

## **Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing: Open Access policy**

### **Introduction**

Open Access (OA) is now an accepted route for making author's work more widely available to readers. The principle of OA is make scholarly work freely accessible online without readers having to pay to gain access to such information e.g. by paying a subscription to a journal or paying the price of a book.

Many bodies funding research projects now require participating researchers to publish their findings through an OA route so those findings can be easily accessed by other researchers. Like many other publishers in Scientific, Technical and Medical (STM) publishing, Burleigh Dodds Science (BDS) Publishing is committed to providing an OA route to publication where authors request this for their chapter. In most cases, requests for OA publication are likely to be in response to the need to meet the terms and conditions set by an organisation funding an author's research. In some cases such organisations may allocate part of their funding to cover the costs of publishing OA material to the appropriate standard.

These guidelines provide background on OA and explain how authors can go about publishing their work through an OA route.

### **What kind of OA licence should I request?**

OA works are published with a license that readers must agree to as a condition of accessing the work. Such licenses may impose restrictions on whether material can be adapted or changed, or whether it can be re-used for commercial purposes, for example. The most widely accepted licenses are those developed by the Creative Commons organisation (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/>). BDS offers two types of Creative Commons license:

- Attribution license (commonly known as CC BY): this license allows users to access and share an author's work. It also allows users to produce and disseminate derivative works using an author's material for both commercial and non-commercial purposes, providing the author is properly acknowledged. Since it allows the widest possible scope for users, this license is recommended by a number of funding bodies.
- Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives license (commonly known as CC BY NC ND): this license allows users only to access and share an author's work. Shared material must be credited but cannot be adapted, altered or used for commercial purposes. This license provides authors with greater control over how their work is used.

It is important for authors to check which type of license may be required by an organisation funding research as well as any concerns they might have about how their work might be used once open access is given to it.

### **What do we charge for publishing OA material?**

Our preferred approach to OA is the so-called 'Gold' route in which the author (or, more usually, the organisation funding the author's research) pays a fee towards the costs incurred by the publisher in

producing the work to the right standard. The publisher then makes the author's work freely available online via the publisher's existing platform for hosting content. It is important for authors check that funding agencies support this approach.

Our standard charge for 'Gold' OA is £1950 (excl. VAT). This fee is used to meet the costs of creating high-quality content with maximum impact for its target audience. This amount is in line with article processing charges (APCs) by leading journals in agricultural science such as the *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* (Wiley), the *Journal of Agricultural Science* (Cambridge University Press), the *European Journal of Agriculture* (Elsevier) and the *Journal of Sustainable Agriculture* (Taylor and Francis). It is also consistent with the charges for book chapters suggested by one of the leading funding agencies (see: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2013/07/01/monographs-and-book-chapters/>). The fee is payable when a chapter is contracted.

Some funding bodies have set aside funds to support OA publication. Authors should contact the relevant body funding their research. Funding can sometimes be accessed via academic departments or university libraries. If authors do not have the relevant funding, it may be more appropriate to follow a more conventional route to publication.

### **What service will we provide in return for an OA fee?**

The role of a good publisher is to add value to information at each stage of the production process both for the benefit of the author and the reader. BDS provides a range of services for its authors to add value to their content so that it reaches, is used and valued by key researchers in the author's subject. These services include:

- **Chapter topic selection:** we work in partnership with editors to develop collections of chapters which provide the comprehensive and authoritative coverage readers need to navigate a subject. We ensure both the best selection of topics and key experts such as yourself. Each chapter benefits from being part of a collection which will become, in many cases, a standard reference in its field, widely used and cited by other researchers.
- **Chapter structure:** based on a strong understanding of readers' needs, we provide detailed guidance to authors on what readers most want to see covered. This helps to maximise the value and impact of the chapter on publication.
- **Chapter delivery:** we take the main responsibility for coordinating delivery of all the chapters in a collection. By investing in the right systems and people, we ensure each collection is delivered on schedule and to the right quality. Each chapter benefits from being part of a well-managed collection able to make a significant contribution to its subject.
- **Peer review:** we will arrange for your chapter to be reviewed by the editor or a subject specialist where a topic falls outside an editor's area of expertise. We will manage the review process so that is both rapid and effective.
- **Presentation:** where required, we will work with authors to redraft chapters to improve style and organisation so we can ensure chapters achieve a high quality in presentation as well as content.
- **Production:** we will ensure authors' chapters are produced to the high standard readers expect. Our services include initial checking of manuscripts for completeness, copyediting, typesetting and independent checking of proofs to produce a complete, high-quality final version of an author's work.
- **Publication:** as soon as they are ready, we will publish individual chapters on the relevant platform to ensure rapid publication. We have an open access page on our website where

we can host individual OA chapters (<http://www.bdspublishing.com/open-access/>). Once sufficient chapters are ready, we will publish the book collection to which the chapter belongs in both print and electronic format. As our publishing programme develops, chapters will form part of what we see as a leading database of content for agricultural scientists.

- **Discoverability:** a key to readers finding content online is comprehensive, high quality metadata which needs to link to the relevant bibliographic systems used, for example, by librarians. We will ensure each chapter has the appropriate metadata to maximize discoverability. We will also work to ensure chapters are cited in relevant abstract and indexing services to help researchers locate them more easily. We will also deposit copies of OA chapters in the Open Access Publishing in European Networks (OAPEN) virtual library
- **Promotion:** we will market each title to its target audience to ensure it reaches the widest possible audience of key experts in the subject.
- **Complimentary copies:** we will send authors an electronic copy of their finished chapter for personal use. We will also send authors a print and electronic copy of the book to which their chapter belongs when the book is published.

### **The process of making a chapter open access**

If you wish to make your chapter OA, we will send you this guide and our standard OA licence agreement. If you are happy with the terms of the OA licence, we will send you an invoice for payment. This will need to include details such as:

- Your name and address
- Details of the chapter
- VAT number (if applicable)

Once the invoice has been paid and, providing your chapter has completed production, we will make it freely available on our chapter database (an example is:

<https://www.bdschapters.com/webshop/open-access/developments-in-the-use-of-hermetic-bags-for-grain-storage/>). We also have a dedicated open access tab on our main website where open access chapters can also be posted (<https://www.bdspublishing.com/open-access/>).

### **What can I do with my chapter?**

The final, published, value-added version of your chapter is called the 'version of record'. This is the version we will publish. Its use will be then governed by the relevant Creative Commons License you have selected.

Once the chapter is published as Open Access, you are, of course, free to distribute the chapter yourself, in addition to Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing making the chapter freely available (e.g. via its website or by depositing OA chapters in the Open Access Publishing in European Networks (OAPEN) virtual library). You may e.g. wish to post the chapter on your own or your institution's website for others to access, use and cite, or post it on a scholarly collaboration network such as ResearchGate to ensure optimum visibility.

### **What are the next steps?**

If you wish to follow an OA route for your chapter, please contact the Editorial Director, Francis Dodds, at: [francis.dodds@bdspublishing.com](mailto:francis.dodds@bdspublishing.com).