



All the latest on open access negotiations with the major publishing houses

16-04-2015

NEWS**Negotiations: Wiley takes a step towards open access**

Koen Becking (Tilburg University) and Gerard Meijer (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) are currently negotiating with publishers about subscriptions to academic journals. The universities are only prepared to renew current subscription agreements if the publishers take steps towards open access. An overview of the latest negotiation developments per publisher:

Wiley and Dutch universities take step towards open access

The Wiley publishing firm and the Dutch universities have reached an agreement on investing in open access. As part of this agreement the subscription contract will be renewed until the end of 2015 and an open access programme will be launched by Wiley. Dutch universities and Wiley will work together in this programme to simplify the way in which academic articles are publicly offered. The lessons drawn from this programme will serve as the basis for further negotiations on open access in 2016. 'We're confident that we will be able to take further steps toward open access together with Wiley', says Koen Becking, president of Tilburg University and chief negotiator on behalf of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU).

Springer: international example

The Dutch agreement with Springer has apparently been taken as a positive example by many universities in other countries, judging by the many questions we receive on the matter. Complete information on the Springer agreement can be found [here](#).

Oxford University Press contract extended

The 2014 contract with OUP has been extended by a period of one year, with improved terms but lacking an open access component. 2015 will be used to continue negotiations towards an agreement that does stipulate terms concerning open access.

Elsevier and Sage: no developments

There have been no further developments in the negotiations with these publishers.

Open access in the media

On 3 April, an interesting opinion piece appeared in the newspaper [de Volkskrant](#), written by professor B. Kiemeneij of the Radboud UMC. His op-ed is completely aligned with the points of departure of the negotiation teams from VSNU, UKB (consortium of university libraries and the National Library of the Netherlands) and SURF.

[LERU universities](#) embrace Open Access and endorse the European Commission's advocacy of open, wide dissemination of research outputs in its Science 2.0 (Open Science) agenda. Publishers are beginning to introduce a number of new approaches to deal with the challenges around Total Cost of Ownership. These include offsetting the cost of APCs against the level of the APC payment itself, or against the level of subscription that an institution pays. LERU calls on all stakeholders to address the challenge of finding sustainable solutions.

[EIFL](#) organised a series of meetings in Myanmar on the topic of open access. Over 200 participants – Rectors, Pro-Rectors, Heads of Departments, Senior Faculty Members, Librarians and PhD Students – gathered to discuss how open access can help to disseminate research results in the most efficient way, and also to maximise the visibility, usage and impact of universities' research publications.

Familiar with Twitter? Follow and engage in the debate on [#openaccess](#)

State Secretary Dekker writes a non-paper on open access

State Secretary Dekker, together with his British colleague Greg Clark, has written a [non-paper](#) entitled "open access to publications and data". The non-paper describes the necessity of cooperation as follows: 'Acknowledging the different views of member states on how to achieve open access and recognizing the right of member states to establish their own policy towards the subject, this non-paper seeks to describe the mutual agreement of member states on the importance of open access for a successful European Research Area. The focus is on open access to publications, but this cannot be isolated from open access to the underlying data, which is equally important.'

Increased visibility for search results

'The traditional system of paid subscriptions inhibits access to scientific material. I support open access publishing because it renders the dissemination of knowledge much more efficient.'

*Marcel Levi
NFU (Netherlands Federation of
University Medical Centres) Board
member*

Scientists, speak out!

The issue of open access is currently being debated by universities, publishers, on Twitter and at various debate forums and symposiums.

We would like to invite the academic community to make its voice heard.

You can make use of the background information featured below if you wish.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Eindhoven University of Technology embarks on a green path. You have already had the opportunity to read a short report on the open access symposium in Eindhoven that appeared in this space in the previous newsletter. [This link](#) will take you to a speech given by Rector Magnificus Hans van Duijn concerning efforts to promote green open access.

[Open access FAQ](#)
[Open access fact sheet](#)

Relevant events:

17 April 2015: The 'Golden Road' to Open Access in the Social Sciences and Humanities – [Amsterdam](#)

20-21 April 2015: annual CRISTin spring conference – [Oslo, Norway](#)

Colophon

The open access newsletter is a publication of VSNU, in collaboration with the various Dutch university libraries and the National Library of the Netherlands. This newsletter is intended for everyone with an interest in open access, including researchers, university administrators, library staff, knowledge partners, politicians and the media.

Tips or suggestions?

Email openaccess@vsnu.nl.

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11-12 May 2015: ICOA 2015: XIII
International Conference on Open Access –
[Montreal, Canada](#)

18-22 May 2015: EGI Conference – [Lisbon, Portugal](#)

17-19 June 2015: CERN workshop on
Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI9)
- [Geneva, Switzerland](#)

24-26 June 2015: LIBER Conference, 'Towards
Open Science - [London, United Kingdom](#)

15-21 August 2015: IFLA World Library and
Information Conference – [Cape Town, South Africa](#)

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www.openaccess.nl



VSNU | Lange Houtstraat 2 | Postbus 13739 | 2501 ES Den Haag | T: 070 - 302 14 00 |
www.vsnu.nl