

Open Access Authors Fund The University of Calgary

BC Research Libraries Group Lecture
Series

November 17, 2008

What We've Going To Cover

- ☐ Setting up the Open Access Authors Fund
- ☐ Criteria – for authors and for journals and more
- ☐ The Fund in action
- ☐ The future of the Fund
- ☐ Some issues
- ☐ Other OA activities at the University of Calgary

Setting up the Fund

- ❑ BMC membership change (\$5,000 to \$50,000)
- ❑ Growth of other submission fees OA publishing programs (fully OA publishers, “hybrid” programs)
- ❑ Unequal access among authors to money to pay submission fees
- ❑ June 2008 start, in conjunction with ALA and SPARC meetings
- ❑ \$100,000 CAN for 2008/2009

Setting up the Fund (cont)

- ❑ Press release:
<http://devel.library.ucalgary.ca/services/for-faculty/open-access-authors-fund-0>
- ❑ Policies, procedures, criteria, etc.
- ❑ The Open Access Authors Fund:
<http://devel.library.ucalgary.ca/services/for-faculty/open-access-authors-fund-0>
- ❑ FAQ:
<http://devel.library.ucalgary.ca/services/for-faculty/open-access-authors-fund/open-access-authors-fund-frequently-asked-questions-faq>

Criteria – For Authors

- ☐ Who is eligible
- ☐ Faculty, staff, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers
- ☐ No undergraduate students, no adjuncts (for now?)

Criteria – For Journals

- ❑ Fully Open Access journals e.g. BMC, PLoS, Hindawi, some others
- ❑ “Hybrid” Open Access journals where subscription costs are lowered in response to the take-up of the OA program e.g. OUP, AIP (others?)

Other Criteria

- ☐ No limits, either by number of submissions or by cost
- ☐ Other fees (e.g. illustration, colour, page charges) are not covered
- ☐ Articles only (for now)
- ☐ Don't have to exhaust other funding BUT...
- ☐ Author options:
 - Put article in institutional repository
 - Use article in promotion of the Fund

The Fund in Action

- ❑ Operating since September 2008
- ❑ In a “soft launch”
- ❑ Official and “unofficial” submissions
- ❑ Some prepayments and memberships
e.g. BMC, PLoS, Hindawi
- ❑ 1st in Canada, 6th in the world

The Future of the Fund

- ☐ Still in early stages
- ☐ Move to regular activity
- ☐ More advertising, promotion
- ☐ More presentations to and talks with departments and faculties
- ☐ Advisory group
- ☐ Evaluation after first year

Some Issues

- Are we being too generous?
 - High submission fees
 - Dealing with grants that can pay for submission fees
- Are we being taken advantage of?
- Are we paying more than if we just had individual subscriptions?
- The Fund vs. the economic situation

Other Open Access Activities at the University of Calgary

- Institutional Repository
(<https://dspace.ucalgary.ca/>)
 - third largest in Canada
- University of Calgary Press
(<http://www.uofcpress.com/Journals.html>)
- Synergies Project
(<http://www.synergiescanada.org/>)

Questions? Discussion?



Your Speaker

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