Scholarly Communication SWOTs
Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
Plan for our 75 minute session

1. Summary of the strength of each idea
2. Have we have missed any viable idea
3. Vote for the three ideas that would have the greatest positive impact
4. View results and then
5. Vote on up to three to which you would you be willing to support
6. Discuss the results and determine next steps
SWOTs (7 slides)

1. Consortial Licensing
2. Cancelling Journal Subscriptions
3. OA2020 (flipping to APCs)
4. Next Generation Repositories
5. Preprints Servers
6. OA Publishing Cooperatives
7. Open Access Network
Consortial Licensing

**Strength**
Exert greater influence as a large group to bring down prices and impose better licensing conditions

**Opportunity**
With greater influence, a consortium can help push the transformation of the publishing landscape

**Weakness**
Big deal lock-in and lack of institutional control of spending

**Threat**
Takes time and is complex to form a consortium (especially funding schemas) and may lead to a missed opportunity to undertake more radical action in the short term
Cancelling Journal Subscriptions

**Strength**
Large-scale cancellations are the only way to reduce spending with the biggest publishers

**Opportunity**
Frees up funds that can be redirected to other initiatives such as open access

**Weakness**
Cancelling journals could result in an immediate and negative response from faculty and students

**Threat**
If this is done in a large-scale way by libraries around the world it could lead to the collapse of the large journal publishers
OA2020 (flipping to APCs)

Strength
Maps out an orderly transition to OA that does not upset current practices and the traditional journal system

Weakness
There is no guarantee that publishers will go for it

Opportunity
Leverages existing licensing mechanisms

Threat
Consolidates the journal model as the major vehicle for scholarly communication and continues to tie up major funding for journals
Next Generation Repositories

**Strength**
Returns the locus of management and control of content to the institutions

**Weakness**
Widely distributed repositories make it more challenging to develop the collective branding that will attract researchers

**Opportunity**
Leverages the existing infrastructure of more than 3000 repositories and national/regional networks (e.g. OpenAIRE, LA Referencia, SHARE, etc.)

**Threat**
Without incentives (such as prestige) for researchers to participate, we could end up with empty repositories
# Preprints Servers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strength</th>
<th>Weakness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free, open source, open access, non-profit systems</td>
<td>Limited prestige factor for depositing into preprint servers</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>Threat</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current excitement within community about having an alternative means to share work outside of the journal system</td>
<td>Lack of robust funding models for centralized services means that they are at risk of failure or publisher “buy-out”</td>
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OA Publishing Cooperatives

Strength
Publishing cooperatives will result in cost savings for libraries and enable them to participate in funding decisions

Weakness
Lack of incentives for the big publishers to participate in the cooperative model

Opportunity
Builds on and increases the value of existing library publishing activities

Threat
Libraries may opt to free-ride, benefiting from open access content, but not contributing to funding
## Open Access Network

### Strength
Provides a mechanism to redirect funds towards open access “infrastructure”

### Weakness
Requires significant buy-in up front from many different stakeholders

### Opportunity
Collective funding models are gaining traction and are perceived more positively

### Threat
Competition amongst various OA projects and initiatives will result in OA funding fatigue for institutions
What is missing?
Vote for the three ideas that would have the greatest positive impact

A. Consortial Licensing
B. Cancelling Journal Subscriptions
C. OA2020 (flipping to APCs)
D. Next Generation Repositories
E. Preprints Servers
F. OA Publishing Cooperatives
G. Open Access Network
Vote on up to three to which you would you be willing to support

A. Consortial Licensing
B. Cancelling Journal Subscriptions
C. OA2020 (flipping to APCs)
D. Next Generation Repositories
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G. Open Access Network
Next Steps
Thank You!