

# **RED OA: A MODEST PROPOSAL**

**Brian E. C. Schottlaender  
UC San Diego**

**According to the arXiv web site ...**

**“Cornell's goal is to raise \$300,000 per year  
through membership fees  
generated by approximately  
191 institutions.”**

# Of those 191 institutions, almost 1/3 are members of ARL

1. Arizona State University
2. Boston College
3. Brown University
4. Columbia University
5. Cornell University
6. Duke University
7. George Washington University
8. Georgetown University
9. Georgia Institute of Technology
10. Harvard University
11. Indiana University
12. John Hopkins University
13. McGill University
14. Michigan State University
15. MIT
16. New York University
17. Northwestern University
18. Ohio State University
19. Penn State University
20. Princeton University
21. Purdue University
22. Rutgers University
23. Simon Fraser University
24. Stony Brook University
25. Texas A&M University
26. University of Alberta
27. University of Arizona
28. University of British Columbia
29. University of California, Berkeley
30. University of California, Davis
31. University of California, Irvine
32. University of California, Los Angeles
33. University of California, Riverside
34. University of California, San Diego
35. University of California, Santa Barbara
36. University of Chicago
37. University of Colorado
38. University of Florida
39. University of Georgia
40. University of Hawaii
41. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
42. University of Iowa
43. University of Maryland
44. University of Massachusetts
45. University of Michigan
46. University of Minnesota
47. University of North Carolina
48. University of Notre Dame
49. University of Oregon
50. University of Pennsylvania
51. University of Pittsburgh
52. University of Southern California
53. University of Texas at Austin
54. University of Toronto
55. University of Utah
56. University of Virginia
57. University of Washington
58. University of Waterloo
59. University of Wisconsin
60. Washington State University
61. Washington University in St. Louis
62. Yale University

## It's not too hard to imagine ...

- ... what would happen if these ARL arXiv member institutions were to decline to pay APCs to any journals for which article preprints appear in arXiv and if we were, instead, to redirect the money we'd save to sustaining arXiv.
- This would be a form of **Green** OA, in essence, with the particular benefit, however, of obviating the need to separately fund arXiv.

**But, what if we were to imagine what could happen ...**

- **... were these same institutions to actually stop subscribing to the journals whose preprints appear in arXiv?**
- **What might THOSE savings be put toward?**
- **I call this “Red OA.”**

## **RED** OA: A MODEST PROPOSAL

- **“The phrase ‘a modest proposal’ is often used ironically to introduce a major innovative suggestion.” — Dictionary.com**
- **Socratic irony = “The dissimulation of ignorance practiced by Socrates as a means of confuting an adversary.” —Wikipedia**