


HOW DO YOU *REALLY* FEEL?

Faculty Opinion of Open
Access



RESULTS OF A STUDY

- In 2021, a study was conducted to discover the beliefs of LSUHSC-NO Faculty members about Open Access
- The study included four research questions:
 - How familiar are health sciences faculty members with scholarly open access publishing?
 - What are health sciences faculty members' attitudes towards scholarly open access publishing?
 - What are health sciences faculty members' practices regarding where they publish their manuscripts?
 - What are faculty attitudes and knowledge of predatory publishing?
- The results were interesting

WHAT DO FACULTY KNOW ABOUT OPEN ACCESS?

- Many faculty believed they knew all about OA, but did not:
 - It is “paying the publisher to publish your work”
 - It has a larger readership, and it is faster than traditional publishing
 - They weren’t aware of the different types of OA or self-archiving
 - They knew about pre-prints
- OA can make a difference in the world
 - Depending on their view, it could be a positive or negative effect

WHAT DO FACULTY THINK ABOUT OPEN ACCESS?

- OA = Predatory
 - The business model for OA publishing makes it substandard
 - If an author pays an APC, they are buying a publication
 - Financially, it is not in the publishers' best interests to provide a good peer review or reject a manuscript
 - Ethics
- OA will change the world for the better
 - It allows everyone access to research regardless of finances
 - It is great to get your research out into the world faster
- OA can exacerbate the gap between income brackets
 - Personally, professionally, nationally, and internationally

DOES THIS CHANGE THEIR BEHAVIOR WHEN PUBLISHING A MANUSCRIPT?

- OA is rarely their first choice
- Get your research out into the world faster
- APC plays a large role in deciding to publish OA
- Some chose OA when they believe their manuscript is not high enough quality for a “real journal”
- Chose OA when they have money provided by a grant or their departments
- Usually only advise mentees to use OA when the “official” specialty journal was OA

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

- The faculty want and need more education on the publishing process
 - It is confusing – the whole publication process is confusing
 - They tend to “pick things up” as they go along
- OA can greatly affect their careers
 - Either way that you look at it
- They had some interesting things to say about pee review also
 - That is a whole other project

QUESTIONS?

Thank you!

Julie H. Schiavo Ed.D, MLIS, AHIP
Assistant Director, Dental Library
LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans
jschia@lsuhsc.edu
(she, her, hers)