Open Access & Shades of Grey

Open access increases visibility of grey literature providing an essential complement to peer-reviewed findings

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Grey Literature Awareness

Briefly on Open Access (OA)

• Online scholarly articles and other content available freely at the point of use
• Free of most copyright and licensing restrictions
• Compatible with peer-review
• Two primary vehicles for delivering OA to research articles: OA journals and OA repositories (institutional repositories and subject/disciplinary repositories)

Impact of OA

• Ethics: Research funded by the public is available to the public.
• Research: The available e-article is likely to have greater accessibility, citations and impact. Visibility of research output has been increased.
• Costs: Charges for publishing and accessing OA material are reduced.
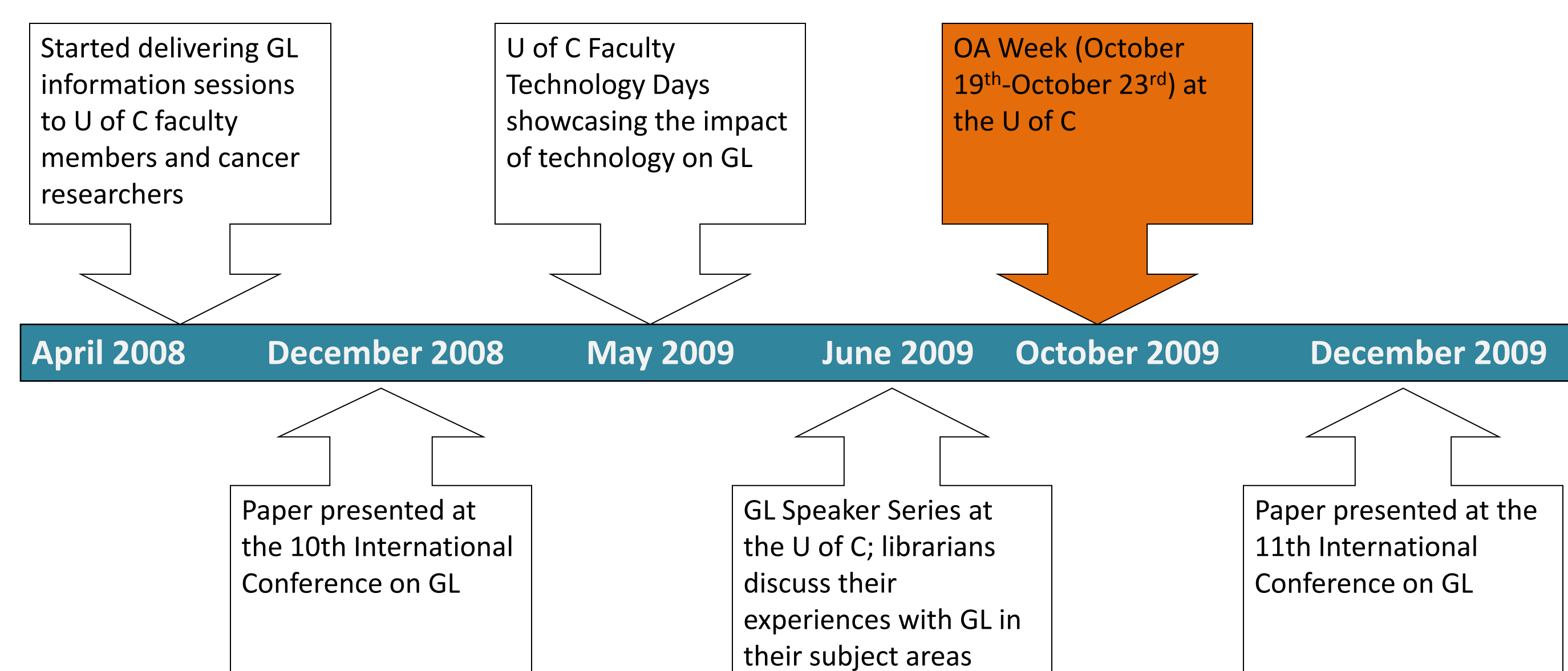
OA at University of Calgary
http://library.ucalgary.ca/services/information-faculty/open-access

1. **$100,000 Open Access Authors Fund,** http://library.ucalgary.ca/services/for-faculty/open-access-authors-fund-0 helps with Open Access processing fees.
2. **Institutional Repository (DSpace),** https://dspace.ucalgary.ca manages, preserves and provides access to the research output of University of Calgary's faculty, graduate students and research groups .
3. **University of Calgary Press,** http://www.ucalgary.ca/UP/ is evolving from print-only into a variety of other publishing media (e-books, print-on-demand), aimed at reaching the widest audience.
4. **Synergies,** http://www.synergiesprairies.ca is a national network tasked with producing, storing, disseminating, and providing access to digitized knowledge. Originally focused on peer-reviewed journals, Synergies now plays an increasing role in OA publishing.
5. **Digitization,** http://lcr.ucalgary.ca/digitization of primary sources (archival records, community histories) by Libraries and Cultural Resources, making this material freely available on the Internet.
6. **Mandate** - Archivists, curators, and librarians in Libraries and Cultural Resources have established a **mandate**, http://library.ucalgary.ca/open-access/libraries-cultural-resources, to deposit the results of their scholarly activities (e.g. articles, presentations, book chapters, etc.) in the U of C institutional repository.

OA Week at University of Calgary

• Staffed displays on OA were in the main and branch libraries for the week.
• The campus media reported on LCR OA programs daily.
• Bioline International founder, Leslie Chan, presented on *Scholarship and Learning in an Open Access Knowledge Environment*.

Started delivering GL information sessions to U of C faculty members and cancer researchers

U of C Faculty Technology Days showcasing the impact of technology on GL

OA Week (October 19th-October 23rd) at the U of C

April 2008	December 2008	May 2009	June 2009	October 2009	December 2009

Paper presented at the 10th International Conference on GL

GL Speaker Series at the U of C; librarians discuss their experiences with GL in their subject areas

Paper presented at the 11th International Conference on GL

Some Examples of OA and GL

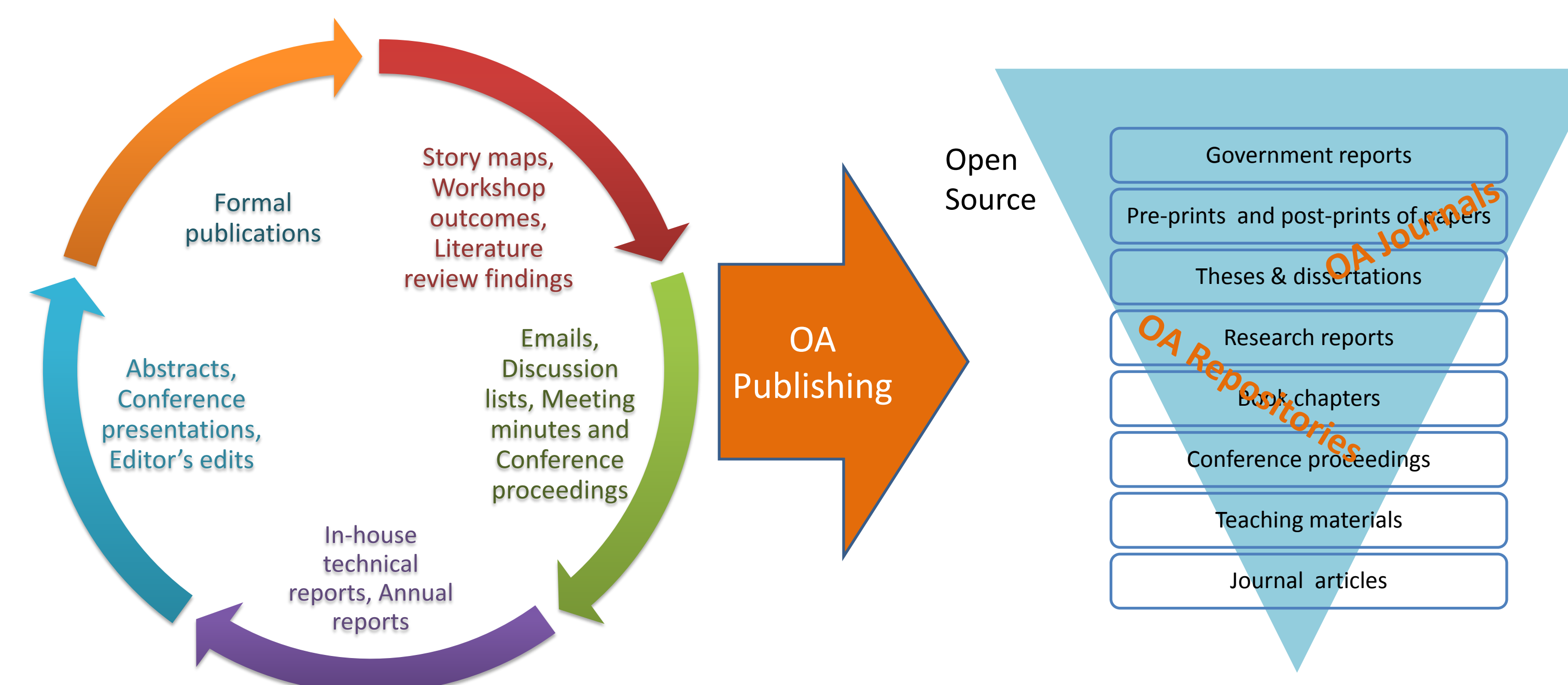| Discipline	Resource	Description
Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Quantitative Biology, Quantitative Finance and Statistics	**ArXiv.org (1991)** http://arxiv.org/	Provides open access to over 570,000 e-prints
Economics	**Research Papers in Economics [RePEc] (1999)** http://repec.org/	Database of working papers, journal articles, and software components; a collaborative effort involving 68 countries
Science and Medicine	**Public Library of Science [PLoS](2000)** http://www.plos.org/	Open access journals in biology, medicine, genetics, pathogens, disease, and more
Librarianship, information science	**Library and Information Research (2007)** http://www.lirg.org.uk/lir/ojs/index.php/lir	OA journal discussing a range of information pertinent to librarians and the library sector
Biomedicine	**PubMed Central Canada (2009)** http://pubmedcentralcanada.ca/	Freely-accessible archive of peer-reviewed health science literature
ALL	**Directory of Open Access Journals [DOAJ] (2002)** http://www.doaj.org	Notable directory that also includes government, commercial, and nonprofit private sources
ALL	**DSpace U of C's institutional repository] (2002)** http://dspace.ucalgary.ca/	Collection of theses and other research output by U of C faculty and grad students
ALL	**OpenDOAR, Directory of Open Access Repositories (2006)** http://www.opendoar.org/	Directory of academic open access repositories

Shades of Grey

OA publishing extensively increases access and visibility to grey literature and will result in a far greater diversity of grey literature material (notes, raw data, preprints, etc.).

Impact of GL on Research and Teaching

1. Previously hidden documents can be more easily retrieved.
2. Much scientific information is freely available over the Internet and via open access.
3. Since GL is often found via nontraditional channels, it is sometimes difficult to acquire.
4. GL provides snapshots of the research process and promotes the social network component of research.

Facts and Figures About GL

• The British Library, the world's largest supplier of scientific information, has about 4.9 million grey holdings including dissertations, reports and conference proceedings from a wide variety of sources.
• In 2004 the Canadian Institute of Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) received 62,054 requests for grey literature which included conferences proceedings and technical reports.
• Unpublished clinical trials contribute almost 20% in individual meta-analysis.
• An additional 29.2% of items were found by using extended search methods in addition to mainstream sources.

Formal publications

Story maps, Workshop outcomes, Literature review findings

Emails, Discussion lists, Meeting minutes and Conference proceedings

In-house technical reports, Annual reports

Abstracts, Conference presentations, Editor's edits

OA Publishing

Open Source

OA Journals
OA Repositories

| Government reports |
| Pre-prints and post-prints of papers |
| Theses & dissertations |
| Research reports |
| Book chapters |
| Conference proceedings |
| Teaching materials |
| Journal articles |

Questions for the Future

• **Metadata standards and protocols**: Digitally-created articles rely heavily on both the metadata record and the articles themselves being deposited. How can international metadata standards and protocols be applied to repositories and OA journals so that searching is effective ?

• **Curation and preservation**: How can research output be made available for future generations?

• **Peer-review mechanism/process:** What future mechanisms better deal with peer review in a rapidly changing open access environment?

• **Copyright issues:** 75% of publishers allow authors to post their work in an online repository. How can this level be maintained despite copyright restrictions?

• **Software and tools for open access**: What can be developed to make publishing more responsive, yet still retain key metadata elements?

Some Further Resources

Boukacem-Zeghmouri, C., & Schopfel, J. (2006). Document supply and open access: An international survey on grey literature. *Interlending & Document Supply, 34(3), 96-104.*
Jeffery, K. G. (2006). Open access: An introduction. *ERCIM News, 64.* Retrieved October 3, 2009 from http://www.ercim.org/publication/Ercim_News/enw64/
Suber, P. (2007). Open access overview. Retrieved October 3, 2009 from http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm
Tedd, L. A. (2009). Open access publishing and institutional repositories: An overview. Retrieved October 3, 2009 from http://www.inflibnet.ac.in/caliber2009/CaliberPDF/71.pdf

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