenue. In the health sector, it's a very large percentage. [#ithakatnw18](#)



1





Our humble project - how can we begin to address all of these issues in a community?

Barn raising / Construction d'une grange <https://flic.kr/p/g937bF>



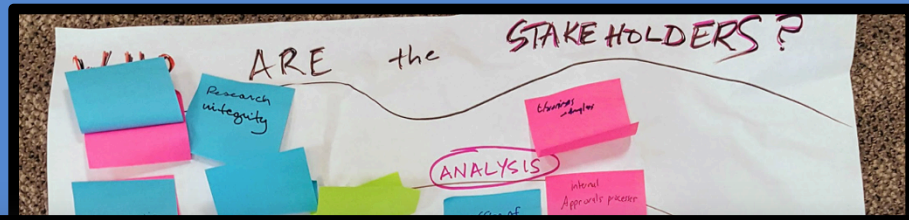
ed the same week!

2017:
UC San Diego
environmental

FSCI'18:
Building an
Open and
Information-Rich
Institution

- Allegra Swift and
David Minor

The



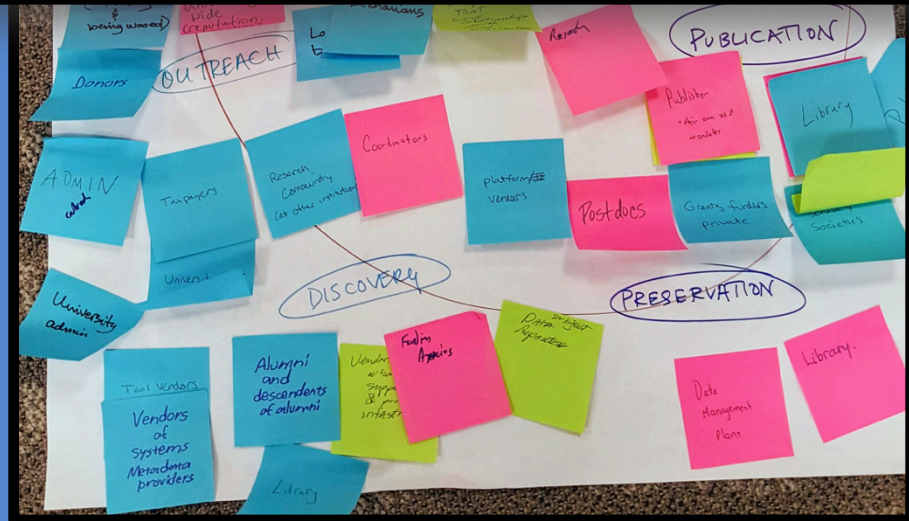
AM5 Building an Open, Fair and Sustainable Information-Rich Research Institution

Course Chairs: [Allegra Swift](#), MLIS, Scholarly Communications Librarian, UC San Diego; [David Minor](#), MLIS, Director, Research Data Curation Program, UC San Diego Library

Instructor: [Allegra Swift](#); [David Minor](#); [Charlotte Roh](#), Scholarly Communication Librarian at the University of San Francisco; [Rebecca Bryant](#), Senior Program Officer, OCLC: Dublin, OH; [Anita De Waard](#), Research data management at Elsevier; [Simon Porter](#), Digital Science, London

Using the Force(11) for Good – FSCI'18

- Multi-institutional (mostly librarians)
- Brought in speakers (trouble finding academic/open source)
 - Guided work through two tools
 - Infrastructure checklist
 - Visualization



AM5 Part

Deux

*Two teams,
two tools:*

- Infrastructure checklist
- Visualization

The teams:

- ★ Elena Feinstein - Duke University
- ★ Emily Frank - Louisiana State University
- ★ Vanessa Gabler - University of Pittsburgh
- ★ Robyn Hall - MacEwan University
- ★ Claudia Holland - Mississippi State University
- ★ Allison Langham-Putrow - University of Minnesota
- ★ David Minor - University of California, San Diego
- ★ Charlotte Roh - University of San Francisco
- ★ Allegra Swift - University of California, San Diego

What we wanted to

do

Approach the issue with a values-based intention

Approach the issue holistically addressing the ecosystem

Approach the issue with the bigger picture in mind, reach the multiple stakeholders on our campuses

Create practical simple tools that can actually be used

Answer the question, “I get it, now what do I do?”



Infrastructur e checklist

Of Vendors & Values

By: Emma Molls

June 26, 2018


Background

University of Minnesota Libraries evaluated publishing platforms twice in recent years. The first time, in 2014, was an initial content creation infrastructure evaluation that coincided with the development of the Libraries' Publishing Services program. The 2014 evaluation resulted in the selection of bepress Digital Commons and used a straight-forward, though robust, evaluation matrix. Platforms were ranked on a 0-5 scale by each member of the Evaluation Team across 6 categories: software details, costs, public facing features, display customization, editorial backend, and additional services provided. Each of the categories were weighted based on use of software, value, and efficiency. A final report, summarizing results of the matrix, was drafted and submitted to a steering committee. Recommendations followed the Libraries' standard decision making routes, and software was selected.

<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.7416278.v1>



Institutional
self reflection,
to expose
values



Values-based
questions to
ask the vendor

**please adapt and
use!**



figshare


<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.7406849.v1>

goo.gl/VewvdB



figshare.com/articles/Scholarly_Communications_Infrastructure_Checklist/7406

Scholarly Communications Infrastructure Checklist



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Creating an Alternative

- In what circumstances should the university (or a consortium) consider creating an alternative to a commercial product? When is it feasible to do so?
- What would the process be for determining whether and how to commit resources to an initiative to explore creation of a competitor product? For an example, look at how universities partnered to form the Public Knowledge Project, which launched Open Journal Systems.
- Related to the former question, would you be able to participate without a proof of concept? Consider your institution's willingness and ability to be an innovator versus early adopter.

Stakeholder Participation

Does a formal campus group need to be convened to evaluate and offer guidance on the current need? In the event this is a long-term commitment, what roles might its members be willing to play (in terms of governance, code contributions, financial contributions, etc.) to ensure

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Scholarly Communications Infrastructure Checklist

Paper posted on 30.11.2018, 10:51 by Allegra Swift, David Minor, Elena Feinstein, Emily Frank, Vanessa

24 views 0 downloads 0 citations

Creating an Alternative

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Stakeholder Participation

Does a formal campus group need to be convened to evaluate and offer guidance on the current need? In the event this is a long-term commitment, what roles might its members be willing to play (in terms of governance, code contributions, financial contributions, etc.) to ensure the long-term sustainability of platform development or purchase?

- Who needs to be a part of this group?
 - Library
 - Information technology
 - Faculty
 - University administration
 - Research office
 - Provost
 - Students

Which campus stakeholders should be involved in the evaluation of products addressing the need? We strongly encourage library representation for the reasons defined above.

- Researchers (faculty etc)

Application at UC San

Actual Stakeholder: new interdisciplinary faculty, tenure-track

Valuable content: assembling a database of assessment tools that have been developed, adapted, and/or validated in low-income settings accompanied by publications on those tools

Values: understands the value of open access and anticolonial practices of research production and dissemination

Wished-for Stakeholder: Office of Academic Affairs

Valuable content: faculty data, research information generated at UCSD

Values: “UC San Diego will transform California and a diverse global society by educating, generating and disseminating knowledge and creative works, and engaging in public service.”

<https://plan.ucsd.edu/report/mission-vision-values/>



The Visualization n

The

Visualization

PROCESS

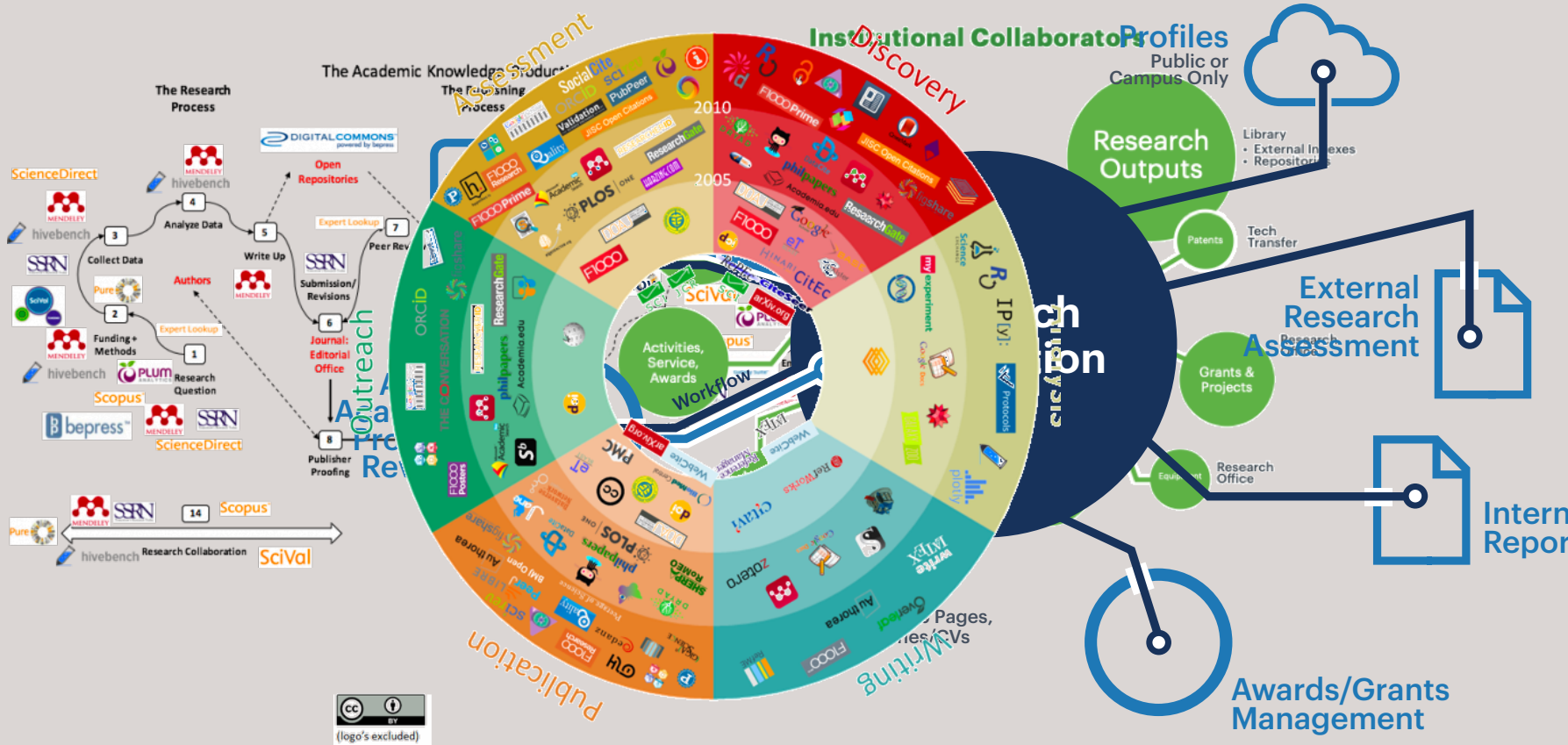
Funding
 Research
 Publishing
 Teaching
 Evaluation
 Research intelligence
 Preservation
 Messaging/promotion
 Education/consultation

STAKEHOLDERS
 NEEDS/DRIVERS
 TOOLS/SYSTEMS

STAKEHOLDERS	FUNDING	RESEARCH	PUBLISHING
ACADEMIC INSTITUTION			
researcher/faculty	locate and secure research funding	collect, store, analyze data	write results, evaluate publishing and preprint options, promote publication, peer review, editorial board duties, funding reports
students			
academic administration	analyze and contextualize RI data to attract funders and donors	determine	
library	GRANT APP; OA requirement support, DMP advice, licence tools for locating grants and funding	manage collections and provide discoverability and access to information, subject area support such as lit review, data storage	tools, platforms, and support for authors and editors, PREP FOR PUBLICATION; writing, reference, citation tools; OA support and advice; data archiving and tools; PUBLISHING RESEARCH; ORCID advice; OA support, RD advice, publishing outlet advice; MANAGING IR; OA and access support, MEET GRANT AND INSTITUTIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS; OA and public access support GRANT CLOSURE
INFRASTRUCTURE VENDORS	Research & preparation process, Research intelligence	Writing process, Research intelligence, educational resources, textbooks	Submission process, copyright acquisition

The Visualization

RIM Uses



Lessons

learned

Lack of concrete holistic academic-owned/open source/scholar-led options

Commercial dollars vs. academic

Dispersion of energy, lack of funds and ongoing communication after events

“This is new terrain for academia, but the ground is shifting rapidly. If academia can **organize its work and develop a strategic vision for research workflow**, there is yet an opportunity to avoid the negative consequences of outsourcing core scholarly infrastructure.” Roger C. Schonfeld

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Questions
?

References

- [Publishers are Increasingly in Control of Scholarly Infrastructure and Why We Should Care: A Case Study Of Elsevier](#)
- [Whose Infrastructure?](#) Towards Inclusive and Collaborative Knowledge Infrastructures in Open Science
- [Inequality in Knowledge Production:](#) The Integration of Academic Infrastructure by Big Publishers
- [Of Vendors & Values](#)
- [Defining RIM and the Library's Role](#)
- [Balancing influence in a shifting scholarly communication landscape:](#) Creating library-owned, community-aligned infrastructure through individual, local, and community action
- [JLSC Board Editorial 2018](#)
- [Big Deal: Should Universities Outsource More Core Research Infrastructure?](#)
- [Workflow Lock-in: A Taxonomy](#)
- [Commons compliant tools/platform worksheet](#)