

# SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION CRISIS

One facet of the scholarly communication crisis is a loss of access to research because libraries cannot afford to pay for increasingly high journal subscription costs.

One solution to the scholarly communication crisis is  
Open Access.

OPEN  ACCESS

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## WHAT IS OPEN ACCESS?

Open Access is a publishing model in which literature is freely accessible online. Open Access literature is free of charge and usually free of most licensing and copyright restrictions (Suber, P (2008). *A Very Brief Introduction to Open Access*. Retrieved from [http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/586/284878/OA\\_Intro.pdf](http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/586/284878/OA_Intro.pdf)).

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO OPEN ACCESS?

There are many benefits to Open Access. Several are:

- Improves the visibility of scholarship
- Increases the dissemination of research
- Increases the rate of citations

It is important to note that many Open Access journals are peer-reviewed. The Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) lists them at: [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org).

## WHAT TYPES OF OPEN ACCESS EXIST?

There are usually two forms of Open Access:

- Open Access journals (called frequently Gold OA)
- Open Access digital institutional repositories (called frequently Green OA).

\*\*The Georgia Knowledge Repository (GKR) is an example of an Open Access digital institutional repository.

## HOW IS OPEN ACCESS POSSIBLE?

Although Open Access literature is usually free of charge, it is not free to publish. Usually, an institution makes an investment in an Open Access journal or repository. Sometimes the author pays a fee to cover the costs of publishing.

## GOOD RESOURCES:

- A Very Brief Introduction to Open Access by Peter Suber:  
[http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/586/284878/OA\\_Intro.pdf](http://lgdata.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/docs/586/284878/OA_Intro.pdf)
- Directory of Open Access Journals:  
[www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)

## GEORGIA KNOWLEDGE REPOSITORY

The Georgia Knowledge Repository (GKR), an initiative of GALILEO, is a central metadata repository that contains metadata harvested from 11 USG institutions. It contains links to the academic output of the participating institutions.

Libraries are investing in Institutional Repositories as a means to incorporate open access into the dissemination of institutional intellectual output. This improves the visibility of each institution's scholarship. In turn this increases the citation rate of faculty publications that are retrievable from the GKR.

You can find the Georgia Knowledge Repository online at: [www.gaknowledge.org](http://www.gaknowledge.org)

### THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN THE GKR:

- Albany State
- College of Coastal Georgia
- Columbus State
- Georgia Gwinnett College
- Georgia Regents
- Georgia Southern
- Georgia State
- Georgia Tech
- Kennesaw State
- University of Georgia
- Valdosta State