June 2013 COGR Meeting Thursday Afternoon Presentation - Alan Leshner

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“Open Access”: A Publisher’s Perspective

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"Open access" is in the eyes of the beholder

- GOLD OPEN ACCESS
  - Freely accessible immediately upon publication
- GREEN OPEN ACCESS
  - Freely accessible at some point in time
    - When?
- What's accessible?
  - Final version of manuscript
  - Actual pdf of published version
- Freely accessible where?
  - Repository
  - Author's/institution's website
  - Publisher's site

There are publishers and there are publishers….

- Not all publishers are alike or think the same way
  - For-profit vs not-for-profit
    - Their policies vary greatly
- Core issue is always the “business model”
  - Different publishers (and journals) can have vastly different costs

What about *Science*?

All research articles from Science are freely available after 12 months at no charge

- On our site
  - Since 1996
- Not all journals offer this

Importantly, at *Science*:

- Articles of urgent public-health importance are made freely available immediately upon publication
- All genome papers are made freely available immediately
- Research articles are made freely available immediately to the worlds poorest countries (WHO) through HINARI, AGORA, OARE
- Also participate in other nonprofits where content is made available such as Patient Inform and SciDevNet

Science offers authors:

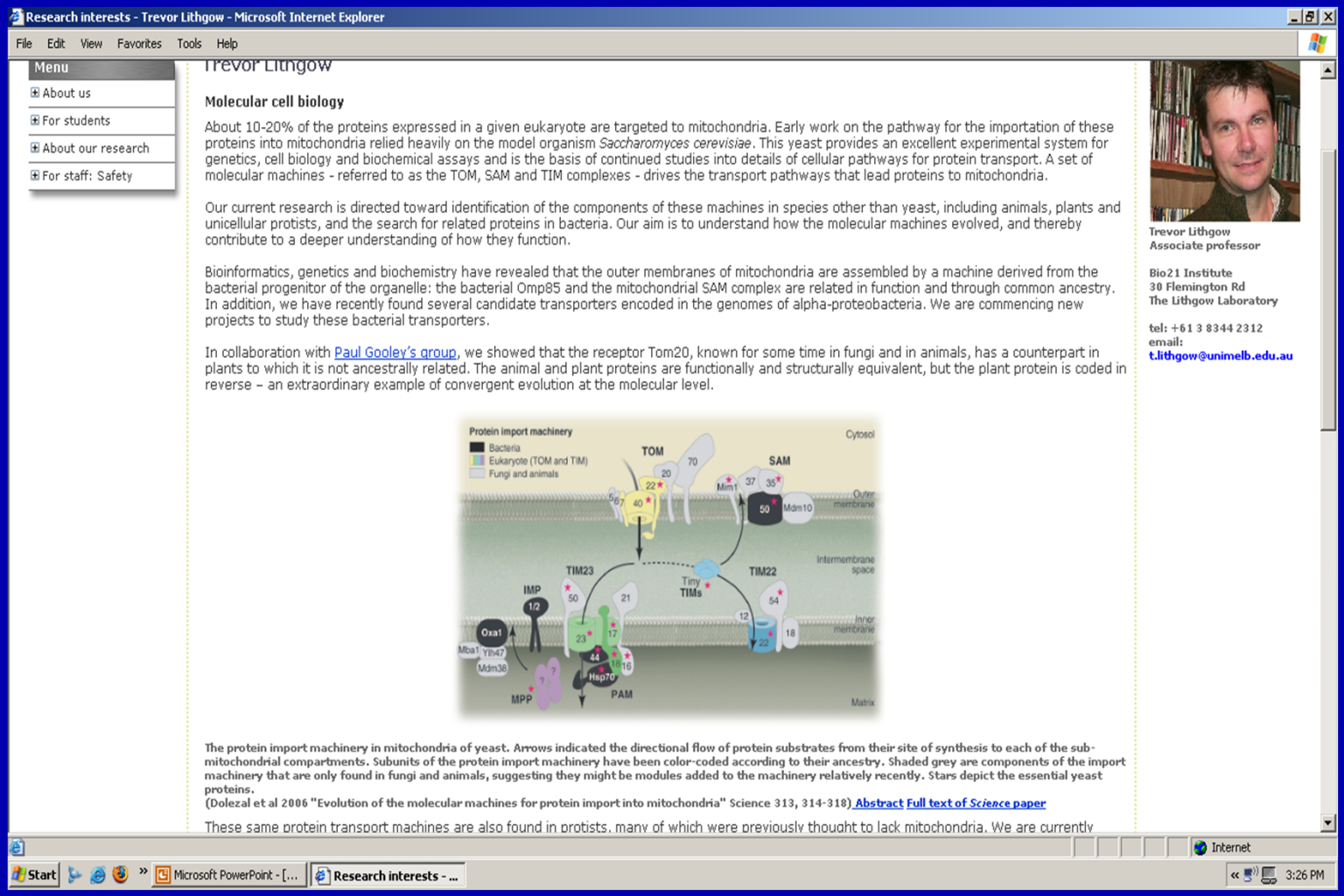
- Encouragement to, immediately following publication of article, post the accepted version in personal website or OA institutional archival repository

- In compliance with many funders, like NIH, Welcome Trust, Howard Hughes, RCUK, Max Planck, German Research Council etc., encouragement to submit the accepted version to the funding repository at six months

Referral Links

- Authors are encouraged to use referral links on their website- which allow users to access the AUTHENTIC published paper immediately upon publication

Sample Referral Link- Free access immediately upon publication



And….

- *Science* encourages authors and their institutions to use the final, published version of their work for educational purposes ….so long as not commercial in nature
- Authors and institutions can use the accepted version for non-commercial uses immediately upon publications- no permission needed

"Open access" and its proponents and opponents have evolved

- Fundamental argument:
  - Public already paid for research so the public should have free access to the results
  - Publishers contribute value so are entitled to reimbursement and profits

"Open access" and its proponents and opponents have evolved

- Open access journals came on the scene
  - Typically "author pays" business model
- NIH requested and then required posting to PubMed Central
  - Only the final version of the manuscript
- Other funders followed
  - Some didn't have their own repositories
- Typically 6-12 month embargoes

"Open access" and its proponents and opponents have evolved

- RCUK is requiring publishing in "open access" journals and will pay for open-ness
  - Timing varies by field
  - Block grants to universities
  - Very controversial and not fully resolved

"Open access" and its proponents and opponents have evolved

- OSTP has issued orders that US agencies shall move in an "open access direction"
  - 6-12 months
  - Details to be worked out
- Global Research Council
  - Framing an Action Plan to move to, at least, "green open access"

“Open access” and its proponents and opponents have evolved

- And now there’s CHORUS
  - Publishers’ attempts to deal with “who stores the articles”…..

Open access in some form is inevitable

- Will it be in force before or after a total revamp of scientific communication?