



All the latest on open access negotiations with the major publishing houses

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NEWS

Negotiations: new phase with Elsevier, agreement made with Springer

Koen Becking (Tilburg University) and Gerard Meijer (Radboud University Nijmegen) are currently negotiating subscription fees for scientific journals with the Elsevier, Springer (Science and Business Media), Wiley and Oxford University Press publishing houses.

The universities are only prepared to renew current subscription agreements if the publishers take steps towards open access. Several publishers are not very keen to do so, given the drastic changes in their revenue model this transition would cause. An overview of the latest negotiation developments per publisher:

Elsevier: new negotiation

Negotiations with Elsevier broke down in late 2014. Elsevier then put forward a new proposal. The two negotiating teams will be discussing that new proposal in late January. The existing contract with Elsevier has been extended for one year, which means nothing will change for researchers for the duration of these negotiations.

Springer: agreement and implementation started

An agreement has been made with Springer. This means that articles from corresponding authors associated with VSNU or NFU (Netherlands Federation of University Medical Centres) institutions will be published as open access and authors will not be charged. Payment will be made for the publication of articles, with institutions maintaining access to all Springer journals. The agreement applies to around 1500 journals within the Springer OpenChoice programme. Titles published by Learned Societies, BioMedCentral and SpringerOpen are excluded. The agreement applies to all articles accepted from 1 January 2015. In the new workflow, Springer will ask authors to indicate which institution they are associated with. Springer and the library of the relevant institution will verify this information. This step will take place during the production process for the article and will not take up any extra time. Springer has set up a [special site](#) for this. A total of 20 new articles have already been submitted in the first week of January under this new agreement.

Wiley, Sage and Oxford University Press

Negotiations with these publishers are not yet in the phase of a contract proposal reflecting VSNU's negotiating position. Talks with Wiley will resume in late January.

Open access in the media

The negotiations between the Dutch universities and the publishers are closely watched by other universities and scientists around the world according to the many blogs, tweets and reactions on sites like [The Times Higher Education and Information Today](#). Luckily there are developments on the open access subjects in other countries as well:

[Wiley and Jisc, which promote digital technology in teaching and research](#), have announced that they are starting a pilot to avoid 'double dipping' in the publication of open access articles in the United Kingdom. This is because universities should not have to pay both for creating open access to their own scientific outputs and for licences. Universities currently paying subscription fees to Wiley will receive 'APC credits' for open access publishing.

[Key funders in Indian research promote open access](#). In India, two major research funders will be making the results of research funded by them freely accessible to the public.

The KNAW's 'Wetenschapsvisie' [platform site](#) is currently hosting an online debate on open access.

Familiar with Twitter? Follow and engage in the debate on [#openaccess](#).

Open access enlarges the impact of cancer research!

'The Dutch Cancer Society funds scientific research with donations from civil society. Everyone should therefore have access to the results of that research. Not just researchers, but also patients, GPs, oncologists, donors, patient associations and staff of the Dutch Cancer Society. The more people can learn about new developments, the greater the impact of our cancer research and the quicker promising results can filter through to patients. That is why the Dutch Cancer Society champions open access to scientific journals. And I'd like to go a step further: in the future, the Dutch Cancer Society would also like to see open access to research data'.

Director Dutch Cancer Society - drs. Michel Rudolphie, MBA?

Scientists: speak out

The issue of open access is currently being debated by universities, publishers, on Twitter, and at various debate forums and symposia.

We would like to invite the research community to make its voice heard.

You can make use of the background information featured below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

[Frequently asked questions open access](#)
[Factsheet open access](#)

Relevant events:
[The Knowledge Exchange Open Access Working Group](#) came together in early January in Bristol to discuss the latest developments in the five associated countries (Germany, United Kingdom, Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands) in relation to open access. The group is made up of experts contributing to national open access programmes. Saskia Franken (Utrecht University) and John Doove from SURF are participating in the expert group on behalf of the Netherlands.

28 January 2015: Round table in the House of Representatives on the Science Vision – [Committee on Education, Culture and Science](#)

29 January 2015: General Discussion in the House of Representatives on the Science Vision – [Committee on Education, Culture and Science](#).

10 March 2015: Symposium Open Access & Open Science - [TU Eindhoven](#)

11-12 May 2015: [ICOA 2015](#): XIII International Conference on Open Access - Montreal

www.vsnu.nl/openaccess
www.openaccess.nl

Publisher's details

The open access newsletter is a publication of VSNU, in collaboration with the various Dutch university libraries and the National Library of the Netherlands. This newsletter is intended for everyone with an interest in open access, including researchers, university administrators, library staff, knowledge partners, politicians and the media.

Tips or suggestions?
Email openaccess@vsnu.nl.

Registration and cancellation
Registration: [online form](#).
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