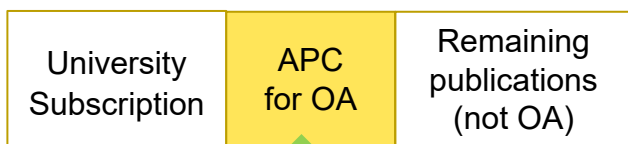


Understanding the source of funds used by authors in Australian universities to pay Article Processing Charges

Danny Kingsley, Prashant Pandey, Liz Walkley Hall

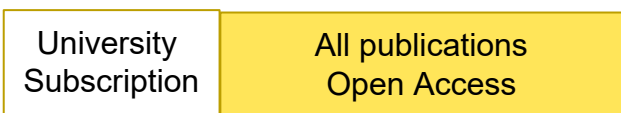
WHY?

Before Read and Publish



Multiple sources including NHMRC

After Read and Publish



All cost borne by University Subscription budget

Read & Publish (R&P) deals with publishers consolidate the cost of subscription access and open access publication into a single payment. This is a significant shift in the way access to research outputs is managed, and has implications for university acquisition budgets. Currently funds used across institutions to pay for Article Processing Charges (APCs) are unquantified and their sources unidentified.

HOW?

1 The research outputs of Flinders University during 2020-2021 were filtered for a Creative Commons license on the assumption that these were available open access.



2 Articles where the corresponding author was a Flinders University academic were identified.



3 A survey tool was developed to understand the amount the author paid for the APC and the source(s) of that money.



Author@flinders.edu.au
Please fill out this survey

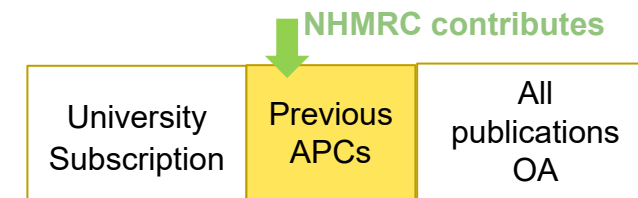
WHERE?

A significant proportion of respondents did not pay any APCs for their article. Those that did funded their APC directly from the University, or from grants, consultancy funds or in rare cases, personal payment.



WHAT NEXT?

R&P deals shift the responsibility of payment for open access from external funds to the university acquisition budget. It is essential that the extent of this financial shift be quantified and negotiation occur with funding bodies to ensure they contribute directly to supporting these deals. This work indicates the need for evidence-based discussions about the risks associated with the sector embracing R&P deals and the value of reinvigorating the path to open access using repositories and strong rights retention policies.



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