Funding data publication at Dryad

The present and potential future of Data Publishing Charges

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For too long, public discussions have overlooked the true costs of data openness. More tangible support from governments and funders would work wonders.

Empty rhetoric over data sharing slows science. Nature 546, 327 (15 June 2017) doi:10.1038/546327a
DataDryad.org is a curated general-purpose repository that makes the data underlying scientific publications discoverable, freely reusable, and citable. Dryad has integrated data submission for a growing list of journals; submission of data from other publications is also welcome.
Dryad sustainability principles

1. Dryad requires sufficient resources to ensure that data can be responsibly preserved and freely downloaded into the indefinite future.

2. Sources of revenue must scale with costs, which are primarily driven by the number of deposits.

3. Membership and service fees should be distributed fairly.
Payment model features

Waivers
Payment model features

Waivers

Sponsors
Payment model features

Waivers

Sponsors

Submitters
Survey results: who pays?

- I paid the DPC myself from personal funds, and was not reimbursed: 26%
- I paid the DPC myself from personal funds, but was reimbursed: 28%
- Other: 9%
- Institutional voucher: 5%
- I used an institutional credit card: 35%
What the DPC covers

Breakdown of Expenses

- Repository Management: 32%
- Curation: 24%
- Research & Development*: 18%
- Repository Maintenance: 16%
- Infrastructure & Facilities: 4%
- Outreach & Promotion: 2%

* covered by grants
What the DPC covers: human curation!
Pros of the DPC model

- Broad and fair revenue stream that scales with the costs of maintaining the repository and of increasing deposits
- Democratic - gives all stakeholders means by which to support open infrastructure
- Distributes the cost burden thinly and broadly among a nearly limitless base of customers
- Decreases reliance on grant funding
Cons of the DPC model

- Large number of transactions and associated administrative, accounting, and sales/marketing needs
- Explaining why a user or institution should pay a DPC can be a challenge, especially when there are options with no fee
- Providers of similar services with greater resources have the ability to innovate and drive more business
- Revenue can be hard to predict - reference models are scarce
- May unintentionally focus efforts on bigger plans, direct resources away from educating researchers or from smaller institutions and societies
- Risk of over-dependence on bigger sponsors
Cons of the DPC model

And we thank you for this... APC’s served a purpose as initial transitional mode, but now we need to move more equitable, inclusive and globally sustainable models.

Indeed! that’s why we started @PsyOpenAccess, to support transition to no-fee journals. But also, always post preprints (for free) to make your work #openaccess. twitter.com/NeuroStats/sta...
Dryad and California Digital Library (CDL) are formally partnering to address researcher needs and lead an open, community-supported, non-commercial initiative in research data curation and publishing.
Thank you

http://datadryad.org
http://blog.datadryad.org
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