

# Open Access Publishing and the role of the Royal Society of Chemistry


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The 8<sup>th</sup> Munin Conference  
25th November 2013





# Overview

- What is Open Access?
  - Assess the pros and cons of different models
  - What is the RSC doing in this area?
- 



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# NOTES&THEORIES

DISPATCHES FROM THE SCIENCE DESK



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## Those who publish research behind paywalls are victims not perpetrators

Labelling scientists who publish in traditional journals as 'immoral' only hinders the cause of open access publishing

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Posted by [Chris Chambers](#)  
Wednesday 2013 06:59  
[guardian.co.uk](#)  
[Jump to comments \(45\)](#)



AUTHORITY, BUSINESS MODELS, COMMERCE, CONTROVERSIAL T

## Complying with the RCUK Manda

POSTED BY DAVID WOJICK · JUL 23, 2012 · 24 COMMENTS

**FILED UNDER** [ACADEMIC PUBLISHING](#), [OPEN ACCESS](#), [OPEN ACCESS ARCHIVING](#)

Every scholarly publisher in the world suddenly has less than a year to decide what to do with article



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## Free access to British science within two years

Radical shakeup of academic publishing will allow online and be accessed by universities, firms &

**Ian Sample**, science correspondent  
The Guardian, Sunday 15 July 2012 19:53 BST

[Jump to comments \(293\)](#)






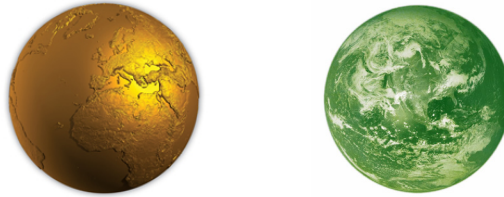
# What is Open Access?

*Open access (OA) is the availability of electronic content to readers without any access payment*

## The advocates:

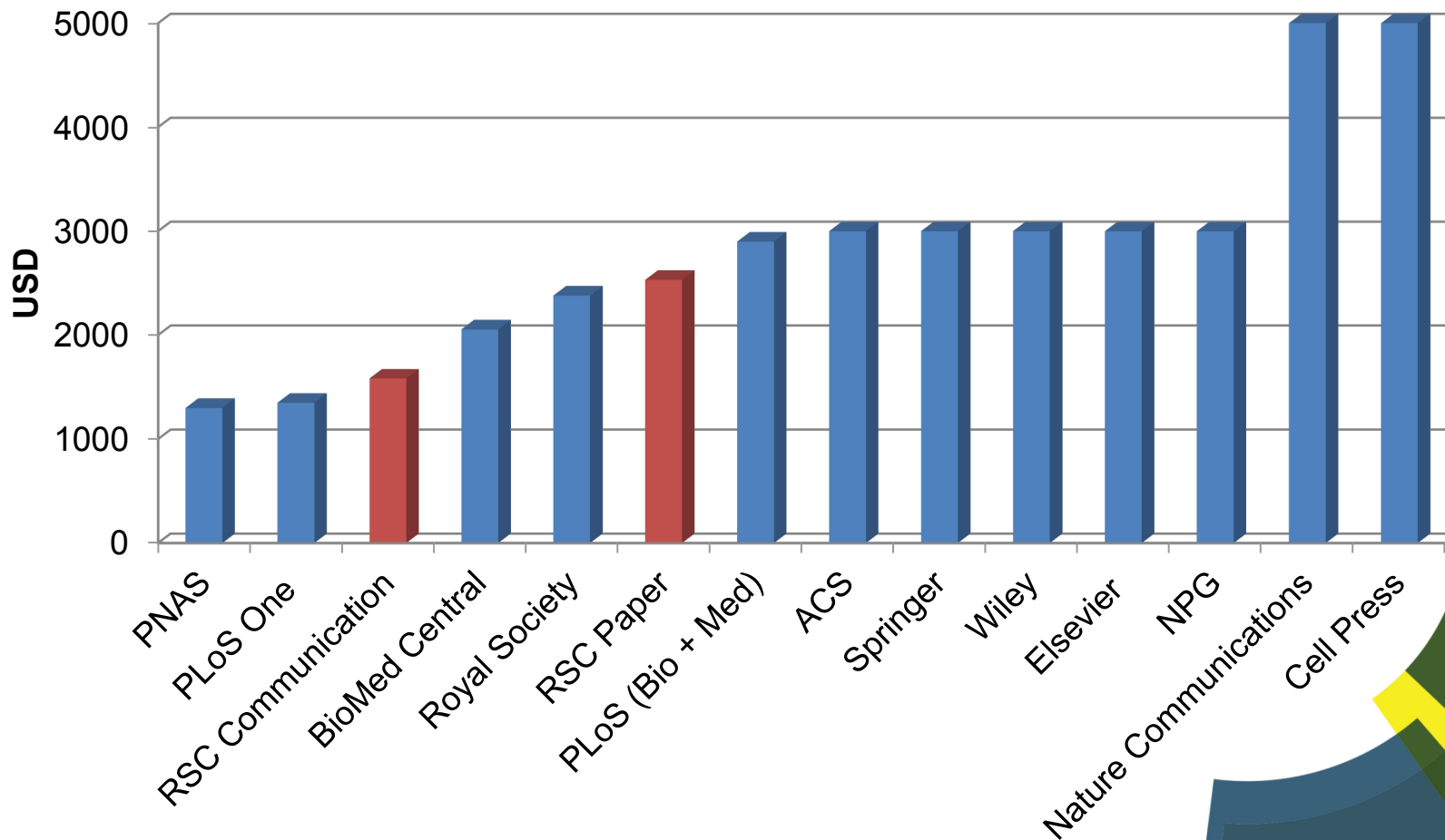
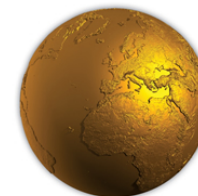
- Government
  - Funding organisations
  - Libraries
  - Universities
  - Research communities
  - Patient advocacy groups
  - The Public (tax payers)
- 

# What are the challenges / risks?



- Self-funded researchers
- Low funded fields / nations
- Multiple authors / mandates / funders
- Ethical risks
- Society publishers' charitable activities
- High impact journals require much higher open access fees

# Gold Open Access fees

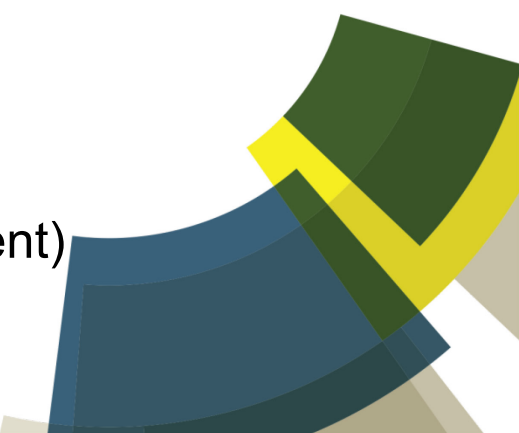




# What is the RSC's view?

*“RSC supports Open Access models which seek to ensure that **scholarly publishing activities** operate in a **long term sustainable way**”*

RSC content satisfies the fundamental pillars of scholarly publishing, namely:

- Certification (validation of quality and integrity)
  - Registration (recognition of achievement)
  - Accessibility (unparalleled online access, worldwide)
  - Archiving (reliable perpetual accessibility)
  - Discoverability (industry leading services to identify content)
- 



# Services RSC Publishing provides

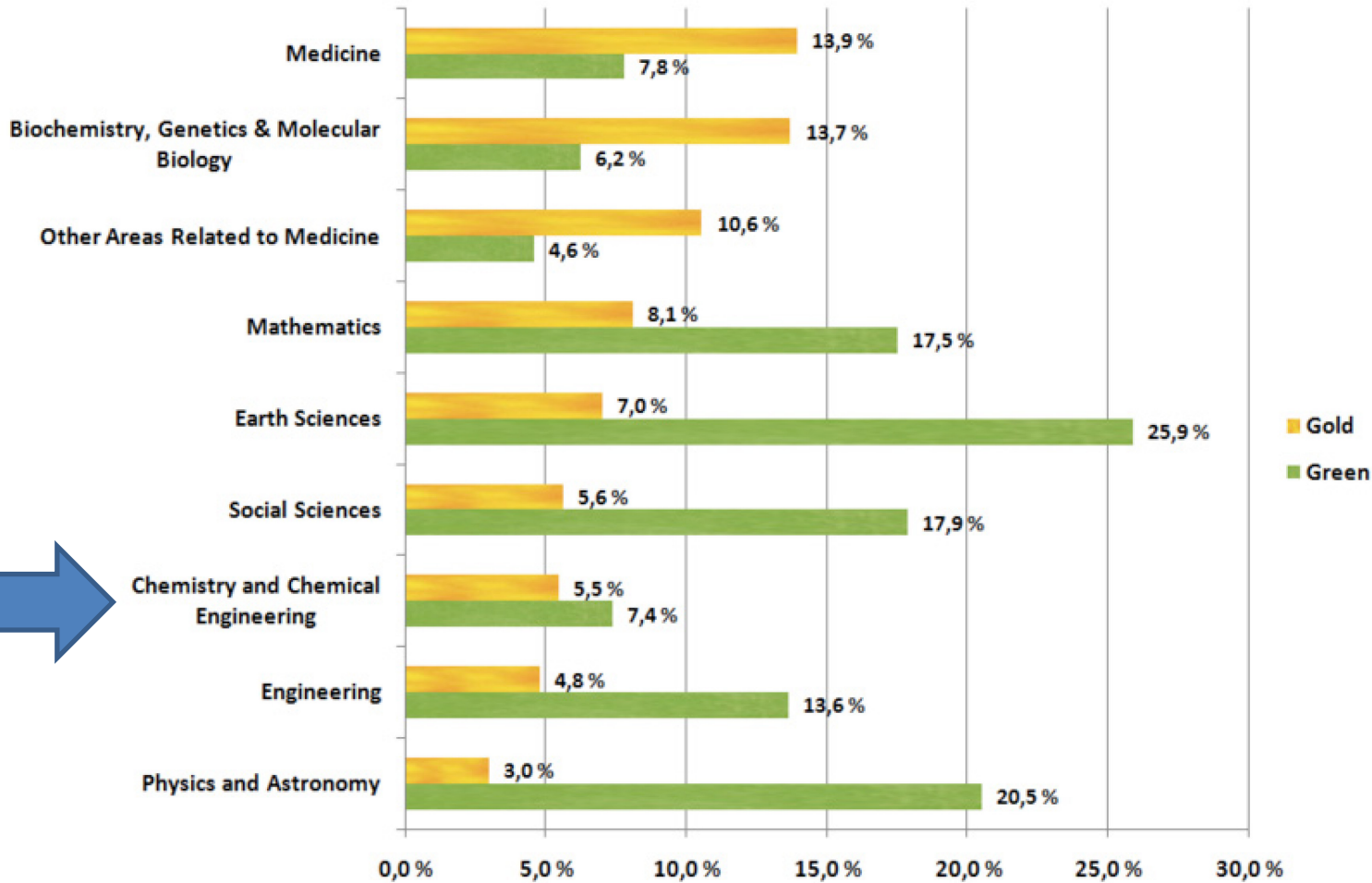
- Soliciting **new submissions** and authors
- Managing submissions and **peer-review**
- **Recruitment, training and support** of Editors & Editorial Boards
- Editing/typesetting/issue production
- Publication (online & print) & **dissemination**
- **Archiving** – creating a permanent record
- Discoverability / **promotion** / marketing / sales
- Innovations

To achieve this we need to operate a sustainable business model





# Current landscape - OA articles by field



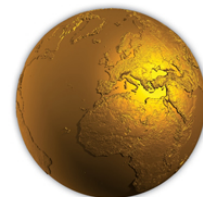
- *PLoS ONE* DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0011273



# Access to research

1. Subscription model – *traditional model*

2. ‘Gold’ open access



3. ‘Green’ open access





# Gold Open Access


‘Article Processing Charge/Fee’ is paid on acceptance

Paper is free for everyone to read from date of publication

## Advantages

- Paper freely available immediately
- Authors still receive ‘value-added’ services from publisher
- Potentially sustainable business model

## Disadvantages

- Cost could discourage some authors to publish
  - Changeover expensive for institutes who pay to publish OA and also read non-open content
- 



# Green Open Access


Paper initially published in a subscription journal

Deposited in an open access repository after an embargo period

## Advantages

- Free for researchers (but repositories still cost money to set-up and run)
- Majority of publishers already allow some form of deposition

## Disadvantages

- **Embargoes:** latest research is not freely accessible
  - **Archiving:** no version control of article deposited
  - Limited search facilities and discoverability
  - Unsustainable business model
- 



# Summary: Current situation

Rapid growth of OA journals and institutional repositories

Individual funding agency mandates - varying policies which can be confusing

Publisher experimentation continues



OA is fast moving, we are in a transition period

RSC wants to work with the community to support them, and be involved in the on-going discussions





# How is the RSC Responding





## Who we are

The world's leading chemistry community

## What we do

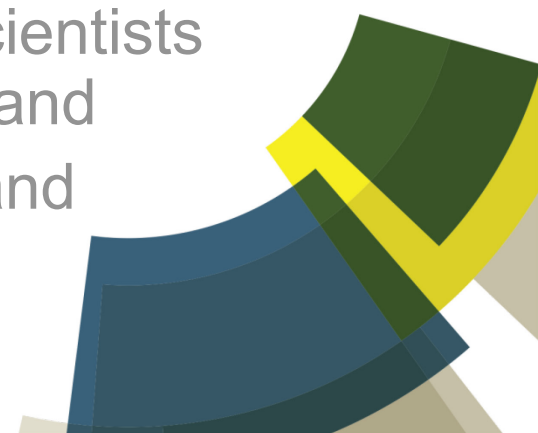
Advancing excellence in the chemical sciences

## Why we do it

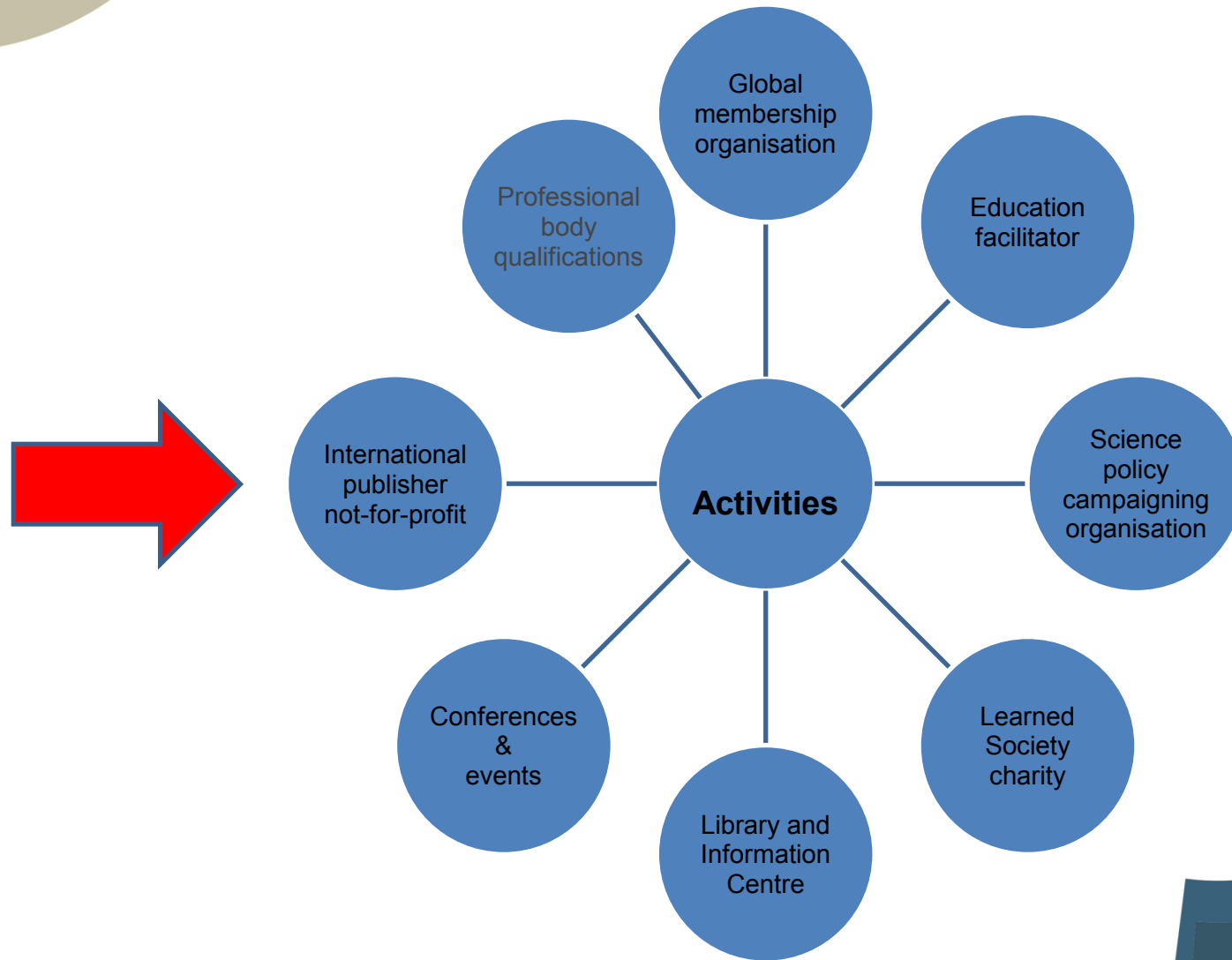
To shape the future of the chemical sciences for the benefit of science and humanity

## What drives us

Bringing chemical scientists together; promoting and sharing knowledge and ideas



# What do we do?

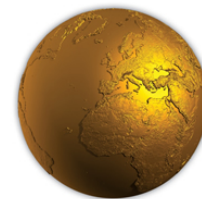




# RSC Open Access Policy

- RSC [Gold OA option](#) available since 2006:
  - £1,000 (communication / technical note)
  - £1,600 (full paper)
  - £2,500 (review)
- Discounts for key customers
  - RSC members and institutes subscribing to journal packages
- In 2012, ~0.2% uptake (*~50 papers*)
- In 2013, already >1%, expected to rise...

RSC allow authors to deposit accepted article version in a [non-commercial repository](#); embargo period of 12 months applies





# Gold for Gold



- We recognise researchers are being asked to publish OA, but may not have the funding
- A **reward** for all RSC Gold subscribing institutions
- Institutions get **voucher codes to publish Gold OA free of charge**
- Number of voucher codes received is what the institution pays for RSC Gold divided by £1,600
- **£6Million** invested in free Gold OA voucher codes for RSC Gold members


*"The more that this type of thinking can be seen to permeate throughout the publishing industry, the better."*

**Ron Egginton, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills**





# Results so far

- >600 Institutions qualify for Gold for Gold Voucher Codes
  - 508 articles from 129 different institutions in 24 countries
  - Institutions include:
    - Cambridge University (UK)
    - UCLA (US)
    - University of Queensland (Australia)
    - Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (India)
    - Chuo University (Japan)
- 



# What do Librarians think?

*"This initiative is welcomed, and will serve to promote Open Access publishing to researchers."*

**Lesley Gray, University of Cambridge, UK**

*"The Gold for Gold initiative is a great opportunity to introduce the Open Access Road to our researchers in Chemistry."*

**Margareta Fathli, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden**

*"The University of Queensland Library is very excited to participate in the RSC's Gold for Gold initiative as it adds to the Library's support for Open Access to faculty at UQ."*

**Heather Todd, University of Queensland**





# A changing role for Librarians?

- Custodians
- Communicators
- Promoters
- Advisors



# Ensuring Researchers benefit – A changing role for Librarians!

UCSF LIBRARY and Center for Knowledge Management

PUBMED@UCSF ASK US

COLLECTIONS & RESOURCES | CLASSES, CONSULTING & HELP | SERVICES | VISIT

SEARCH [GO] Search the Library website.

What's New at the Library > Open Access Publishing Vouchers Available for RSC Journals

ACCESS PUBLISHING VOUCHERS AVAILABLE FOR RSC JOURNALS

2013

SC | Advancing the Chemical Sciences

Researchers can publish open access articles at no cost in Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) journals through the Gold for Gold program to help researchers who want to publish their articles open access (OA), but lack funding. The program provides all RSC Gold subscribers with voucher codes to make papers available via open access, thanks to negotiations by the California Digital Library.

UCSF Library has a set number of RSC voucher codes and will assign them on a first-come, first-served basis. Each voucher code can be used to publish a communication, full paper, or review under the RSC's Gold OA option. For details, see "What is the process for authors under this initiative?" on this page. To request a voucher code, send an email to the Librarian, including correspondence from RSC demonstrating that your institution is eligible for a single voucher in 2013. The

UCLA Science and Engineering Library Blog  
Library News, Events, and Announcements

« Love Your Librarian? Nominate Them! » Upcoming Webinar: NIH's Public Access Policy – What's New? »

**Publish in RSC (Royal Society of Chemistry) via Open Access, Free of Charge**

**RSC's (Royal Society of Chemistry) Gold for Gold Initiative**

Gold for Gold is an innovative experiment from RSC Publishing that enables researchers to publish their paper in RSC journals free of charge, as a Gold Open Access (OA) article, without paying the normal Article Publication Fee (APF). **As a subscribing institution to the RSC, UCLA currently has thirteen vouchers to offer researchers for OA publishing on a first-come/first-serve basis.**

Each voucher code can be used to publish a communication, full paper, or review under the RSC's Gold OA option.

Having met these format criteria, the article **must** be:

- Accepted for publication in an RSC journal following an institution's renewal or upgrade to RSC Gold for 2013. A voucher code cannot be used until an article has been accepted. Once accepted, if the article is to be published Gold OA free of charge, it is up to the institution's representative to pass on the code to the author to be inserted into the Gold for Gold online acceptance form (see the next 2 FAQs for the role of the institution and the author). Please note all voucher codes, including credits provided during the 2012 pilot scheme are valid until the end of 2013
- New (i.e. voucher codes cannot be used for articles that have already been published)
- Authored by a researcher based at the institution holding the voucher codes

For program FAQ's, please visit <http://www.rsc.org/Publishing/Librarians/GoldforGoldFAQs.asp>.

If you would like one of these vouchers or more information about this program, please contact an SEL Librarian.

## Gold for Gold

Would you like to publish your chemical sciences paper open access, free of charge? Well you can!

The Royal Society of Chemistry has rewarded your institution with a select number of voucher codes to publish new papers in any of their journals via the RSC Gold OA option.

GREETINGS TO YOU, THE LUCKY RECIPIENT OF THIS GOLDEN TICKET

ASK YOUR LIBRARIAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

ASK your Librarian or Head of Chemistry for more information

**GOLD FOR GOLD**

OPEN ACCESS VOUCHER CODES TO PUBLISH ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY PAPERS – AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO RSC GOLD SUBSCRIBING INSTITUTIONS.

RSC Publishing

RSC.LI/GOLDFORGOLD  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 307090

# More Info

[rsc.li/goldforgold](http://rsc.li/goldforgold)

The screenshot shows the top of the RSC Publishing website. At the top right, there are links for 'Online Shop', 'Cookies', 'Contact us', and 'Advanced search'. Below this is a dark red navigation bar with 'Publishing' in white text. To the right of 'Publishing' is a dropdown menu labeled 'Other RSC site areas...' with a 'GO' button, and a search box labeled 'Site Search' with a 'GO' button. Below the navigation bar, there are several menu items: 'Home', 'Publishing', 'Librarians', 'Pricing information', 'My subscriptions', 'Library Tool Kit', 'Usage Reports', and 'IP Address registration form'. A large banner for 'Gold for Gold' is visible, featuring a background of golden bokeh lights. To the right of the banner is a small box for 'Dalton Discussion 14: Advancing the chemistry of the f-elements'. At the bottom of the banner area, there is a blue box labeled 'RSC Notes'.

[rsc.li/open-access](http://rsc.li/open-access)

The screenshot shows the 'Open Access' page on the RSC Publishing website. The page has a dark red header with 'Publishing' and navigation links. The main content area is titled 'Open Access at the RSC' and provides information on Open Access and RSC Policy. It includes a list of links for 'Open Access' such as 'Home', 'RSC Open Access statement', 'Transfer of Copyright', 'FAQ', 'Fees', 'Apply', 'Licence to Publish', and 'Contact'. There is also a section for 'Alerting Services' with links for 'RSS Feeds', 'Newsletters and TOC Alerts', and 'Email this to a friend'. A large image shows a row of white doors in a hallway, with one door slightly ajar. To the right of the image is a small box for 'Materials Chemistry Conference (MCI) 8 - 11 July 2013'. Below the image is a section titled 'Looking for FREE content? Find it here...'. At the bottom, there is an 'Advertisements' section.



# And what are we doing for Green?

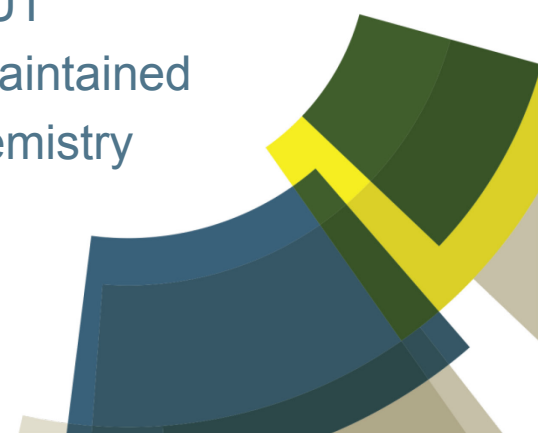
We recognise researchers are required by funding agencies to publish articles OA!

SO...

- **New Chemical Sciences Article Repository – JUST LAUNCHED**
- a subject specific OA repository for chemistry papers, hosting papers and linking through to the publisher's article of record

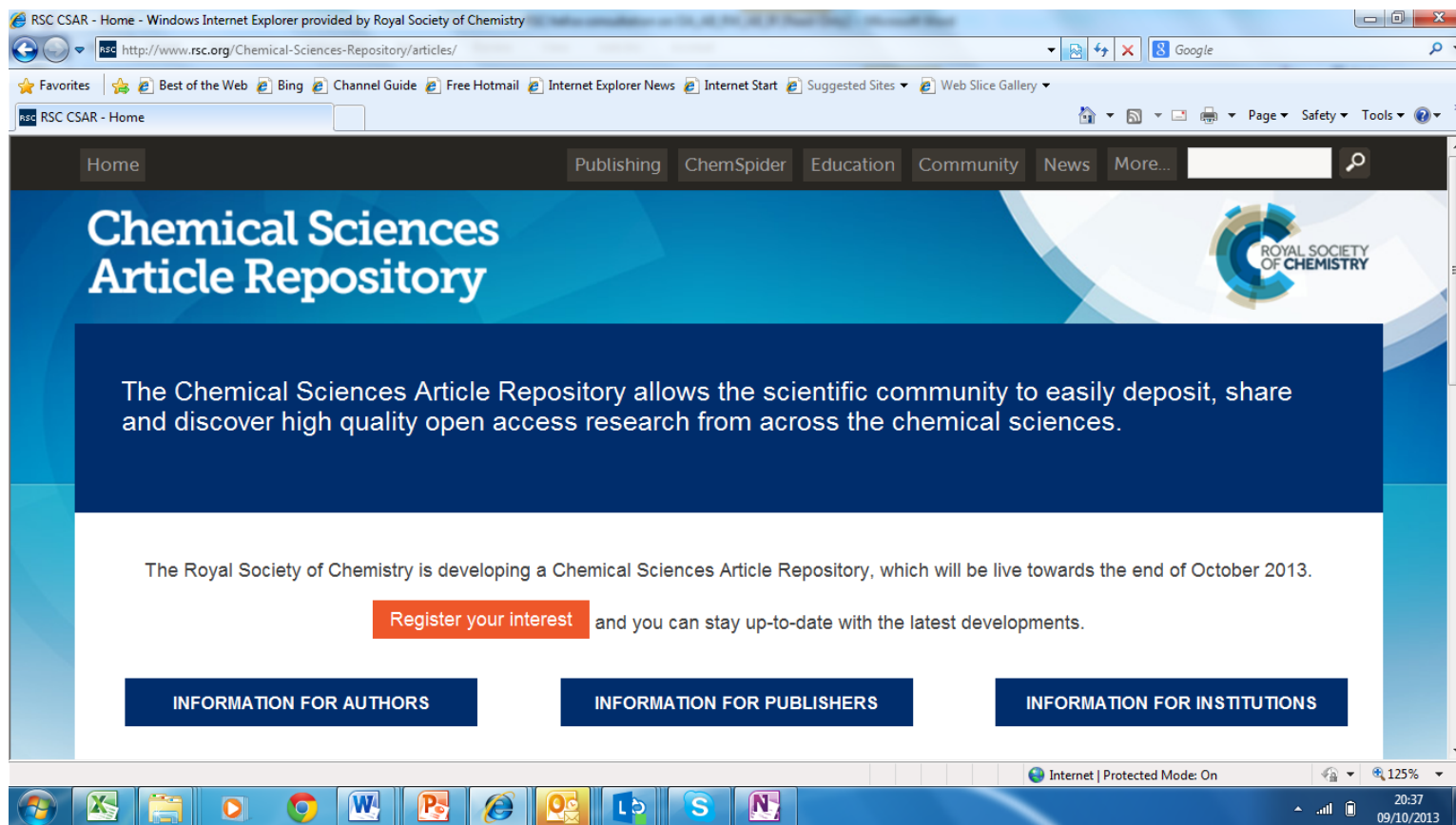
WHY?

Unsustainable as the primary model of OA publishing, BUT

- Important that the quality of the published record is maintained
  - Our mission is to promote, support and celebrate Chemistry
- 



# Chemical Science Repository



The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the RSC CSAR website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.rsc.org/Chemical-Sciences-Repository/articles/>. The website header includes navigation links for Home, Publishing, ChemSpider, Education, Community, News, and More... The main content area features the title "Chemical Sciences Article Repository" and the Royal Society of Chemistry logo. A central text block states: "The Chemical Sciences Article Repository allows the scientific community to easily deposit, share and discover high quality open access research from across the chemical sciences." Below this, a message indicates that the repository is under development and will be live towards the end of October 2013. A red button labeled "Register your interest" is followed by the text "and you can stay up-to-date with the latest developments." At the bottom of the main content area, there are three blue buttons: "INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS", "INFORMATION FOR PUBLISHERS", and "INFORMATION FOR INSTITUTIONS". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system tray with the date 09/10/2013 and time 20:37.

RSC CSAR - Home - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Royal Society of Chemistry

<http://www.rsc.org/Chemical-Sciences-Repository/articles/>

Home Publishing ChemSpider Education Community News More...

## Chemical Sciences Article Repository

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

The Chemical Sciences Article Repository allows the scientific community to easily deposit, share and discover high quality open access research from across the chemical sciences.

The Royal Society of Chemistry is developing a Chemical Sciences Article Repository, which will be live towards the end of October 2013.

[Register your interest](#) and you can stay up-to-date with the latest developments.

[INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS](#) [INFORMATION FOR PUBLISHERS](#) [INFORMATION FOR INSTITUTIONS](#)

Internet | Protected Mode: On 125% 20:37 09/10/2013



# Benefits of our Repository

## For Researchers

- Provides easy access to chemistry OA articles in a single

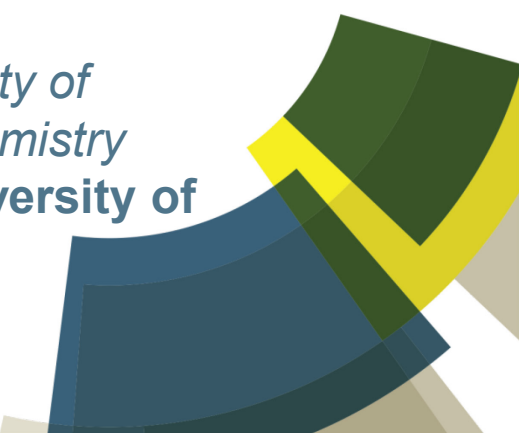
## For Funders

- Collects funded papers in one place – easing process of checking compliance

## For institutions and Librarians


- Improves the discoverability of the quality work of researchers in your organisation – raising your profile

*“a collection of chemistry data curated by the Royal Society of Chemistry will be of significant value to the worldwide chemistry community.”* **Prof Philip Gale, Head of Chemistry, University of Southampton**





# Summary

- We supports both Gold and Green Open Access models
  - Gold is the sustainable model
  - Gold for Gold has been very well received.
  - We will continue to improve on our offerings, including Chemical Science Repository
- 

# More information:

## Websites

<http://rsc.li/open-access>

<http://rsc.li/goldforgold>

## E-mail

[occonnorb@rsc.org](mailto:occonnorb@rsc.org)

