



PRESS RELEASE – 24th March 2022

PeerJ signs agreement with University of Sussex - the first UK institution to join their new Three Year Membership Program.

[PeerJ](#) is pleased to sign an agreement with the University of Sussex to join PeerJ's Three Year Fixed Term Memberships Program. The University becomes the first UK institution to sign up to the program, which offers a low-cost alternative to Article Processing Charges for Open Access. Under the agreement, the University will cover the cost of Three-Year Memberships for their faculty, meaning no out-of-pocket fees for Sussex-affiliated authors to publish in PeerJ's seven journals.

'We're very happy to join PeerJ's new membership programme. Our authors have made great use of the basic memberships over the last few years and the new initiative promises to make it even easier for Sussex researchers to publish their work Open Access. We aim to support a variety of different publishing models to ensure that our researchers have options so we are delighted that we can now offer them the flexibility to publish at PeerJ over 3 years, and at such low cost,' says Sam Nesbit, Open Access Librarian at the University.

"We are delighted that University of Sussex has become the first UK institution to join the program," says Nathaniel Gore, PeerJ's Director of Communities. "We are grateful that the staff at the university's library see that PeerJ Memberships are a cost-effective approach to Open Access and that our renewed partnership will allow even more Sussex researchers to join the PeerJ community."

PeerJ Three Year Fixed Term Memberships, priced at \$239 per author, are valid from the date of an author's first publication and for a further 36 months, during which they can publish up to two more articles at any point, giving authors more flexibility as to when they publish. When authors use their full complement of three publications, the per-author cost borne by Sussex averages out at under \$80/article.

University of Sussex is the first UK institution to sign up for the project, following the [University of California, Berkeley](#), [University of Ottawa](#) and [Iowa State University](#). PeerJ [welcomes applications](#) to the program from other universities and is excited to expand the program into Europe and beyond.

"PeerJ remains committed to promoting Memberships as the low-cost, sustainable alternative to Article Processing Charges. As compared to the exorbitant APC fees of many other Publishers, we believe Memberships provide great value for money, and will allow more

authors to enjoy the PeerJ experience,” says PeerJ’s Publisher and Co-Founder Pete Binfield. “We look forward to continuing to work with Sussex’s community of researchers across our seven journals.”

Under the agreement, all co-authors must hold a PeerJ Membership in order to publish; any Memberships previously held by Sussex-affiliated authors remain valid. Authors can still choose to pay via APC fees if they prefer.

About PeerJ

PeerJ is an award-winning publisher of seven open access journals, including the flagship [PeerJ](#) (covering life, medicine, and environment), [PeerJ Computer Science](#) and five [PeerJ Chemistry journals](#).

In 2022 PeerJ is celebrating its first decade of publishing and innovation. PeerJ journals have published over 14,000 impactful articles, peer-reviewed by its international Editorial Boards of over 2,000 respected academics.

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