



# Open Access by self-archiving: it's an author thing

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# 'Old' paradigms

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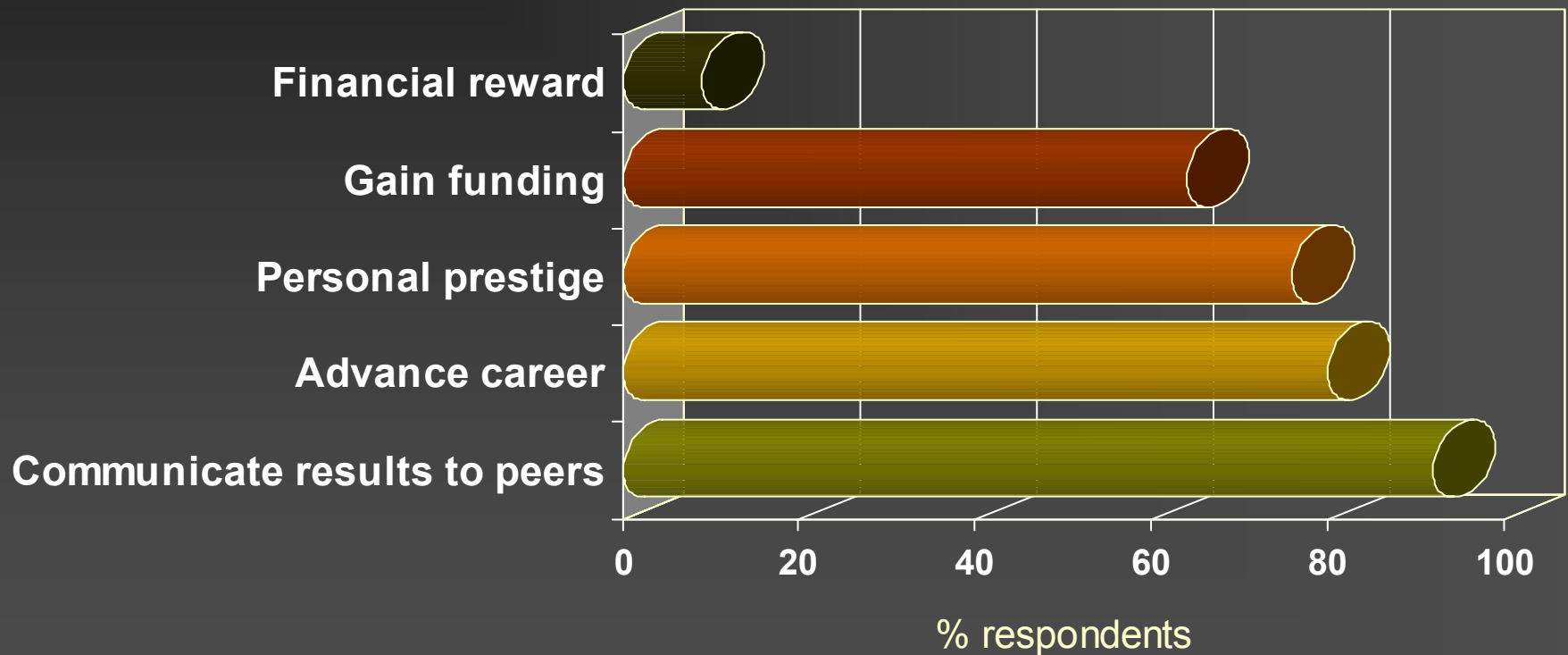
- Use of proxy measures of an individual scientist's merit is as good as it gets
- It is a journal's responsibility to disseminate your work
- Printed article is the format of record
- Other scientists have time to search out what you want them to know

# 'New' paradigms

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- Rich, deep, broad metrics for measuring the contributions of individual scientists
- Effective dissemination of your work is now in your hands (at last)
- The digital format will be the format of record (is already in many areas)
- Unless you routinely publish in *Nature* or *Science*, 'getting it out there' is up to you

# Why researchers publish their work



# The digital era

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“The potential role of electronic networks in scientific publication ... goes far beyond providing searchable archives for electronic journals. The whole process of scholarly communication is undergoing a revolution comparable to the one occasioned by the invention of printing.”

Stevan Harnad, 1990

(still with us)

# Open 'Access' (dissemination)

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The whole process of scholarly communication is **evolving**

... perfectly naturally

... with all the constraints and patterns that evolutionary theory would predict

Average number of articles in an IR ...

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297!

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# Another evolutionary scandal

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Still only 15% of research is  
Open Access

# New niches

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- Open Access journals
- Open Access repositories

# And yet .....

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- Only 24% of authors have submitted an article to an Open Access journal
- Only 22% have self-archived in their institutional repository
- Natural selection or genetic drift?

# Repositories: interoperable

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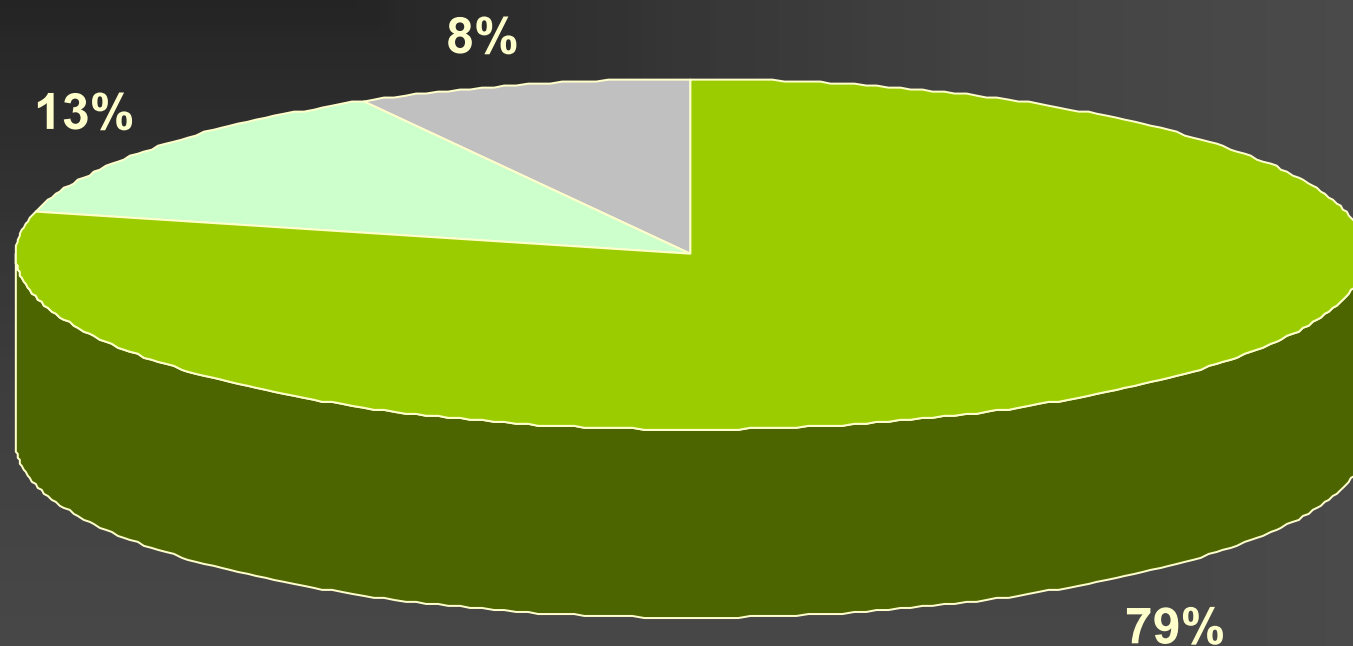
- Show their content in a specific form
- Harvested by search engines
- Form a database of global research
- Freely available
- Publicly available
- Permanently available

# Open Access repositories

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- circa 600 worldwide
- Sweden 25
- Norway 4
- Finland 4
- Denmark 8

# Publisher permissions (by journal)



■ 'Green' (postprints)    ■ 'Pale green' (preprints)    ■ 'Grey' (neither yet)

# Publisher permissions

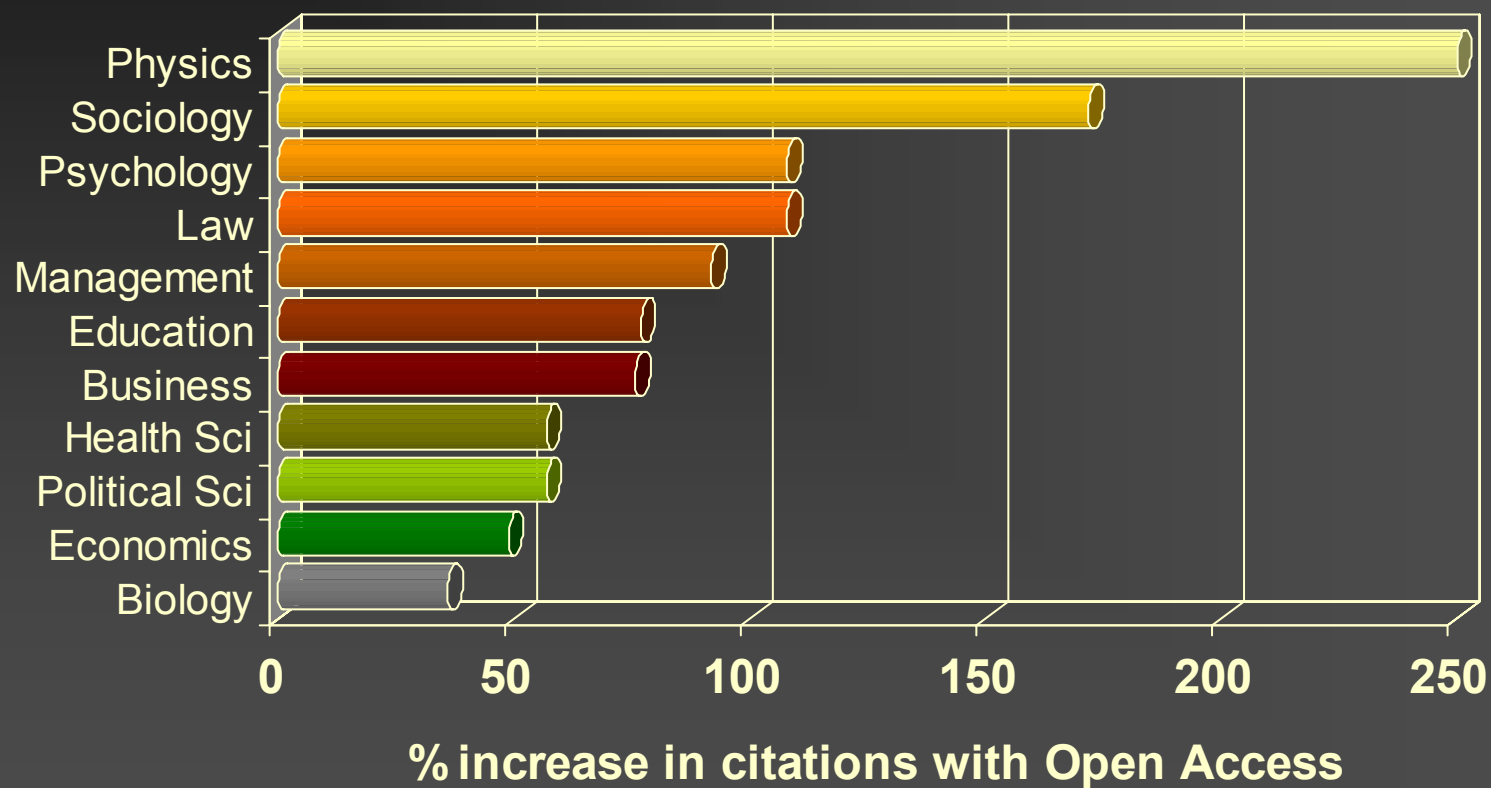
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- 92% of journals permit self-archiving
- SHERPA/RoMEO list at:  
[www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php)
- Or at: <http://romeo.eprints.org/stats.php>

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“One is left with the feeling that some essential feature of the situation is being overlooked.”

# Open Access increases citations



**Range = 50%-200%**

(Data: Stevan Harnad and co-workers)

# Open access increases citations (other studies)

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- Lawrence 2001 (computer science)
- Kurtz 2004 (astronomy)
- Brody & Harnad 2004 (all disciplines)
- Antelman 2005 (philosophy, politics, electrical & electronic engineering, mathematics)

# An author's own testimony on open access visibility

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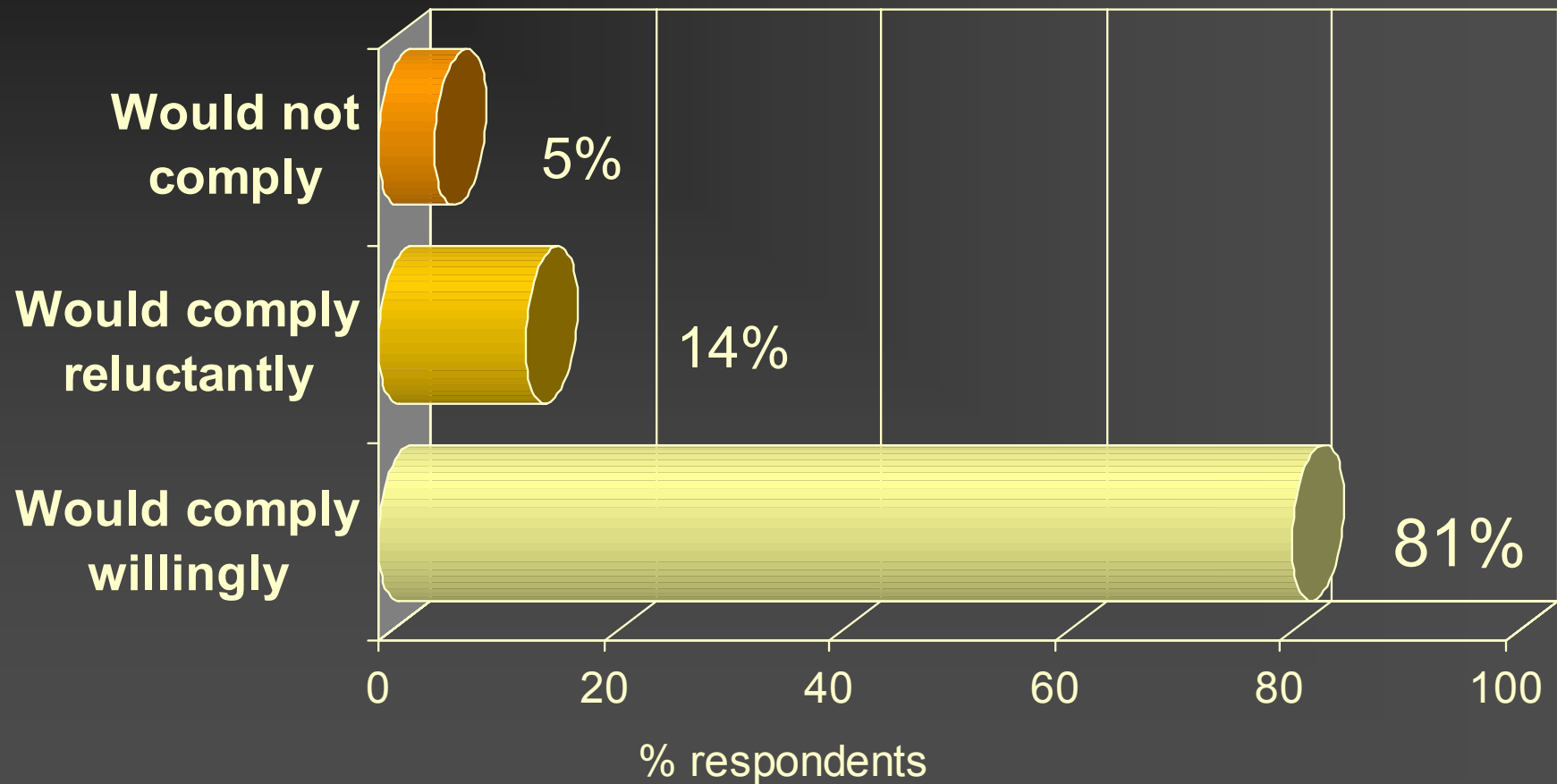
“Self-archiving in the PhilSci Archive has given instant world-wide visibility to my work. As a result, I was invited to submit papers to refereed international conferences/journals and got them accepted.”

# An institutional repository provides researchers with:

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- Secure storage (for completed work and for work-in-progress)
- A location for supporting data that are unpublished
- One-input-many outputs (CVs, publications)

# Author readiness to comply with a mandate



# Institutions with a mandate already

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- University of Southampton School of Electronics & Computer Science (since 2003) (90+% compliance already)
- CERN (2003) (90% compliance already)
- Queensland University of Technology (2004) (40%+ compliance and growing)
- University of Minho, Portugal (2005)

# The Wellcome Trust policy on OA

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- Requires self-archiving of articles
- Will pay publication fees for publishing in open access journals (1-2% of Wellcome's total research expenditure)

# Publisher reaction?

## Wellcome boost for open access

**Richard Wray**

Three leading publishers of scientific research, including Oxford University Press, will today announce a deal with the Wellcome Trust, the second largest charitable funder of medical research after Bill Gates, that will see thousands of research papers available free over the internet.

The deal comes as MPs hold a public debate about the future of scientific publishing today in London's Westminster Hall. Last year the Commons' science and technology committee called for the results of research funded by the British taxpayer to be made freely available to all on the web and asked the government to help universities fund digital archives.

The government, however, in effect ignored the report leaving the funders to take a stand on so-called open access to

research. The Wellcome Trust has emerged as a major proponent of open access and requires its researchers to place their finished articles on the web.

Today the Wellcome Trust will announce that three publishers – Blackwell, OUP and Germany's Springer – have agreed to change the licences their authors must sign so that research funded by Wellcome but published in their journals can be made freely available online as soon as it is published. The Trust is one of a number of medical research funders backing a multimillion digital research facility where articles would be stored.

The deal gives backing to Research Councils UK (RCUK) – which covers Britain's eight public research funders. RCUK proposed requiring researchers to adopt open access but some traditional publishers said that would jeopardise scientific debate.

# Thank you for listening

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[www.keyperspectives.co.uk/OpenAccessArchive/](http://www.keyperspectives.co.uk/OpenAccessArchive/)

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