

The OAPEN Open Access Books Toolkit

<https://www.oabooks-toolkit.org/>

An easy-to-use toolkit supporting research managers in the UK

ARMA Session 10th March 2021 Accompanying notes to video

We encourage interested parties to sign up to the mailing list at:

<https://oapen.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=314fa411ba5eaaee7244c95e1&id=9985a7e6a1>

Feedback / comments

“Planning to use as part of training sessions about OA monographs.”

“It looks really helpful for authors with the information in one place.”

“The toolkit looks very extensive and I think will be really useful for navigating the increased need for OA book publishing. It has certainly helped build my knowledge.”

“Thank you - having testimonials would be great.”

“Thanks for sharing this toolkit. Will be speaking to colleagues about this.”

Questions

“I have not explored the toolkit yet. Looks very useful. Just wondering if fee free open access book publishing options are flagged up - we are green only for articles, so I don't anticipate a rush to fund open access book publishing from this institution.”

This is a good point, especially for open access book publishing as it is an evolving landscape still and there are several publishers offering open access publishing services without charging authors. There certainly are various approaches to achieving open access, some more mature and developed than others.

The toolkit includes two articles that touch upon this aspect:

Business models for open access books publishing - <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/lifecycle/10944589-planning-funding/article/10432084-business-models-for-open-access-book-publishing>

Green, gold, diamond – different models for open access books - <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/lifecycle/10944589-planning-funding/article/13868103-green-gold-diamond-different-models-for-open-access-books>

We do, however, also keep an online public spreadsheet listing funding sources for open access books that we would like to update over time.

List of funding sources for open access books - <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/lifecycle/10944589-planning-funding/article/15816852-list-of-funding-sources-for-open-access-books>

“Is there a section about including multimedia, for say, music researchers?”

When creating the Toolkit, we wanted to focus on putting together a stakeholder agnostic and accessible toolkit – relevant for a global audience of authors coming from disciplines. It has been challenging to maintain a balance

between the number of articles and covering the topics we would want to cover (upon launch, the toolkit included over 30 articles already).

Having launched and by gathering initial feedback we will be looking at future additions in terms of articles for the toolkit too, a few examples listed here already:

<https://oabooks-toolkit.org/about-the-toolkit/15906244-future-developments>

Currently we have an article on [Digital and Print publication](#). We did receive another request in a similar session however whether we could add more on creative possibilities in terms of digital book publishing, and innovative aspects or developments. This is something we are currently considering, and I could imagine it may also cover multimedia for instance.

“Demystifying OA for books necessary, especially at specialist institutions / smaller institutions where there is limited research office time”

Though we think much more can (and hopefully will be) done on this front by other stakeholders soon too, we’re pleased to be able to contribute to this. Ever since the toolkit has been live, the article on ‘OA Myth busting’ has been one of the most visited articles by users: <https://oabooks-toolkit.org/about-oa/14727343-oa-mythbusting>.

“Is there any evidence on how the OA toolkit is changing Arts academics attitudes about OA books?”

While the toolkit has only been live for about 6 months now, we did receive user feedback from stakeholders, including authors, on how it has been helpful to have such a toolkit. On our testimonials page, we also list a testimonial of a researcher, toolkit user and Arts Faculty member at her institution sharing her opinion about the toolkit:

<https://oabooks-toolkit.org/about-the-toolkit/7901308-testimonials>