
Case Study

PeerJ fills open access publishing gap for University of Amsterdam with low cost and minimal administration solution.



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

Who we helped

University of Amsterdam

What they needed

The University wanted its researchers to publish their articles at a low cost per author and also to partake in the peer-review process of publications.

How we helped

- PeerJ supplied an Institutional Publishing Plan for 100 researchers allowing them to publish one PeerJ article every year
- Automated process – authors are validated by email so no additional authentication required
- Library easily monitors the usage of publishing plans
- Cost effective and low maintenance solution

If your Institution is interested in joining the University of Amsterdam, Berkeley, Cambridge, Duke, Texas A&M and many other institutions, which provide PeerJ Publication Plans to their faculty, then please contact us at peerj.com/edu

PeerJ

Why is Open Access important to you?

The Library of the University of Amsterdam believes that the dissemination of knowledge is essential for the progress of scientific research. It is in the interest of the scientific community that research results are made freely available to everyone. By publishing research results 'open access', i.e. freely accessible to all, the dissemination of knowledge to a broad audience becomes much more efficient. Publishing open access also aids knowledge valorization as it eases access to research results for (up-and-coming) businesses and individuals. In order to provide UvA researchers with opportunities to publish in open access the University Library has decided to support this innovative and promising PeerJ initiative.

What is it about the PeerJ model that interests you?

With regards to open access, the University of Amsterdam encourages its researchers to publish in open access journals (or journals that become freely available over time) and to retain the copyright for their publication. Additionally we encourage them to consider sitting on the editorial board of an open access journal and to review manuscripts for open access publications if they are asked to do so. With PeerJ our researchers can both publish their articles at a low cost per author, and partake in the peer-review process of publications submitted by fellow researchers. The possibility of open peer review that is available with PeerJ is also appealing as it encourages transparency both the review process and how an article has come to its final form.

What kind of agreement have you entered into with PeerJ?

The University of Amsterdam has pre-purchased 100 Basic Individual Publishing Plans. So when an UvA author needs a PeerJ Publication Plan (either before or after Acceptance) the University will automatically

pay the cost of a Basic Publication Plan. A Basic Publication Plan will cover the processing charges for the first publication, and will allow our researchers to publish one PeerJ article every year at no additional cost and will remain theirs for life.

How is the fund being administered and monitored at the University?

The electronic publishing specialist at the University of Amsterdam is the main contact for questions from researchers interested in publishing with PeerJ, but also for researchers who have already obtained a plan. The authors themselves can request the plans either while they are submitting their publication, or if they submitted their manuscript with a free PeerJ publishing plan, after it has been accepted. As the process is automated, and researchers are validated based on their email address, the electronic publishing specialist does not have to get involved which makes it a smoother and easier process for the researcher. An automated email informs us in turn that a researcher has requested funds, so we can monitor how many publishing plans are still available.

What problem does the PeerJ Arrangement solve for the Library?

For us it is convenient that the PeerJ arrangement more or less manages itself. It does not require much manpower or time to set up the agreement, and from there on our researchers can apply for a publishing plan and automatically receive it without the library functioning as a middleman. That PeerJ is well organized and affordable makes it a good fit for us.

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