



# Open Access models for the humanities and the social sciences



## OA models for SSH | Roadmap

1. Comparing publishing models
2. LingOA
3. The *Open Library of Humanities*
4. General features of the flipping model
5. Extending the model to other disciplines
6. Benefits and risks
7. Conclusions



# OA models for SSH | Comparing publishing models



## Classical Journal Publishing Model (CJPM)

### Publisher-centric

The ***publisher*** calls the shots

- Publishers own the journal titles and the copyright of the articles
- Publishers set pricing and conditions, determine the marketing
- Publishers control editorial assistance, workflow, copy-editing, storage, and indexing

### Dualistic

Publishers vs. Researchers & Libraries

### User pays

Researchers pay for access to journal articles

### Subscription based

University libraries pay increasingly unaffordable yearly subscriptions to the publisher

## Fair Open Access Publishing Model (FOAPM)

### Researcher-centric

***Researchers*** call the shots

- Researchers author, review, and edit articles
- Editors own the journal titles, and use Publication Services Providers (PSPs) to make articles available online at low cost
- Researchers own copyright
- University libraries provide editorial assistance, storage, publication fees

### Pluralistic

Researchers, university libraries and Publication Services Providers (PSPs) collaborate

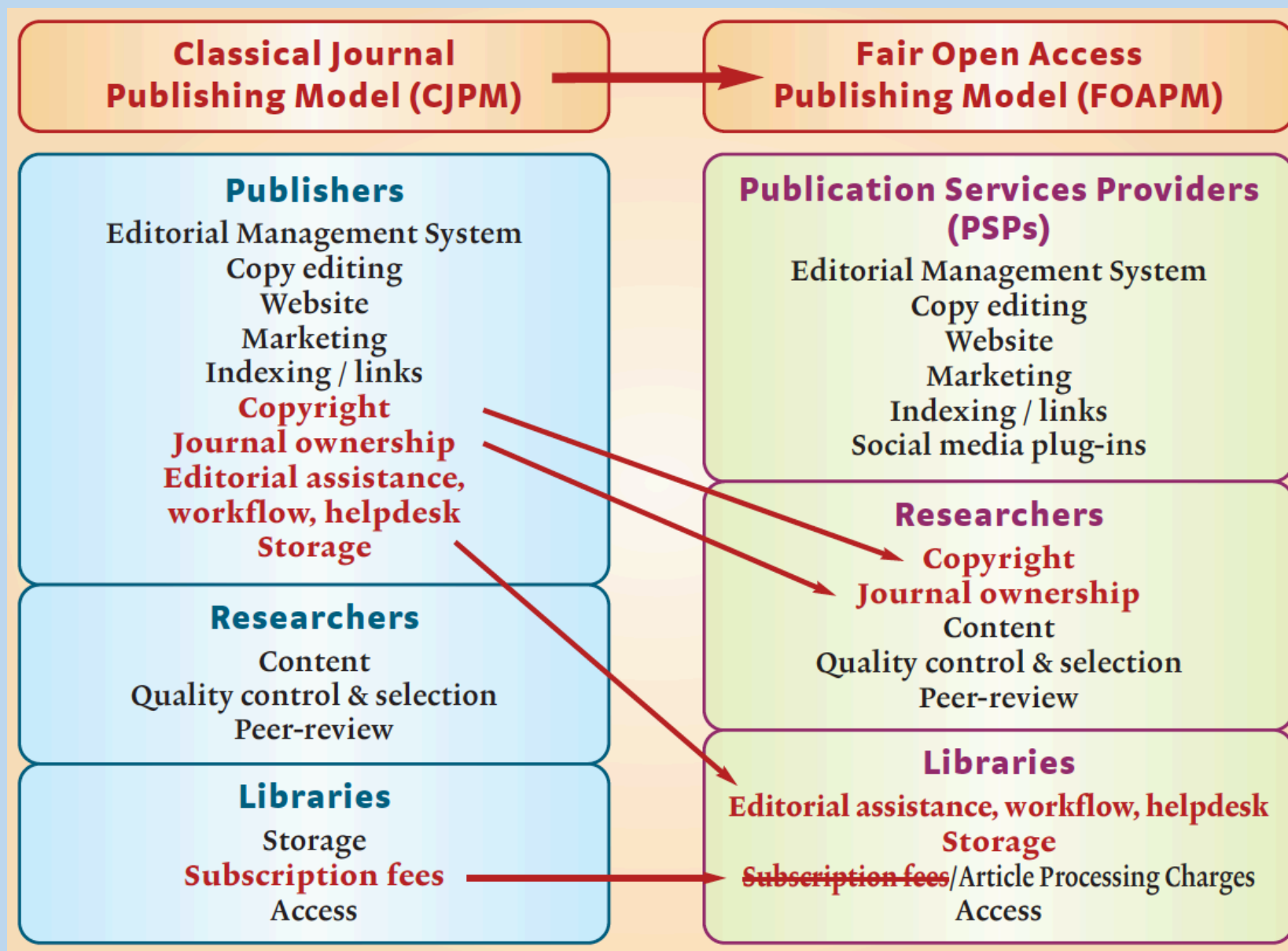
### Producer pays

Editors/university libraries pay for Article Processing Charges (APCs) with public money

### Production cost based

University libraries pay for the real production costs of online publishing

# OA models for SSH | Comparing publishing models



## OA models for SSH | LingOA

Proof of concept for a transition to Fair Open Access

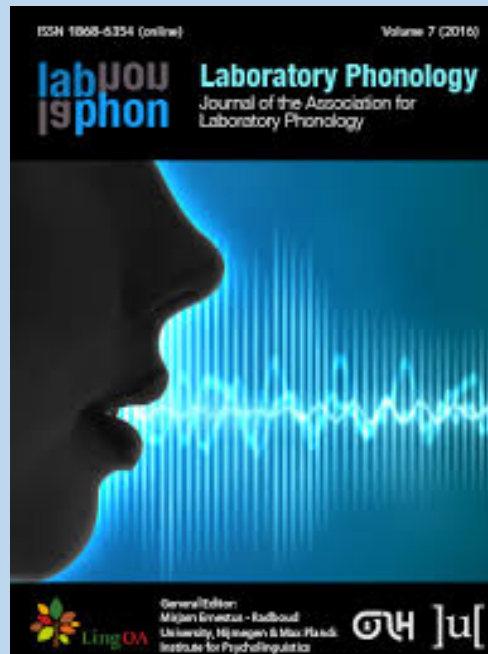


Publishers are asked to comply with our  
**Conditions of Fair Open Access:**

1. The **title** of the journal is owned by the editorial board or by a learned society.
2. **Authors retain copyright** and a CC-BY license applies.
3. **Authors do not pay for APCs.** APCs are paid by funding agencies and library consortia such as the Open Library of Humanities (OLH)
4. All articles are published in **Full Open Access** (no subscriptions, no 'double dipping')
5. Article processing charges (APCs) are **low** (< 1000 euros), **transparent**, and **in proportion** to the work of the publisher.

# OA models for SSH | LingOA

Flipping reputed journals in linguistics to Open Access:



## OA models for SSH | LingOA

Flipping reputed journals in linguistics to Open Access:



Glossa 2016: 319 articles submitted, 51 published, 54 in production...

## OA models for SSH | LingOA



Flipping the journals proceeds in two stages:

### 1. The transition (5 years)

- \* The editorial board asks the publisher to comply with the conditions of Fair Open Access.
- \* If the publisher refuses to comply, the entire editorial board leaves the journals to set up a new journal with a publisher who does.
- \* APCs are paid for by a 5-year fund. For LingOA, the fund is financed by the *Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research* NWO and the *Association of Dutch Universities* (VSNU). Radboud University Library provides a journal manager for the 4 journals.

### 2. The final stage (after 5 years)

- \* Journals have re-established their Impact Factor and indices
- \* APCs are paid by the **consortium of libraries** participating in the *Open Library of Humanities* (OLH) ensuring long-term sustainability



## OA models for SSH | The *Open Library of Humanities*



- \* A non-profit, academic-led open access publisher for the humanities and social sciences
- \* Promotes flipping existing subscription journals to Open Access
- \* A library consortium model:
  - Participating libraries pay an annual membership fee (€500 - €1500) that pays for all APCs of OLH-associated journals
  - Libraries vote on which journals to admit to OLH
  - Over 220 libraries participate, including Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Carnegie Mellon, UCL, Cambridge, UCL etc
- \* Subscribes to Fair Open Access principles and is willing to work with any publishers who also do so.
- \* Provides a long-term sustainable solution for flipping existing journals from subscription to Fair Open Access, enabling libraries to rechannel subscription funds to APCs.

# OA models for SSH | General features of the flipping model



## 1. Discipline-based

- \* Within each academic discipline, a foundation is set up that helps flipping established subscription journals to Fair Open Access
- \* Existing networks within the discipline are exploited to influence editors to flip their journal to FOA.

## 2. No author-facing Article Processing Charges (APCs)

- \* The foundation pays for APCs during the transition period
- \* it also covers legal advice costs associated with flipping the journals

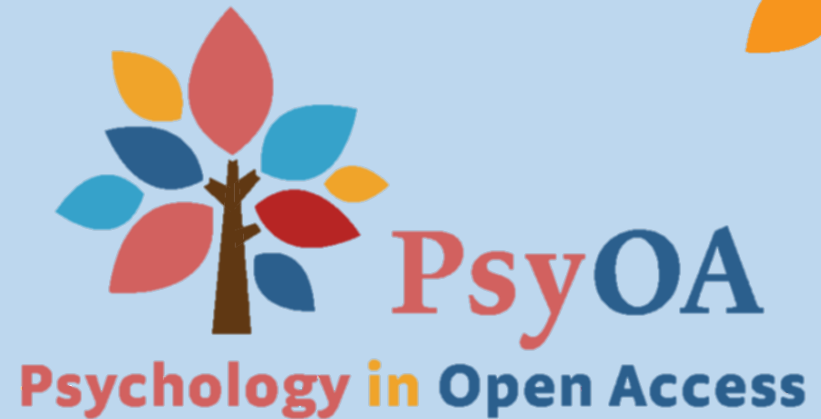
## 3. Long-term sustainability

- \* After the transition period, journals join a worldwide library consortium such as the one provided by the Open Library of Humanities.
- \* The worldwide library consortium durably pays for APCs.
- \* Library funds are redirected from subscriptions to APCs.

## OA models for SSH | Extending the model



1. Two additional disciplines



In each discipline, 3 reputed journals are ready to flip

2. This requires transition funds from university consortia and funding agencies
3. The OLH library consortium model must be expanded beyond the humanities
4. *Discipline*OAs must form an alliance



# OA models for SSH | Benefits and risks



## 1. Benefits

- \* A solid contribution to the EU policy goals for Open Access via an innovative, proven, and cost-effective flipping model.
- \* Long-term return on investment through the introduction of competitive market price pressure on the publications costs (APCs) of scholarly communication.
- \* RoI: investment in MathOA and PsyOA can be recouped in 7 years.
- \* Better renegotiating position for Big Deals
- \* Cost savings through the conversion of existing journals rather than by the creation of new, parallel journals
- \* Bottom-up driven change: editors in each discipline flip journals
- \* The model is easily scalable



# OA models for SSH | Benefits and risks

## 1. Risks and mitigation

- \* *Not enough success:*

Editors-in-Chief are reluctant to flip their journals.

Mitigated by social pressure within the discipline and the success of already flipped journals

- \* *Too much success:*

Too many journals wish to flip, the project scales too quickly.

Mitigated by the fact that success demonstrates demand, enabling more rapid scaling of OLH-like library consortia.

## OA models for SSH | Conclusions

- \* The LingOA flipping model provides a tested roadmap for flipping subscription journals to Fair Open Access
- \* Investment in the funding for the transition period is temporary, long-term RoI is substantial. Downward price pressure on APCs.
- \* Library consortia on the model of the *Open Library of Humanities* enable library funds to be redirected from subscription to Open Access
- \* Change to Fair Open Access is driven by editors and authors
- \* Academics face no costs for publishing or accessing research results



## OA models for SSH | Addresses and links

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