

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

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NEWS

Negotiations: many open access publications Springer, new proposals Wiley Sage and OUP.

Koen Becking (Tilburg University) and Gerard Meijer (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) are currently negotiating with publishers about subscriptions to academic journals. The universities are only prepared to renew current subscription agreements if the publishers take steps towards open access. An overview of the latest negotiation developments per publisher:

Springer: more than 140 articles verified and published in January

Open access publication has fully taken off at Springer. Just in January, the first month in which Springer began working in accordance with new agreements, more than 140 articles have been verified and published on the Springer platform.

Wiley, Sage and Oxford University Press: new proposals

Successful discussions have recently been held with Wiley, Sage and the Oxford University Press. All three indicate they would like to move towards open access, but that such a move is complicated due to the high percentage of 'society publications'. Speaking on behalf of the universities, the negotiators indicated that open access is a requirement for new contracts and that 'double dipping' must be prevented. The three publishers will soon be presenting a new proposal.

The Netherlands and Europe: open science and open access

Open access is not only an important issue in the scientific community, but also in the political area, both in the Netherlands and Europe. The Netherlands will hold the presidency of the EU during the first half of 2016. Last week the cabinet sent a letter to the Lower House of the Dutch Parliament on the priorities the Netherlands will set during its presidency. The priorities have been formulated as follows: 'In line with the recent cabinet vision on scientific policy, the Netherlands shares the commitment of the Commission to increase in the impact of science and will above all endeavour to promote open access to scientific publications and the use of research results.'

At the end of January, a meeting was convened in Brussels on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Nether-ER, at which [European Commissioner Moedas](#) also voiced a strong opinion on the issue of open access.

Open access in the media

In recent weeks open access has been in the spotlight, especially on social media. In the Netherlands, the most important news on open access related to the priorities the government would be setting during the Netherlands' presidency of the EU in 2016.

Negotiations between the [University of Leipzig](#) and publishing company Elsevier on subscription fees and open access have ground to a halt. The ever-rising prices and the fact that Elsevier does not want to innovate on open access are the main reasons.

A report from the United States was titled as follows: '[LYRASIS to Become Exclusive North American Membership Partner for Open Library of Humanities](#)'. Steps are being taken towards open access in a number of research areas and in various countries.

In Eindhoven, the [Executive Board](#) has decided that Master's students and doctoral candidates wishing to be considered for this year's Academic Year Prizes must ensure that they make their thesis or dissertation available to the public at no cost.

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

Expensive fees for publicly funded research results that could be to the benefit of citizens must end, and new business models put in place. This is one of many areas where your leadership and experience could bring new standards to Europe's science and research community.

Open Science, of which Open Access is an important part, will be vital to ensuring European progress and prosperity in the future. Dutch philosopher Baruch Spinoza illustrated this point more eloquently when he said:

"Freedom is absolutely necessary for scientific progress".

European Commissioner Moedas during the 20th anniversary of Neth-ER.

On Twitter: [#ElsevierValentines](#)

Roses are red
Violets are blue
Please give me your heart
So I can sell it back to you

More [Valentine poems](#)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Open access is an important topic in other countries as well. De John M. Pfau Library in San Bernardino, California has produced a lovely little film '[open access in a nutshell](#)' to explain the concept of open access.

[Open access FAQ](#)
[Open access fact sheet](#)

Relevant events:

10 March 2015: Symposium on Open Access & Open Science – [Eindhoven University of Technology](#), the Netherlands.

20-21 April 2015: annual CRISTin spring conference – [Oslo, Norway](#)

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

18-22 May 2015: EGI Conference – [Lisbon](#), Portugal

17-19 June 2015: CERN workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communication (OAI9), [Geneva](#), Switzerland

15-21 August 2015: IFLA World Library and Information Conference – [Cape Town, South Africa](#)

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Colophon

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?

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