



PeerJ announces a new Open Access model and the University of Bath as their first institutional partner

PeerJ announces a new membership model that will move Open Access beyond the Article Processing Charge in a step towards a goal of collective action to support globally equitable access.

PeerJ has announced a new Open Access model and their first institutional partner. The award-winning publisher intends to move towards collective action for globally equitable Open Access, and their first step to this goal is a new model for institutional partners - Annual Institutional Memberships (AIMs). AIMs remove payment barriers to Open Access for authors, reduces the administration of Open Access payments, and guarantees values for partners. The University of Bath is PeerJ's first partner in this new program, which will provide unlimited publishing for Bath's faculty for a flat fee.

"When PeerJ launched we wanted to leave the APC (Article Processing Charge) behind, and now we consolidate those ambitions by launching Annual Institutional Memberships (AIMs)," said Jason Hoyt, PeerJ Founder and CEO. "A decade ago we did not believe that the use of APCs to fund Open Access was sustainable, and the inflation of those charges today shows they are also far from equitable. The introduction of AIMs is an important step as we move closer to our ultimate goal of collective action to support globally equitable OA where no author will have to pay an APC to publish."

"The University of Bath is happy to continue our partnership with PeerJ as an early subscriber to this new simplified model of open access funding," said Catherine Borwick, Scholarly Communications Librarian at The Library, University of Bath.

“We are delighted to launch this new model with the University of Bath, who are one of our earliest institutional partners and have championed our alternatives to the APC since 2014. By removing payment barriers in authors’ decisions to publish OA, and simplifying the process for both faculty and library staff, we hope to see the University’s research community take advantage of unlimited publishing across our portfolio,” said Nathaniel Gore, PeerJ’s Director of Communities.

A PeerJ Annual Institutional Membership (AIM) provides unlimited, frictionless OA publishing for institutional partners and their faculty. Simple to manage, easy to purchase and providing great cost saving opportunities, researchers will never have to worry about having to pay an APC, and librarians can say goodbye to the administrative overhead of dealing with payments on an article by article basis.

AIMs pricing is tiered and based on an institution's publishing history in PeerJ's journal portfolio. When a partner’s renewal is calculated, if the equivalent APC cost would have been less than the Membership fee, they can choose to carry over the difference towards their Membership renewal, or contribute to PeerJ's Global Publishing Fund, which supports authors without the means to publish OA. AIMs simplify OA and are an important step towards a non-APC future of globally equitable access to read and publish open science.

Institutions who are interested in AIMs should contact PeerJ (business@peerj.com).

About PeerJ

PeerJ is an award-winning open access publisher, committed to transforming the way research is communicated. By embracing transparency, collaboration, and inclusivity, PeerJ empowers researchers to share their discoveries with the world. Find out more at peerj.com