



## Information Wants to be Free: An Introduction to Open Access

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### Open Access Websites

*Peter Suber's Open Access Overview:* Good introduction to the issues and history of Open Access, with links to many other good resources

<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>

*NIH Public Access Policy:* A comprehensive site run by the NIH with information about the Public Access policy and instructions for compliance.

<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/>

### Publishing Websites

*Sherpa/RoMEO:* A searchable database of publisher policies on copyright and author self-archiving.

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php>

*Directory of Open Access Journals:* A comprehensive directory of Open Access journals across all disciplines.

<http://www.doaj.org/>

*Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition:* A part of the Association of Research Libraries. Provides recent OA news, along with a variety of educational resources for academics.

<http://www.arl.org/sparc/>

### Two good blogs

*Peter Suber's Open Access News:* This blog has an enormous amount of content, and it can be a bit overwhelming. Any time anything is announced that has to do with Open Access, it appears here. However, this comprehensiveness can be useful, and it's worth skimming regularly.

<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/fosblog.html>

*Digital Koans:* This blog is much less active. It keeps track of new resources on open access and electronic publishing, with occasional announcements of big OA news.

<http://digital-scholarship.org/digitalkoans/>

## Glossary of terms related to Open Access

*Author self-archiving:* The author of an article deposits the article into a subject repository, an institutional repository, or both, as a means of achieving Open Access to that article. Many scholarly publishers now have policies on whether they permit self-archiving, and if so what version of the article they allow the author to archive.

*Gold OA:* The publisher makes articles available for free online, either as a result of an author fee or because the entire journal is Open Access.

*Green OA:* The author deposits her article in an institutional or subject-based online archive, where it is made freely available for searching, reading and downloading.

*Grey Literature:* Works that are not peer-reviewed. May include pre-prints, but also research guides, bibliographies, and other documents.

*Hybrid journal:* A subscription journal usually published by a large for-profit publisher that will make certain articles available for free online if the author pays a fee.

*Institutional repository:* A permanent, online archive of the scholarly output of a single institution, like a university or a research facility. Deep Blue is the University of Michigan's institutional repository.

*Post-print:* An article that has been peer-reviewed, but may not have been copy-edited. A post-print is usually not in the final publisher format.

*Pre-print:* An article that is pre-peer-review. Many disciplines share pre-prints of articles online.

*PubMed:* An index of abstracts of scholarly medical literature.

*PubMed Central:* A full-text database of the scholarly medical literature that results from research funded by the NIH.

*Subject repository:* An online archive of scholarship relating to a specific discipline or subject area. PubMed Central is a subject repository in the health sciences.