

Publishing Fee Fund

Over the past academic year, Katherine, Wes, and Jen have received a couple of inquiries about financial support to cover open access publishing fees for faculty. In the past, these fees have been covered in a combination of faculty members' professional development monies and their own personal finances. It is noted that University Professional Development funds could also be used for these purposes, but there is a rigid application timeline for those funds. Katherine, Wes, and Jen met to talk about whether or not we wanted to propose more systematic support for open access publishing fees. Jen provided a document on considerations when establishing a campus open access fund. SPARC, the author of this document, is the authority in open access. <http://www.sparc.arl.org/resources/papers-guides/campus-oa-funds>

The group decided that first, we should create a general statement to respond to faculty members who are seeking funds. Generally, faculty are able to use college professional development monies and University Professional Development funds to apply to any publishing fees, including open access publishing fees. In addition, faculty members are encouraged to write the cost of publishing fees into their external funding proposals.

Second, the group would like to raise the possibility of a fund that faculty members could apply to for coverage of publishing fees. We would like to broaden the scope to all publishing fees—not just open access—to incentivize publishing in general. A fund of this sort could be contributed to by the colleges, the Library*, and Research and Graduate Studies, and could be administered by Research and Graduate Studies.

*Any funds contributed by the Library would be specifically for support of open access publishing.

Questions for consideration include:

1. How much would each partner contribute?
2. What would the cap on each award be?
3. Should the award be a match to other available funds?
4. What types of publications can it be used for (i.e. Peer-reviewed; open access in the Directory of Open Access Journals only; book chapters, books)?
5. Other considerations in the above link