Plan S: The options for publishers

John Sack, Founding Director, HighWire

Updated June 2019

The Panels

DC

- John Sack, HighWire
- Dana Compton, ASCE
- Rich Dodenhoff, ASPET
- Melissa Junior, ASM
- Monica Bradford, AAAS

SSP

- John Sack, HighWire
- Rich Dodenhoff, ASPET
- Greg Malar, RUP
- Karen Halm, AJNR
- Dana Compton, ASCE

London

- John Sack, HighWire
- Claire Moulton, COB
- Theo Bloom, BMJ
- Jasmin Lange, Brill

The Presentations

DC

- https://highwirepublishersmeetingwa2019.sched.com/event/NwCz/12-plan-s-workshop-outcomes-and-implementations

SSP

- (30-60 days post SSP: July/August 2019 – audio plus slides)
- Contact sack@highwire.org for individual decks for now

London

- https://highwirepublishersmeetinglo2019.sched.com/event/Pmwd/plan-s-workshop-outcomes-and-implementations

Our approach to gathering publisher input

October 01

Pre-guidance interviews

Starting October 01, interviews conducted with 22 individuals from 15 publisher to establish implementation options.

November 27

Implementation Guidance

cOAlition S released Implementation Guidance, which formed much of the debate at APE.

December 16

Publisher survey

First survey of publishers gauged views and preferences of 14 implementation options as identified in October interviews.

January 29

HighWire workshop

42 individuals from 27 publishers discussed favored options and completed a second preference survey to gauge changes in opinion.

May 08

Publisher survey

Second survey updated views and preferences of the 14 options from the December survey.

The 14 implementation options considered

The scores reflect the publishers' preference for the option based on the December 16th survey.

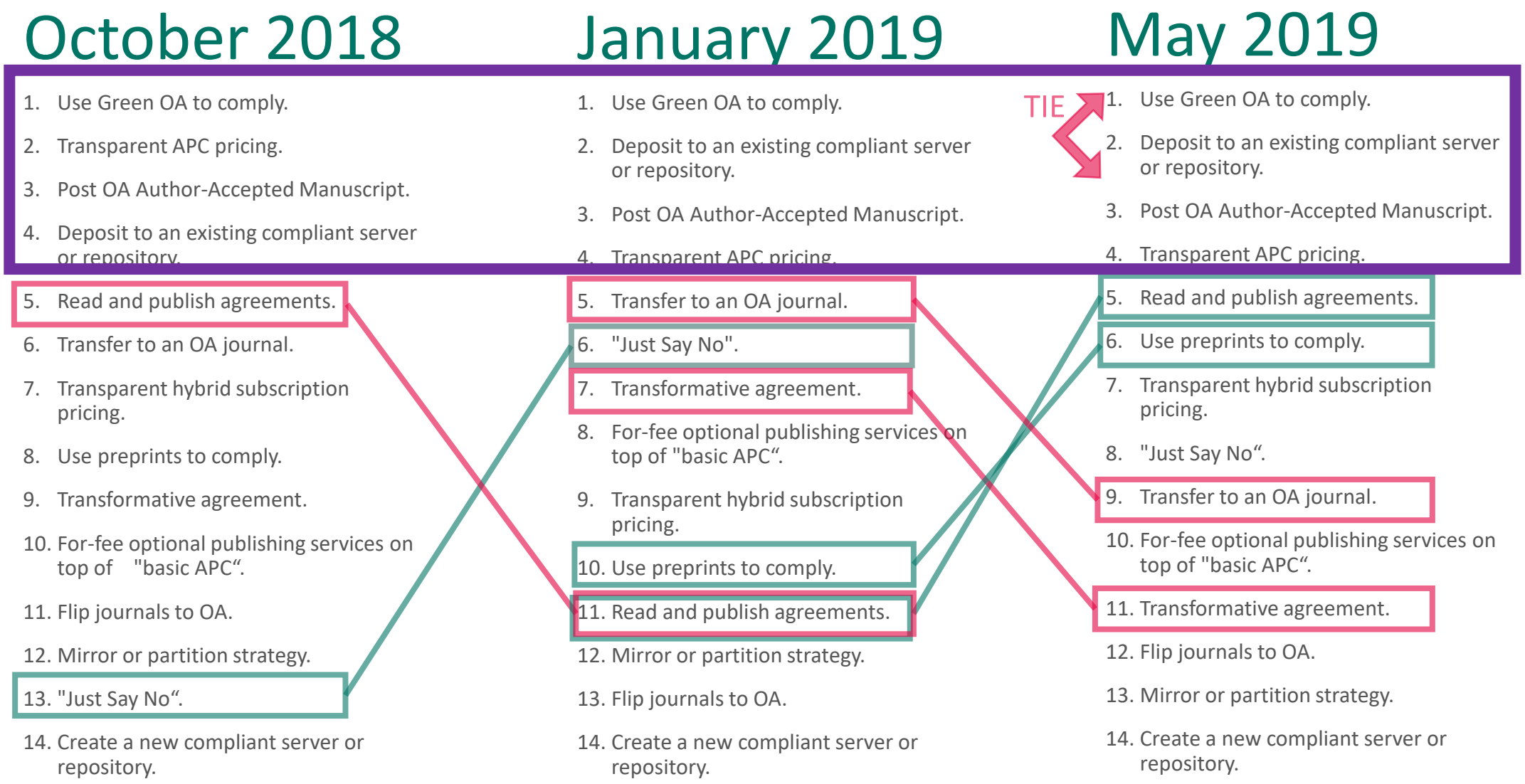
Create a new compliant server or repository 2.00	Stay the course, for now 2.25	Mirror or partition strategy 2.55	Flip the journal(s) from subscription to full OA 2.61	A menu of publishing services to layer on top of compliant APCs 2.73	Transformative Agreement 2.79	Use preprints to comply 2.97
Transparent hybrid subscription pricing 2.97	Transfer to an OA journal for Plan S authors 2.97	Read and publish agreements 3.10	Deposit to an existing compliant server or repository 3.37	Publish Ahead of Print with OA final author accepted manuscript 3.38	Transparent APC pricing 3.45	Use Green OA to comply 3.70

The 4 most-favored options

The second score is from the post workshop January 29th survey.
The scores reflect the changing views as more clarification is issued and the impact of the options is better understood.

Create a new compliant server or repository 2.00 ↘ 1.55	**Stay the course, for now** **2.25 ↗ 2.91**	Mirror or partition strategy 2.55 ↘ 2.35	Flip the journal(s) from subscription to full OA 2.61 ↘ 2.23	A menu of publishing services to layer on top of compliant APCs 2.73 ↘ 2.70	Transformative Agreement 2.79 ↘ 2.78	Use preprints to comply 2.97 ↘ 2.61
Transparent hybrid subscription pricing 2.97 ↘ 2.70	Transfer to an OA journal for Plan S authors 2.97 ↗ 3.00	Read and publish agreements 3.10 ↘ 2.52	**Deposit to an existing compliant server or repository** **3.37 ↗ 3.39**	**Publish Ahead of Print with OA final author accepted manuscript** **3.38 ↘ 3.30**	Transparent APC pricing 3.45 ↘ 3.09	**Use Green OA to comply** **3.70 ↗ 3.83**

Independent-Publisher Response Evolves



Plan S compliance

Open Access journals or Open Access platforms	Deposition of scholarly articles in Open Access repositories	Transformative agreements
Authors publish in a Plan S compliant Open Access journal or on a Plan S compliant Open Access platform with a CC BY license.	Immediately upon publication, authors deposit the final published version of a scholarly publication (Version of Record (VoR)) or an Author's Accepted Manuscript (AAM), in a Plan S compliant repository. The document is made available immediately open access (with no embargo) under a CC BY license.	Authors publish Open Access with a CC BY license in a subscription journal that is covered by a transformative agreement that has a clear and time-specified commitment to a full Open Access transition.

Thank you to the HighWire community

American Association for the Advancement of Science

American Academy of Neurology

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association for Cancer Research

American Association for Clinical Chemistry

American Association of Immunologists

American Chemical Society

American College of Cardiology

American Diabetes Association

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

American Society for Microbiology

American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics

American Society of Civil Engineers

American Society of Nephrology

American Society of Neuroradiology

American Society of Plant Biologists

BMJ Publishing Group Limited

Company of Biologists

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press

EMBO Press

Endocrine Society

Genetics Society of America

Joule Inc., A CAM Company

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Rockefeller University Press

Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

Society for Neuroscience

HighWire

The Panelists' Principle Choices

- ASPET: Green OA via AAM on publisher site
- RUP: Green OA via authors' own deposit actions
- AJNR: Green OA via AAM on PMC
- ASCE: Stay the Course, for now
- ASM: Green OA deposits allowed
- AAAS: Exploring green OA zero-day embargo
- COB: *coming up next!*
- BMJ: *and next!*
- Brill: *and next!*

Where is Society/NFP/Medium-sized Publishers now?

- Less of a sense of alarm and panic, more of a sense of planning
- Plan S has to fit in to overall business plans/directions
  - Perhaps because number of Coalition S funders hasn't much increased
  - China and US unlikely to sign on
- Getting ahead of governance groups, before they get in front of publishing executives
  - What evidence do they need?
  - Commission consultants to model scenarios, etc.
- Zero-embargo green OA seems generally ok
  - Questions: who deposits? AAM?
- "Transformative agreements" still puzzling for NFPs
  - How? collaborations? Model agreements?

What has changed in the new Guidance?

- Date for action: a year later
- Explicit “Rationale” for changes
- Concept of “transformative *journals*” is new, still fixed date
- Repository requirements relaxed
- ND (not NC) available by exception
- Clarified green route for authors
- Clarified green route can be paid APC but not by Coalition S
- ESAC rules require transparency and registration of deal parameters
- Research assessment (DORA) now a principle – to aid ECRs?
- No APC cap
- APC element transparency

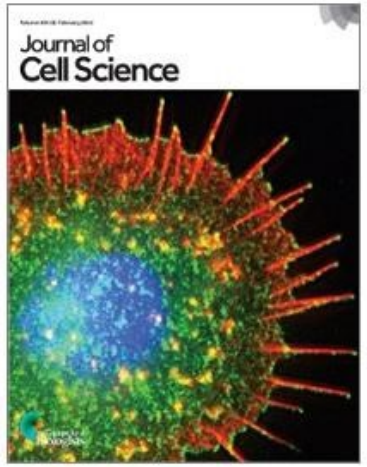
(just a partial list)

Source documents

- Here are the Coalition articles: https://www.coalition-s.org/rationale-for-the-revisions/
- https://www.coalition-s.org/revised-implementation-guidance/

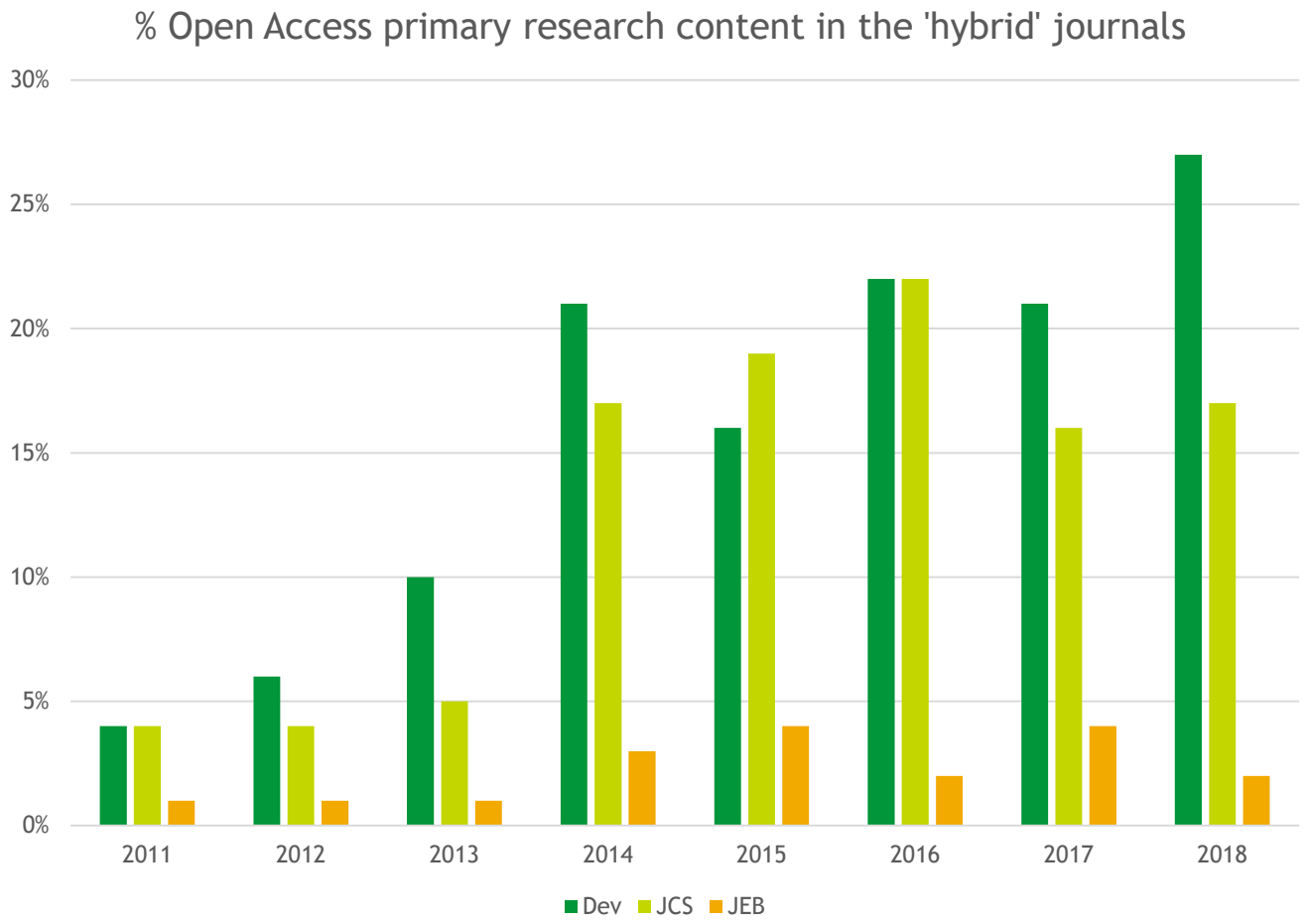
- Here is a Nature news piece: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01717-2
- Here is the Science news article: https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/05/radical-open-access-plan-delayed-year-revised-effort-seeks-more-support

The Company of Biologists' journals



The Company of Biologists

Hybrid journals - OA take-up



Small things we can all do

Explain the true costs of publishing and the value we add as publishers

Make sure you're not double dipping

Mock up your transparent APCs

Review your APC waiver policy

Get your metadata into shape

Join DORA if you haven't already

Seek collaborations and partnerships

Society Publishers' Coalition

Mission statement

The Society Publishers' Coalition (SPC) is a group of likeminded, not-for-profit learned societies, community publishers and membership charities who publish as part of their charitable objectives and who re-invest the surplus from their publishing into the disciplinary communities they serve.

SPC members share the common ambition to see an orderly and sustainable transition to open scholarship and to improve the efficiency of the scholarly communication ecosystem for the benefit of researchers and society at large in a fair and sustainable way. In order to help achieve this we wish to work with researchers, funders, institutions and other stakeholders.

Feel free to ask me more
or contact us via https://www.socpc.org/

Academy of Social Sciences
Biochemical Society and Portland Press
British Ecological Society
British Educational Research Association
British Institute of Radiology
British Pharmacological Society
British Society for Immunology
British Sociological Association
Diabetes UK
Federation of European Microbiology Societies
Geological Society of London
ICE Publishing
IWA Publishing
Microbiology Society
Regional Studies Association
Royal College of Psychiatrists
Royal Geographical Society
Royal Meteorological Society
Royal Society of Biology
Society for Applied Microbiology
Society of Chemical Industry
Society for Endocrinology
The British Academy
The British Editorial Society of Bone & Joint Surgery
The Company of Biologists
The Institution of Engineering and Technology
The Physiological Society
The Royal Society

The Company of Biologists

HighWire Publishers' Meeting, London June 2019

Responding to Plan S

Theodora Bloom PhD, Executive Editor, *The BMJ*

Competing interests

- I'm Executive Editor of *The BMJ*. It is published by BMJ, a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association.
- BMJ (the company) receives 8.7% of revenues from drug & device companies through advertising, reprint sales, & sponsorship. For *The BMJ* it's 12%. *The BMJ* is an open access journal that charges article-processing fees for Research Articles.
- I chair the Advisory Board of Europe PubMed Central.
- I am a Founder of the MedRxiv clinical preprint server.
- I am European Coordinator for the Peer Review Congress.
- I am on the Board of AIP Publishing

Europe PMC

medRxiv
THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

International Congress on Peer Review and Scientific Publication
Enhancing the quality and credibility of science
September 12-14, 2021 | Chicago, USA

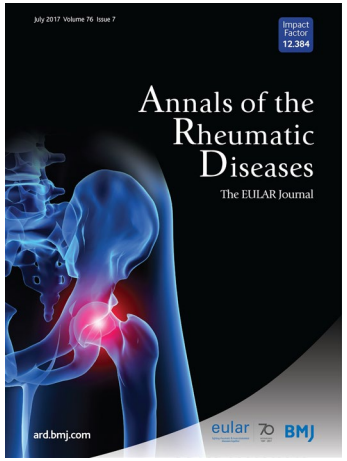
AIP Publishing

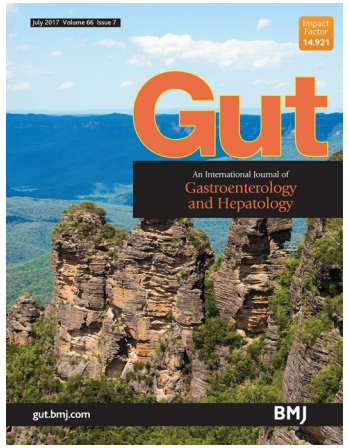
BMJ

The BMJ: print magazine and online journal

- News
- Features
- Investigations
- Education
- Campaigns
- Opinions
- Guidelines
- Commentary
- Analysis
- ... And Open Access Research Articles supported by article- processing charges (“Gold” - open whether or not an APC is paid)

BMJ journals portfolio is very diverse



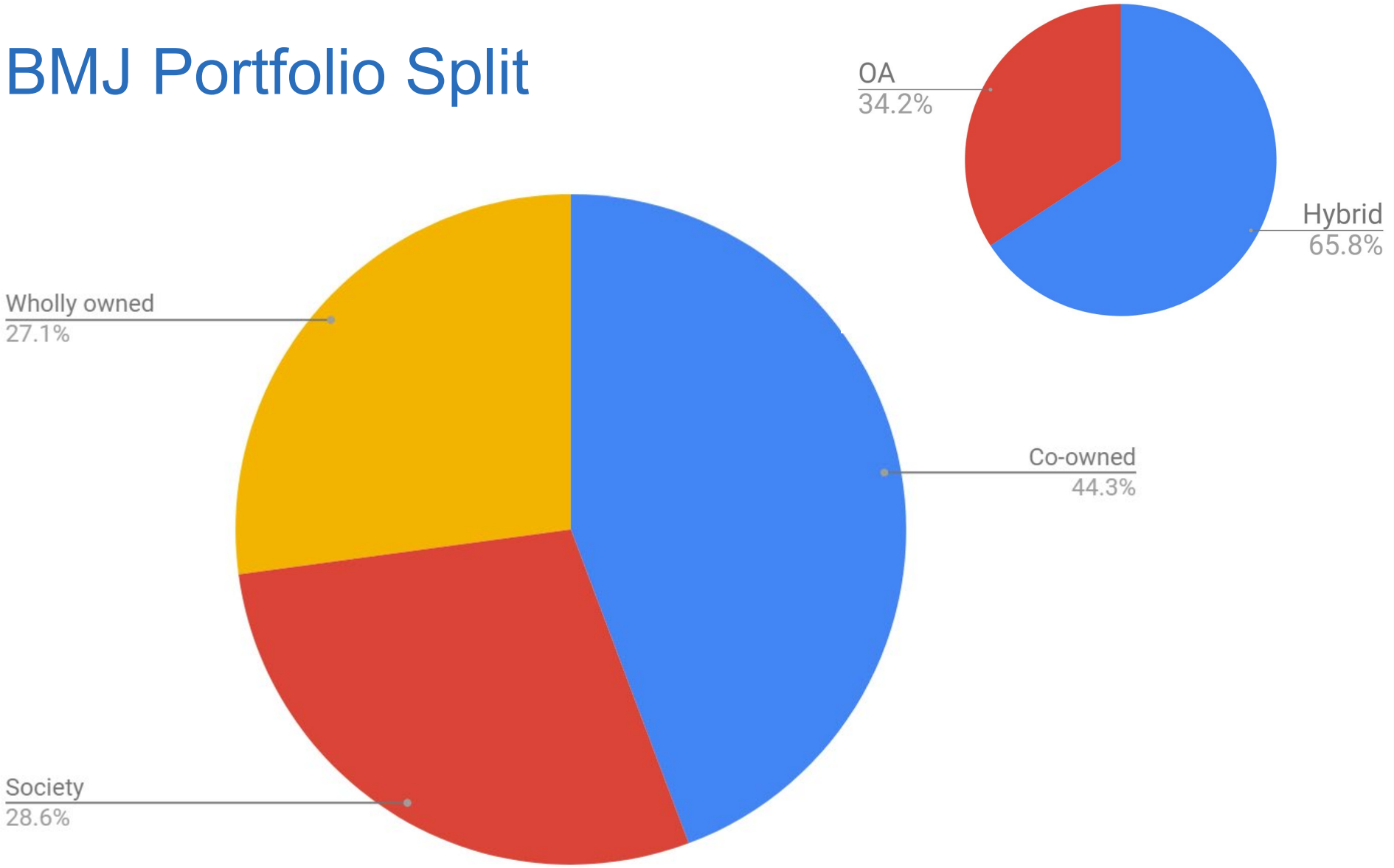


10,000+ articles

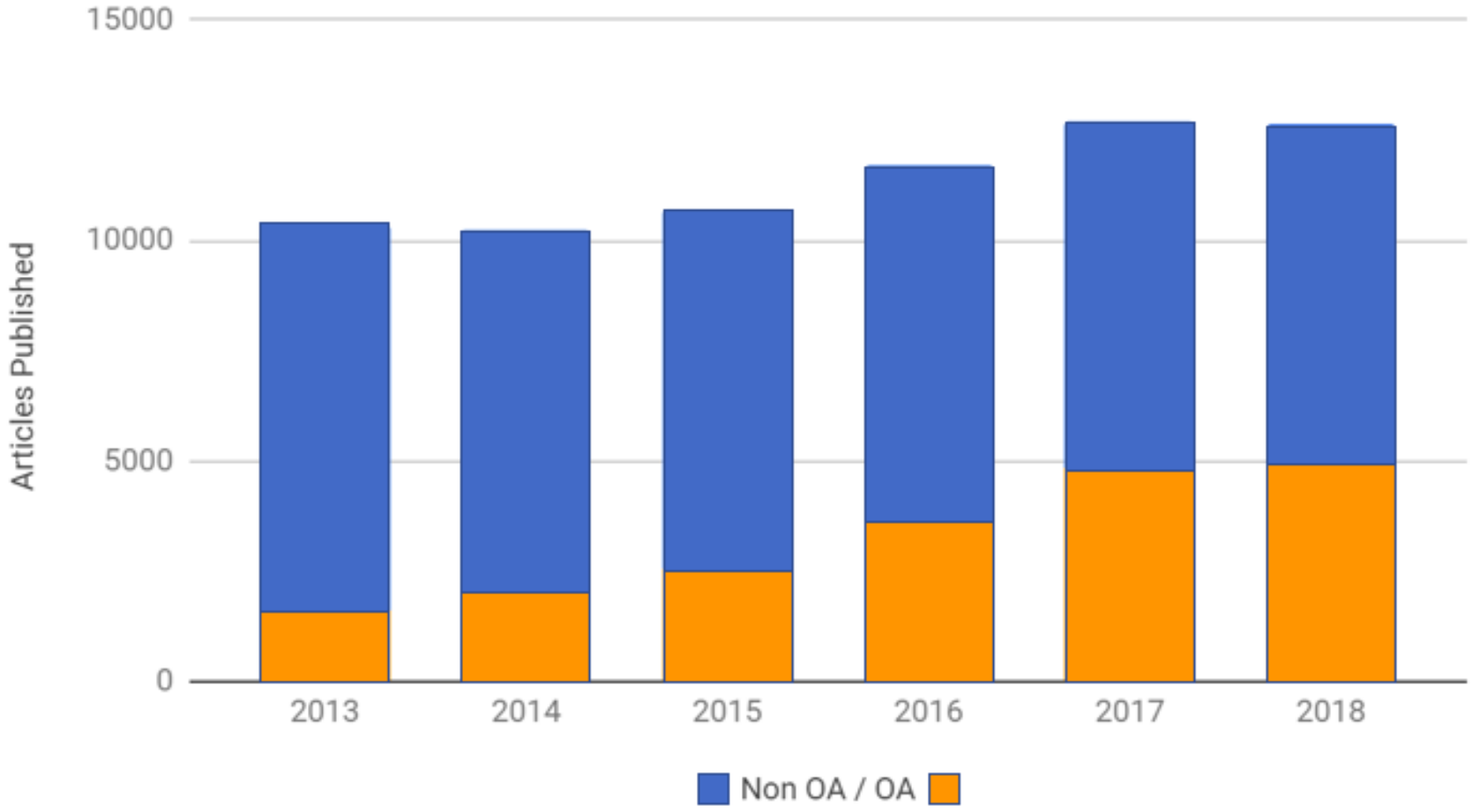
Open Access companion journals (not mirrors)

BMJ

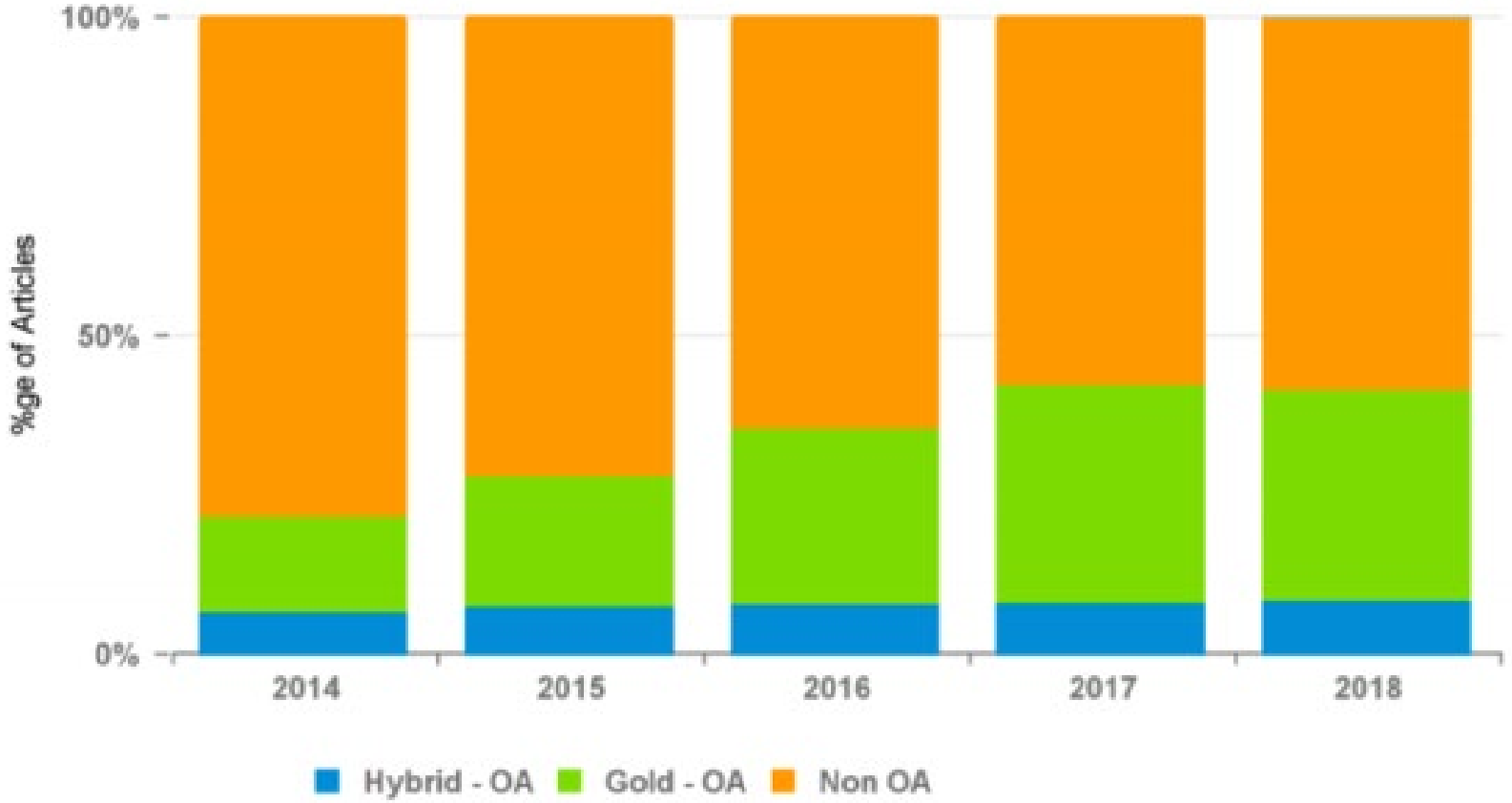
BMJ Portfolio Split



BMJ's OA content has grown as has our output



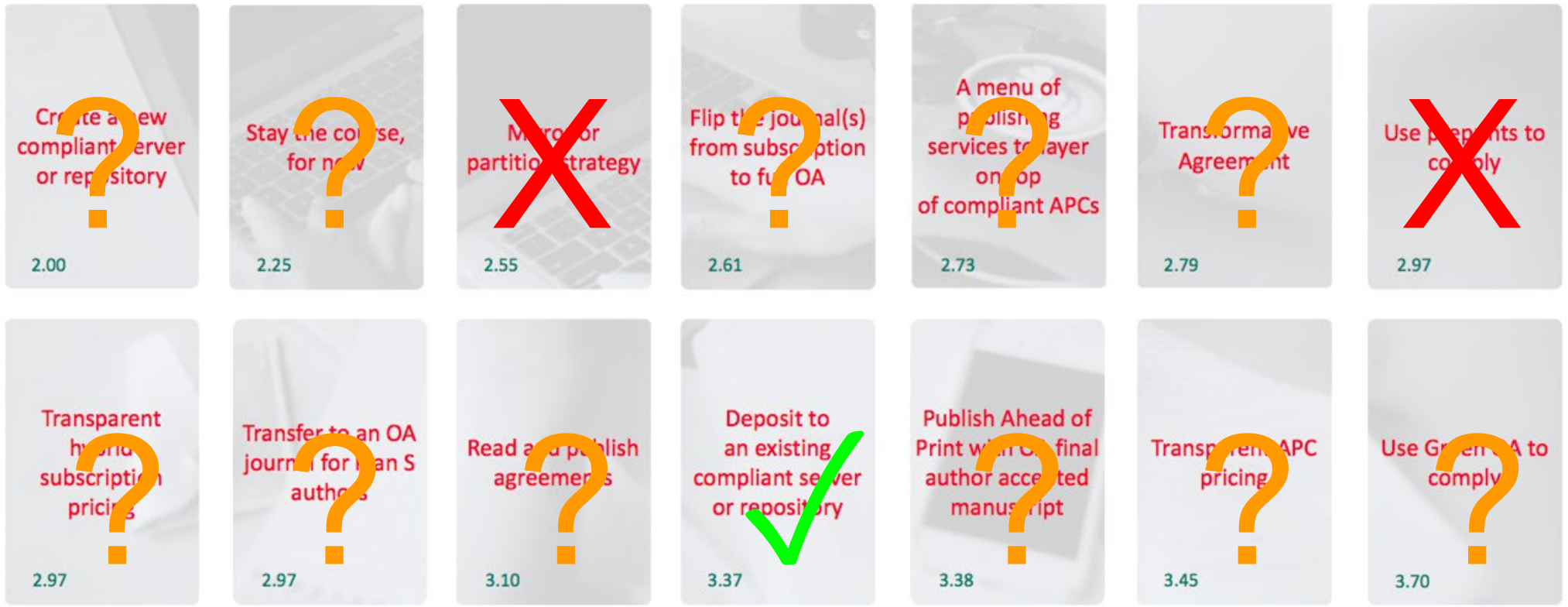
Most OA growth is in gold OA journals



What about Plan S?

- It’s complicated, even without moving goalposts
- One size doesn’t fit all
- Can rule out some options while continuing to consider others
- Show me the data!

Possible responses to Plan S - per John Sack



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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thank-you-word-cloud.jpg


BMJ

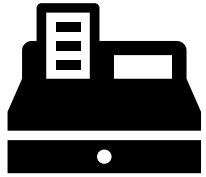
Over three centuries of scholarly publishing

BRILL

Plan S @ Brill


TUTA SUB AEGIDE PALLAS
1683

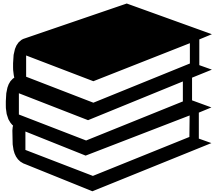
Publicly listed since 1896



36M revenue

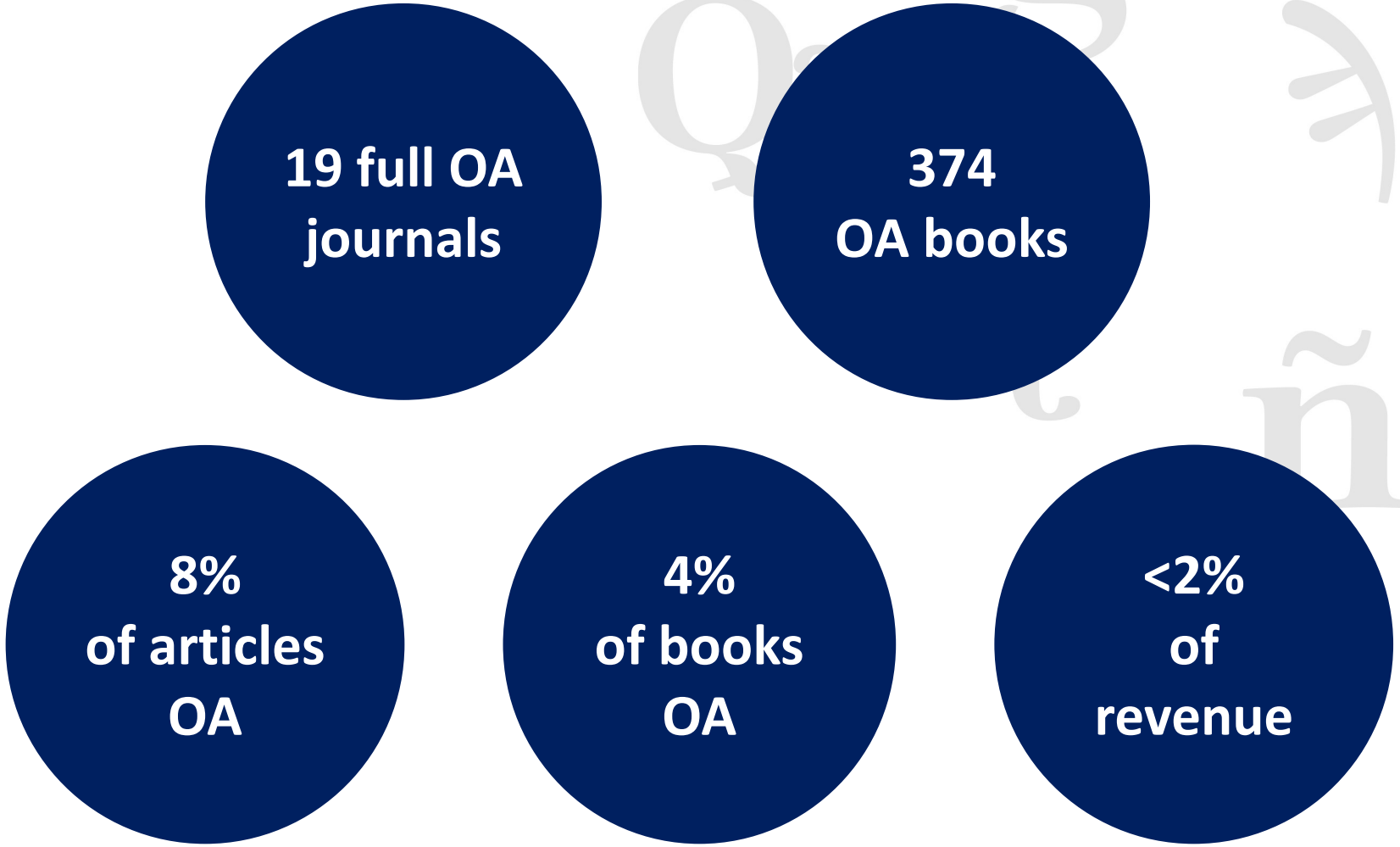
EBITDA margin 10-15%

170 staff in 5 locations



1,200 books, 318 journals, 160 databases

BRILL OPEN


19 full OA journals
374 OA books
8% of articles OA
4% of books OA
<2% of revenue


KEEP
CALM
AND
PLAN(S)

An HSS Perspective on Plan S

This is an open letter to all funding agencies, government bodies and institutions that support Plan S. It is written from the perspective of publishers working across the humanities and social sciences (HSS) and will be submitted to the open consultation of cOAlition S. This letter does not represent a comprehensive critique of the recently published guidelines. In the past few weeks, the research community has offered detailed analysis and feedback on the guidelines and we share many of the concerns.[1] This letter focuses on the unintended consequences and deleterious impact of applying a model designed for STM journals to all humanities and social science disciplines. It also offers ideas for a collaborative way forward.

https://plansinhss.home.blog/

Plan B(rill)

1. Green OA is an intermediary solution.
2. Support innovative models that help shift subscription money to OA.
3. Encourage transformative agreements with smaller publishers.
4. Allow hybrid but only for journals with a transparent and fair policy to avoid double dipping.
5. CC-BY is not always the most suitable license for HSS.
6. Involve experienced publishers in developing sustainable policies for monographs.

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BRILL