

For Publisher and Vendor Requests

To ensure the Open Access Collection Team can make the most informed decision possible about your publication/collections, consider providing the team with the information listed here and/or the location of where the information can be found. The evaluation process includes a rating system and a lack of transparency can impact the final decision.

The following sample criteria are used in the evaluation process of open access subscriptions and membership renewals.

Open Access and Discovery

These criteria address the licensing of the content and discoverability in library systems.

Criteria include:

- Indexed in appropriate resources for the field or is otherwise attentive to search engine optimization (SEO)
- Built on open architecture that integrates well with evolving modes of scholarly communication (e.g., text mining, open APIs)
- Potential to interface with a Research Information Management system or faculty profiling tools via ORCID

Sustainable and Transparent Practice

These criteria address the transparency of publisher/vendor business practices and sustainability models.

Criteria include:

- Regular disclosure of operating costs and revenue, including income from foundations or government agencies
- Transparent plans for business continuity
- Accredited governing board, identifiable network domain

Operational and Fiscal Stability for Members

These criteria address fees and workflows needed for implementation.

Criteria include:

- Can be implemented in the UBC environment (funding, workflows, IT) without onerous changes
- Fees have not increased excessively over time
- Offers a discount on Article Processing Charges (APCs) or other offsetting benefits



Transformative Influence

These criteria address publisher/vendor engagement with emerging and innovative open access practices.

Criteria include:

- Membership may not always have tangible returns, but demonstrates leadership and impact on open scholarship (e.g., SPARC)
- Provides unique content not previously made available (e.g., posters, negative results, data, software, multimedia formats, etc.)
- Follows Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA) guidelines and standards similar to DOAJ- DOAB

Quality and Value

These criteria speak to the quality and value of the resource for open access. Quality and value focus on the OA publishing deal presented and the benefit to the scholarly publication agenda.

Criteria include:

- Supplies usable open access usage data related to UBC specific use
- Cost to content ratio - i.e., comparison of fees charged in proportion to content received - should be similar to other resources in the same discipline
- Measures such as Impact Factor, Eigen factor, and public download statistics indicate the resource has substantial exposure and adoption

Engagement and Knowledge Mobilization

These criteria address how the publication supports community-based publications and faculty engagement in the publishing process.

Criteria include:

- Opportunities for UBC involvement on boards, as reviewers or editors
- Project publishes/makes available lay versions of research done including by UBC researchers in collaboration with Community Partners
- Helps makes content we have already subscribed to available to UBC's non-profit community partners

Preservation

These criteria address the archival preservation and access to the publication.

Criteria include:

- Evidence of a digital preservation strategy, such as participation in CLOCKSS, Portico or a trusted digital archive to ensure content will be there if the project fails
- Items are assigned a DOI or another permanent network marker

For a full list of criteria, please contact scholarly.communications@ubc.ca

