

# PROMOTION AND ADOPTION OF OPEN ACCESS IN LIBRARIES

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## **Abstract**

This study investigates the promotion and adoption of open access (OA) in academic libraries, focusing on how libraries serve as pivotal institutions in supporting OA initiatives. Open access, which enables free and unrestricted access to scholarly research, is critical in advancing global knowledge dissemination. The purpose of this research is to explore the strategies employed by libraries to encourage researchers to adopt OA practices, as well as the challenges and opportunities that arise in this process. The methodology involves a surveys of librarians and academic researchers. Data collection through these method allow for a comprehensive understanding of the various factors influencing the promotion and adoption of OA. The findings demonstrate that libraries actively promote OA by providing education and training on OA benefits, establishing and managing institutional repositories, and facilitating access to OA publishing options. Libraries also negotiate with publishers for favorable agreements that support open publishing. However, significant challenges remain, including limited funding, lack of awareness among researchers, and concerns about the quality and sustainability of OA publications. Despite these challenges, libraries are well-positioned to drive the shift toward OA by fostering a culture of openness, transparency, and collaboration. The practical applications of this study highlight the need for libraries to develop targeted outreach programs, build partnerships with faculty and publishers, and advocate for policy changes that support OA. The statement of originality in this research is its focus on the evolving role of libraries as key enablers of open access, providing new insights into best practices and strategies for wider OA adoption.

**Keywords:** Scholarly Communication, Institutional repositories, Librarian roles, Research dissemination, Knowledge accessibility.

**Paper type:** Survey method

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## **1. Introduction**

The term "open access" (OA) describes the practice of making research outputs, including books, data, academic articles, and other intellectual materials, freely accessible to the general public without the use of paywalls or subscription fees. By making research accessible, usable, and expandable by anybody, anywhere, open access (OA) aims to foster information exchange and hasten scientific discovery. OA materials are usually published under open licenses (like Creative Commons) that permit adaptation, dissemination, and reuse, encouraging increased cooperation and creativity both inside and outside of academia.

The goal of libraries has always been to make information accessible to everybody. Libraries contribute to lowering the obstacles that keep people from learning and reaping the benefits of research by supporting Open Access. OSS is used by libraries to create, maintain, and improve open access repositories, guaranteeing the sustainability and broad accessibility of research findings. Libraries can host OA publications and journals with the help of tools like DSpace, EPrints, and Open Journal Systems (OJS), which promote an open, community-driven methodology. These technologies aid in the democratization of knowledge and encourage equitable access to research. Two key concepts that promote more open information sharing in the modern digital age are open access and open science. Science becomes more open, cooperative, and verifiable as a result. Libraries facilitate Open Science by giving researchers access to data sharing technologies, training on open work practices, and support in adhering to ethical and open practices rules. Similar to traditional publishing processes, OA publications can incorporate stringent peer review, which guarantees the validity of scientific knowledge.

By promoting transparency in research procedures, data, methods, and outcomes, Open Science makes it possible for others to duplicate, validate, or expand on earlier studies. Libraries use a variety of strategic frameworks to incorporate open access (OA) into their organizations and the larger community. A growing number of funding agencies and academic institutions have enacted open access (OA) mandates, which demand that researchers publish their work in open access journals or repositories. Open access is required for research outputs financed by the European Union under the Horizon 2020 program. In a similar vein, cOAlition S unveiled Plan S, an effort that requires all publicly funded research to be published in open access journals starting in 2021. Policies to promote or require OA publishing have been developed by numerous organizations, governments, and research funders. Open Access includes research data and peer

review procedures in addition to journal articles. Libraries contribute to the dissemination and publication of open research data via repositories such as Figshare and Zenodo.

One of the first significant international declarations supporting Open Access was the BOAI, which was introduced in 2002. It defines open access (OA) as "free, immediate, online availability of research articles, with full reuse rights." Within the framework of Open Access and Open Science, RDM highlights the necessity of making data publicly accessible wherever feasible, provided that it facilitates reuse and cooperation. arranging and recording data in a way that facilitates comprehension, reuse, and discovery. Researchers are required to make their data publicly accessible by a number of research sponsors, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the European Commission (Horizon 2020), and others. To assist researchers in managing their data throughout the study lifecycle, libraries offer online courses and training seminars.

This covers following legal and ethical requirements, creating data management plans (DMPs), and maintaining accurate data documentation. Open data management is based on the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable). Because of worries about privacy, career impact, and intellectual property, academics are still reluctant to disclose data publicly, especially in conventional areas. Contractual agreements that limit open access or privacy rules may apply to data sharing. Additionally, they encourage the use of DOIs and open licenses to make data sharing and citation easier, which will increase the use of OA. Important projects like OpenAIRE and Zenodo facilitate the incorporation of OA into RDM procedures.

Promoting and implementing Open Access (OA) in libraries requires modernizing repositories. Libraries are modernizing their institutional repositories to make sure they comply with OA regulations, facilitate open data sharing, and integrate with FAIR principles. Better metadata standards, interaction with third-party systems such as Zenodo and Figshare, and support for a variety of content categories (datasets, papers, and software) are some of the improved repository features. These developments promote international cooperation and advance Open Science by improving the discoverability, accessibility, and reuse of research products. By improving the accessibility, comprehensibility, and reusability of research data, data visualization and open-source data visualization technologies support Open Access (OA) in libraries.

Researchers can produce interactive, shareable representations of open access data by using tools like RAWGraphs, Plotly, and Google Data Studio, which are supported by libraries. Promoting Open Access (OA) in libraries primarily involves the creation, regulation, and use of Open

Educational Resources (OERs). In order to guarantee that materials are easily adaptable and publicly available, policies frequently highlight the usage of open licenses. Free accessible education on open access principles and practices is provided by MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). MOOCs can be included into library services to teach staff, students, and researchers how to create, share, and use open access resources. MOOCs such as Open Access for Researchers and Open Science help OA activism and skill-building by offering useful content on OA policies, copyright concerns, and repository management.

Libraries encourage open access by endorsing OA publication formats including Green OA, in which authors self-archive in repositories, and Gold OA, in which journals offer instant access. By assessing the effect, accessibility, and consumption of OA materials, analytics and statistical methods are crucial for advancing and implementing OA in libraries. Libraries monitor downloads, citations, and interaction with open access literature using methods like R (open-source software), Altmetric, and Google Analytics. Libraries are now able to provide affordable, scalable options for hosting and sharing research thanks to open-source technologies like DSpace and Open Journal Systems (OJS), which make OA publication and repository management easier.

## **1.2 IMPORTANCE OF OPEN ACCESS IN LIBRARIES**

Researchers, students, and the international academic community all stand to gain greatly from open access (OA), a fundamental idea in contemporary library services. As the primary information sources, libraries are essential for promoting, facilitating, and guaranteeing access to open access content. The main explanations are as follows:

**1.2.1 *Makes research widely available:*** Open Access (OA) makes research findings, including papers and data, accessible to anyone. This facilitates the rapid and extensive dissemination of research, improves its use and comprehension by the general public, government, industry, and nonprofit organizations, helps researchers connect with new readers, and boosts public involvement.

**1.2.2 *Preserves scholarly works:*** Open Access (OA) contributes to the preservation of academic works for upcoming generations.

**1.2.3 *Simplifies workflows:*** OA agreements can lessen administration and make librarians' jobs easier.

**1.2.4 *Funds researchers:*** OA agreements can help to fund researchers' publishing fees.

### **1.3 SOME OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE USED IN LIBRARIES INCLUDES:**

**1.3.1 *OpenBiblio*:** A user-friendly, free library automation tool for managing processes and resources. It has functions for staff management, circulation, OPAC, and cataloging.

**1.3.2 *NewGenLib (NGL)*:** With its extensive toolkit for automating library operations and enhancing user experience, NewGenLib is a robust and intuitive library management system.

**1.3.3 *SOPAC (Social Online Public Access Catalog)*:** A contemporary development of the classic OPAC, SOPAC enhances the library catalog's interactivity, engagement, and community-drivenness. As social connection becomes increasingly important in the digital age, it promotes increased community involvement, facilitates cooperation, and helps libraries engage with their patrons.

**1.3.4 *DSpace*:** Libraries, colleges, and research organizations frequently use DSpace, an open-source software platform, to build digital repositories for organizing, storing, and disseminating digital content. For the management of institutional repositories (IRs), which contain academic output such as research articles, theses, dissertations, datasets, and other works, it is very well-liked.

**1.3.5 *EPrints*:** Libraries, universities, and research institutions can store, manage, and exchange academic content, including research papers, theses, dissertations, reports, and datasets, with the aid of EPrints, an open-source software platform for creating and managing institutional repositories.

### **1.4 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

The term "open access" describes the instantaneous, free public availability of scholarly research, which enables people to access, read, download, and utilize research publications without the need for a subscription. The hefty subscription fees of traditional publications, which restricted access for researchers, particularly in developing nations, gave rise to open access (OA). The current OA movement was formalized in 2002 by the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI), which called for "the free availability of scholarly literature on the public internet" to improve equity and knowledge exchange.

Advocacy, policymaking, and infrastructure development are the main focuses of OA promotion initiatives. Cost of Access is a driving force for OA promotion. The "serials crisis"—increasing subscription costs—is a major incentive to look for alternatives. Researchers from low-income

areas who do not have institutional access to expensive publications are supported by Global Equity OA. Research Impact Open Access articles have a higher chance of being read and cited, which raises their profile in academia. Additionally, funding agencies mandate the strategies. Open access is a requirement of agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (USA) and Plan S in Europe. Campaigns for Awareness Open Access Week is a notable project that aims to inform stakeholders about the advantages of open access. (2006) Willinsky, J. *The Access Principle: The Argument in Favor of Free and Open Access to Scholarship and Research*. MIT Press. J. P. Tennant and associates (2016).

Financial Barriers to the Adoption of Open Access Challenges and Trends For open access journals, authors or their institutions may be responsible for the Article Processing Charges (APCs). Despite the strong impact of many open access publications, there are still misconceptions regarding their quality. Infrastructure Deficits Full adoption is impeded in many regions by inadequate repository systems and policies. OA publishing is supported by transformative agreements between publishers and universities. Servers for preprinting Pre-publication sharing is increasingly taking place on sites like arXiv and bioRxiv. OA Led by the Community paradigms for collaborative publishing, such the Open Library of Humanities. D. Solomon and B.-C. Björk (2012). *Scientific Impact of Open Access vs. Subscription Journals: A Comparison*. Medicine BMC. Piwowar and colleagues (2018). *The State of OA: A Large-Scale Analysis of the Prevalence and Impact of Open Access Articles*. PeerJ.

Case Studies of OA Promotion in Europe's Plan S, a policy mandating that all research being sponsored by coalition members be open access. India has adopted OA more slowly; regional initiatives are exemplified by repositories such as Shodhganga. Initiatives in Africa, such as African Journals Online (AJOL), encourage regional open access publishing. UNESCO. (2021). *Action to Policy in Open Science*. J. O'Donnell and A. Okerson (1995). *The Crossroads of Scholarly Journals: An Insurgent Idea for Electronic Publishing*.

## **1.5 LITERATURE REVIEW**

A literature review is a thorough summary of previous studies on a particular subject that forms the basis of scholarly investigation. It finds, assesses, and arranges pertinent research, emphasizing important conclusions, approaches, and theoretical frameworks. It provides a clear picture of the state of the discipline today by revealing trends, arguments, and knowledge gaps

through critical analysis of the literature. By highlighting the importance of the research issue and placing it within a larger body of scholarly debate, the review contextualizes it. A literature review guarantees clarity and logical flow by being organized with an introduction, a topic or methodological analysis, and a conclusion.

It could be analytical, comparing and contrasting studies to offer deeper insights, or descriptive, summarizing important works. By pointing out unresolved difficulties, it not only provides a path for future research but also aids in defending the planned study. A thorough literature evaluation guarantees that the study is well-informed, pertinent, and based on a strong academic framework.

***1.5.1 Librarians and Academic Libraries' Role in Promoting Open Access: What Needs to Change? Shlomit Hadad and Noa Aharony*** The movement's intellectual and practical foundation was laid by OA initiatives in the early 2000s. Countries, donors, and research institutions all around the world then started offering OA for their research output while simultaneously working to create a clear OA policy. One of the primary causes of the evolution of academic libraries is the emergence of "new players" in this industry and the changing nature of new economic models for academic publication. Open access, nevertheless, is not without its issues. Among these are the expenses related to open access journal article processing charges (APCs), which have an impact on socioscientific and humanities (SSH) scholars' capacity to publish in OA journals. Implementing and maintaining an institutional repository, as well as the concern over copyright violations while depositing works in open repositories, are additional challenging concerns. Peer review is also becoming less or nonexistent in predatory publications that are simply concerned in generating quick money. The views of scholars toward open access publishing are adversely affected by these predatory journals.

***1.5.2 Open Access Initiatives: A Boon to Academic Libraries A. N. Joshi, R. M. Vatnal, Manjunath. G.A*** OAI has proven to be beneficial in the "Combat Serial Crisis." Academic libraries ought to support open access (OA) and exert influence over the parent institution's institutional repository establishment. Libraries can increase user visibility by implementing OA. OA makes several journals available that it cannot afford to subscribe to. The National Knowledge Commission has suggested expanding Open Access (OA) and Open Education Resources (OER). The quality of educational institutions will be raised by the accessible and widespread availability of excellent instructional resources. In order for the OA model to live up



to its lofty goal of providing free access to scholarly literature, the librarian must encourage people to actively contribute to OA as well as actively consume it. In addition to helping libraries deal with rising subscription fees and challenging negotiations with publishers—especially when those companies control the intellectual market and tighten copyright restrictions—open access (OA) makes it easier for knowledge to be shared.

### ***1.5.3 Libraries and Open Access Support: New Roles in the Digital Publishing Era Robert J Engeszer ,Cathy C Sarli***

Publication in open access journals has been a supplement to traditional publication methods since the inception of OA a decade ago. Although many authors are aware of the advantages of open access, some have strong beliefs in conventional publishing methods. Academic libraries frequently have to balance encouraging open access with assisting authors who would rather use non-open access publication formats. Academic libraries are proactively addressing this issue by creating service programs to lower the obstacles authors confront and by improving access to scholarly works through technology and licensing options. Libraries are committed to efforts to raise authors' understanding of the different concerns that affect scholarly practices in order to create chances for the unhindered dissemination of the scientific record. Libraries have a stake in maintaining access to the scientific record.

### ***1.5.4 Open access versus subscription journals: a comparison of scientific impact***

***Bo-Christer Björk & David Solomon*** In general, subscription journals had citation rates that were roughly 30% higher, both unweighted and weighted for the quantity of papers published in each journal. But once discipline (medicine and health versus other), journal age (three time periods), and publisher location (four largest publishing countries versus other countries) were taken into account, the differences in most subcategories vanished, with the exception of journals that had been established before 1996. Compared to other OA journals, those that use article processing charges (APCs) to finance publication typically receive more citations. In the fields of health and medicine, open access journals established within the past ten years are obtaining almost the same number of citations as subscription journals established in the same time frame. Our findings show that, especially in the field of biomedicine and for journals supported by article processing fees, open access journals that are included in Web of Science and/or Scopus are getting close to having the same scientific impact and caliber as subscription journals.

***1.5.5 Promotional Strategies for Open Access Resources Discovery and Access Chinwe V. Anunobi*** One crucial step in guaranteeing the full and efficient use of the phenomenal growth in research that is freely available to researchers and educators is the promotion of discovery and access to open access materials. As a significant stakeholder and recipient of OAR's benefits, the library must take the lead in that regard. When Nigerian institutions joined the league of OAR resource boosters, it became clear that they had not united their support for OAR use due to the absence of a policy to govern its use. However, university communities <sup>43</sup> still take use of the possibility offered by OAR, even while certain members of the university community utilize it infrequently because they are ignorant, lack the necessary skills, or have concerns about the quality of OAR. As a primary OAR beneficiary, Nigerian university libraries are well-positioned to advance access and discovery through survey projects, infrastructure development, and advocacy. In order to effectively promote discovery and access to OAR within the university system, the university libraries' inventiveness is essential.

## **1.6 RESEARCH PROBLEM**

A research problem is a particular problem, query, or knowledge gap that a study seeks to address or resolve. In essence, it is the main goal or emphasis of the study. What the researcher hopes to learn, comprehend, or explore through their study is outlined in the research problem. It helps to direct the formulation of research questions, technique, and analysis, giving the entire research process direction. The following are the issues I ran upon while conducting this research:

- (i) Responders, especially in high-pressure jobs, might be too tired or stressed to give accurate answers.
- (ii) Responders may not always have time to participate in research because of their busy work schedules.
- (iii) Some responders might forget important details or provide incomplete answers.
- (iv) There was no study material conducted especially on the topic Promotion and adoption of Open Access in Libraries

## **1.7 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The goal of the research on open access adoption and promotion in libraries is to comprehend how libraries might support and make use of open access (OA) resources. Open access refers to making research publicly accessible without subscriptions or pay walls. The study's basic goals are as follows:

1. To find out how much library staff and users know about open access and how it works.
2. To discover what problems or challenges libraries face when trying to use or promote open access, like costs, legal issues, or lack of resources.
3. To look at the ways libraries are encouraging open access, such as by supporting free online journals or creating open access collections.
4. To see how using open access resources affects library services, such as how often users access the materials or how much the library needs to spend on other resources.
5. To identify successful examples of how libraries have promoted and adopted open access and suggest ways others can do the same.
6. To explore how open access helps make research available to everyone, especially in areas where resources are limited.

## **1.7 RESEARCH QUESTION**

1. What kind of library you have?
2. How long has your library been engaged in Open Access initiatives?
3. How much involvements do students in your college with the concept of Open Access (OA)?
4. How important do you think Open Access is for library services?
5. What strategies does your library use to promote Open Access resources?
6. What types of Open Access resources does your library promote?
7. What tools or platforms does your library use for Open Access resource discovery?
8. Does your library actively collaborate with researchers to publish in Open Access?
9. What challenges does your library face in promoting Open Access?
10. What challenges does your library face in adopting Open Access resources?

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### ***2.1 Research methodology***

"Methodology" refers to more than just the techniques you want to employ for data collection. A study of the theories and concepts that underpin the methodologies is frequently required. the procedure for gathering facts and information in order to make decisions. Both current and historical data may be included in the methodology, which may include involve publishing research, interviews, surveys, and other research methods. Research that satisfies paper criteria can be approached in a variety of ways. The study was carried out using the survey method, and the data gathering tool was a questionnaire.

### ***2.2 Designing the Questionnaire***

A structured questionnaire has been created with the above goals in mind. The questionnaires address several aspects of the issue. To ensure that you get precise, useful data, creating an effective questionnaire requires considerable planning. Give a clear explanation of your goals and raise awareness of open access in libraries.

### ***2.3 Data Analysis Techniques***

Data has been examined and calculated based on completed questionnaires. Tables and/or graphs have been used to display each and every outcome. The percentage approach to data analysis has been employed, and Microsoft Excel software has been used to create the graphs.

## **2.4 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

Data analysis and interpretation involve the systematic examination of data to extract meaningful insights and support decision-making. This process starts with data collection, where data is gathered from various sources such as surveys, databases, or experiments. Data may be presented in the form of table, graphs or diagrams. Table consists of precise numerical figures where as diagrams give only an approximate idea. However, diagram and graphs have the advantage of showing trends in the data. For instance, if we look into a newspaper, we may find a weather report giving data about the maximum and minimum temperatures and rain fall of various important cities of India and world.

The definition of "data" is "information." Nonetheless, the definition of "data" according to the dictionary is "given facts." Data can be classified as either primary or secondary. Primary data is what is obtained when an investigator gathers information on their own with a clear strategy or design in mind. Moreover, secondary data are those that were gathered from published or

unpublished sources rather than being first established. Data collection is complete; the inquiry must figure out how to condense the data in a way that would fulfill the original intent. We refer to this type of data collection arrangement as "presentation of data."

## 2.5 CLASSIFICATION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

### 2.5.1 What kind of library you have?

A total of 40 questionnaires were sent to the respondents; 37 of these were returned by Barak Valley Colleges and Institutions after being properly completed by the librarians and research scholars. Public, academic, special, and other libraries were the four groups into which these responders were separated. Academic Library has received the most responses (27), followed by Special Library (04), Public Library (03), and other libraries (three).

Table 1. Responses Received from Librarian and Research Scholar

Library Type	Total	Percentage (%)
Public	03	8.11
Academic	27	72.97
Special	04	10.81
Others	03	8.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

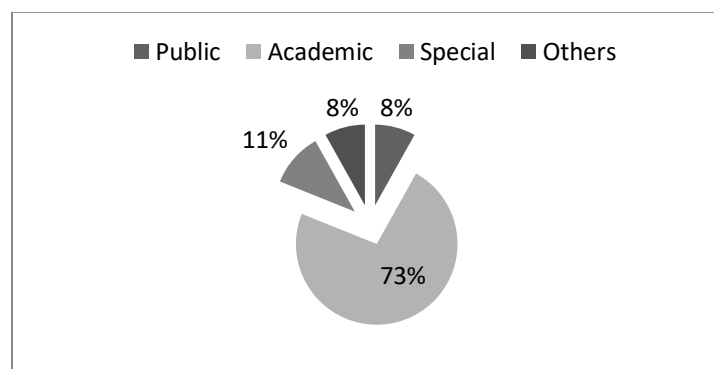


Figure 1 : Responds received from the Librarian and Research Scholars

### 2.5.2 How long has your library been engaged in Open Access initiatives?

According to the data received from librarian, there are institutions out of 37 who are utilizing Open access less than one years are 06, one to three years are 08, more than three years are 10 and who do not have accessibility in Open Access are 13.

Table 2. Responses Received from Librarians

Open Access initiatives	Total number of institutions	Percentages (%)
Less than 1 year	06	16.21
1–3 years	08	21.62
More than 3 years	10	27.04
Not engaged in Open Access initiatives	13	35.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

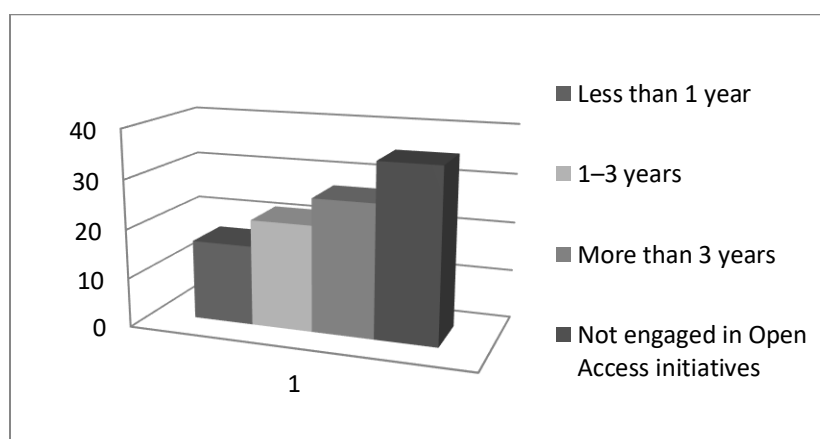


Figure 2 : Responds received from the Librarian

### 2.5.3. How much involvements do students in your college with the concept of Open Access (OA)?

In response to inquiries, the librarians stated that 12 students studying the Open Access concept fall into the very familiar category, while 09 and 16 students fall into the slightly familiar category.

Table 3. Responses Received from Librarians

Students Involvement	Total institutions	Percentage (%)
Very familiar	12	32.43
Somewhat familiar	09	24.32

Not familiar	16	43.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

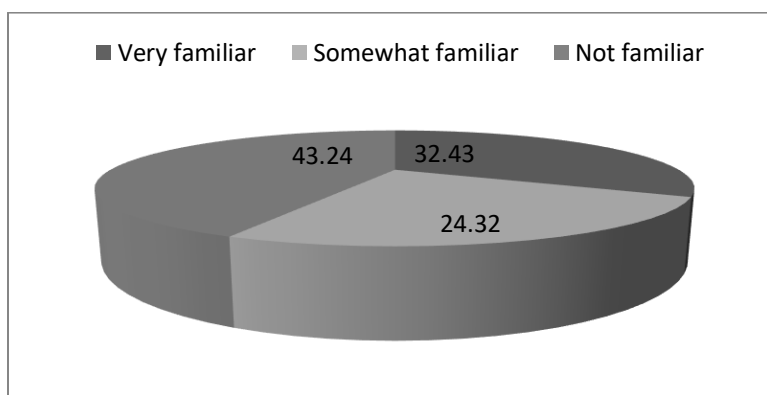


Figure 3 : Responds received from the Librarian

#### 2.5.4. How important do you think Open Access is for library services?

According to librarians' responses, 94.59% of them said something was extremely important, 2% said something was very important, and 0% said something was neither somewhat important nor not significant.

Table 4. Responses Received from Librarians

Response	Total	Percentage (%)
Extremely important	35	94.59
Very important	02	5.41
Somewhat important	0	0
Not important	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

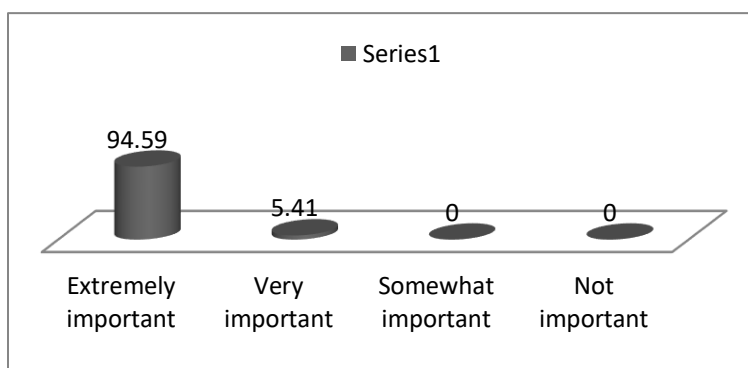


Figure 4 : Responds received from the Librarian

### 2.5.5. What strategies does your library use to promote Open Access resources?

Workshops or seminars 10.81%, faculty, researcher, or student training sessions 24.32%, social media or website marketing 13.51%, publisher or open access platform collaboration 16.22%, and OA resource integration in library catalogs or search tools 18.92% are the strategies that respondents cite as being used to promote OA resources. Open Access is not being promoted by 16.22% of institutions, however.

Table 5. Responses Received from Librarians

Strategies	Total	Percentage (%)
Workshops or seminars for patrons	4	10.81
Training sessions for faculty, researchers, or students	9	24.32
Marketing via social media or website	5	13.51
Collaboration with publishers or Open Access platforms	6	16.22
Integration of OA resources in library catalogs or search tools	7	18.92
Not Access	6	16.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

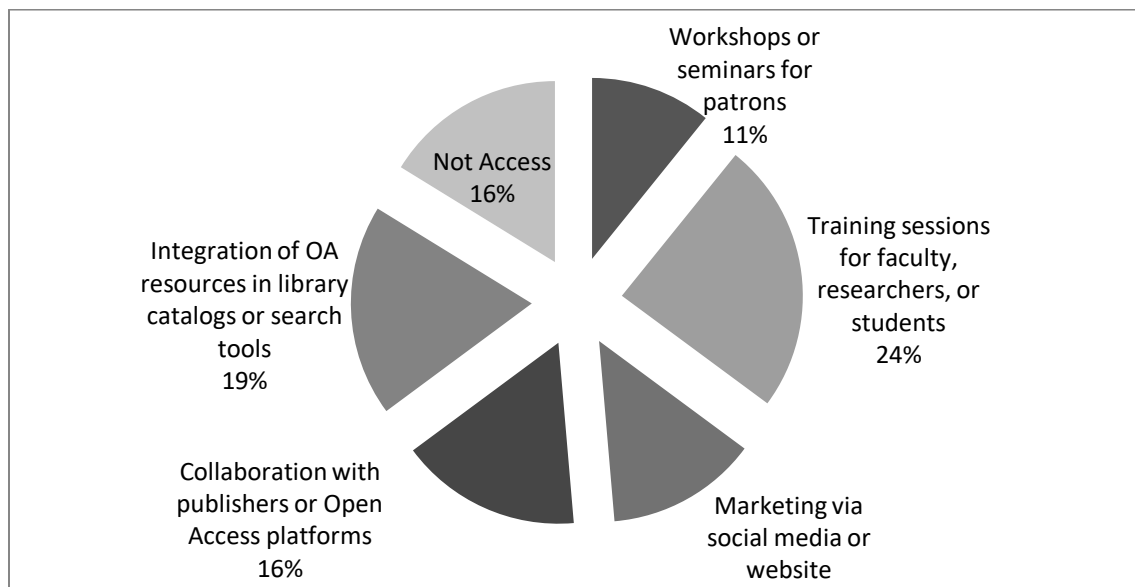


Figure 5 : Responds received from the Librarian



### 2.5.6. What types of Open Access resources does your library promote?

The respondents stated that they advocate the following sorts of resources: open access journals (21.62%), open access books (18.92%), institutional repositories (13.51%), open educational resources (16.22%), preprint servers (13.51%), and those that do not promote open access (16.22%).

Table 6. Responses Received from Librarians

Type of OA	Total	Percentage (%)
Open Access journals	8	21.62
Open Access books	7	18.92
Institutional repositories	5	13.51
Open educational resources (OER)	6	16.22
Preprint servers	5	13.51
Not Access	6	16.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

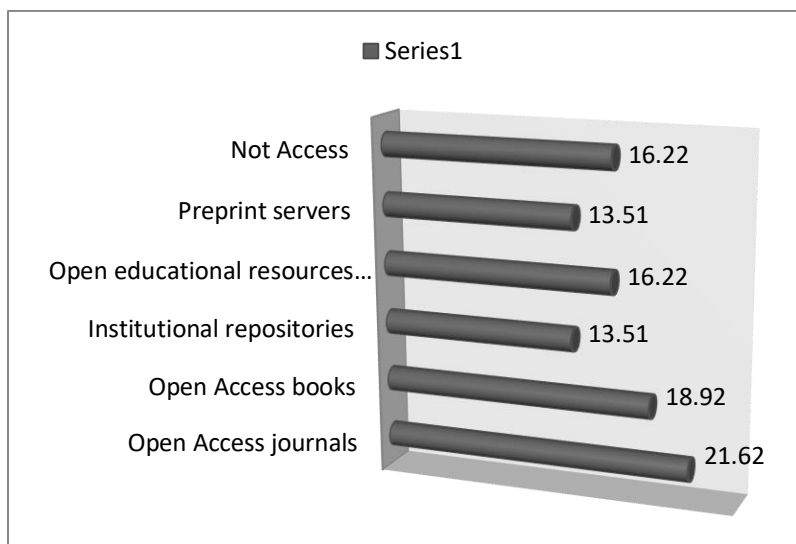


Figure 6 : Responds received from the Librarian

### 2.5.7. What tools or platforms does your library use for Open Access resource discovery?

Based on what the librarian says OA button 62.16%, institutional repository 13.51%, DOAJ 13.51%, and other 10.82% are the platforms or mechanisms used for OA resource discovery.

Table 7. Responses Received from Librarians

Tools	Total	Percentage (%)
Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)	5	13.51
Open Access Button	23	62.16
Institutional repository	5	13.51
Other	4	10.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

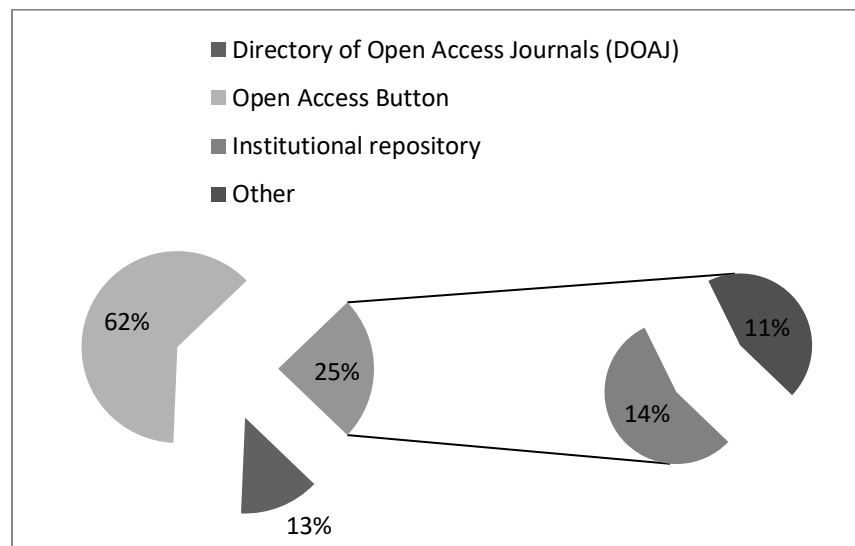


Figure 7 : Responds received from the Librarian

#### 2.5.8. Does your library actively collaborate with researchers to publish in Open Access?

The respondents stated that 40.54% of institutions work with researchers to publish, while 59.46% of institutions cannot work with researchers.

Table 8. Responses Received from Librarians

Collaboration	Total	Percentage (%)
Yes	15	40.54
No	22	59.46

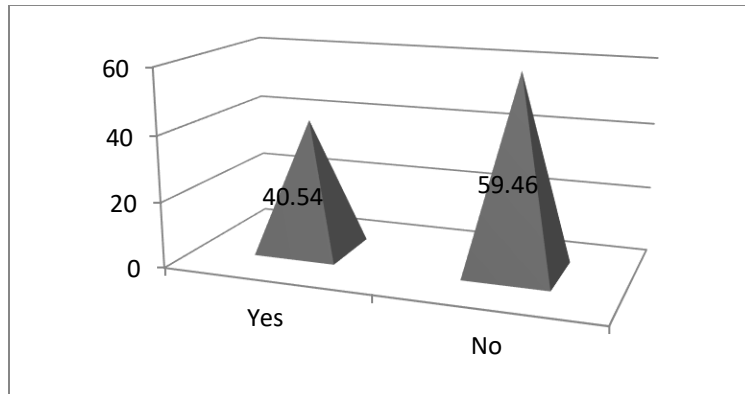


Figure 8 : Responds received from the Librarian

#### 2.5.9. What challenges does your library face in promoting Open Access?

Among the challenges librarians encounter in advancing open access include users' lack of awareness (21.62%), budgetary constraints (27.03%), inadequate staff training or experience (27.03%), technological impediments (16.21%), and other factors (8.11%).

Table 9. Responses Received from Librarians

Difficulties	Total	Percentage (%)
Lack of awareness among patrons	08	21.62
Limited budget or funding	10	27.03
Insufficient staff training or expertise	10	27.03
Technological barriers	06	16.21
Other	03	8.11
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

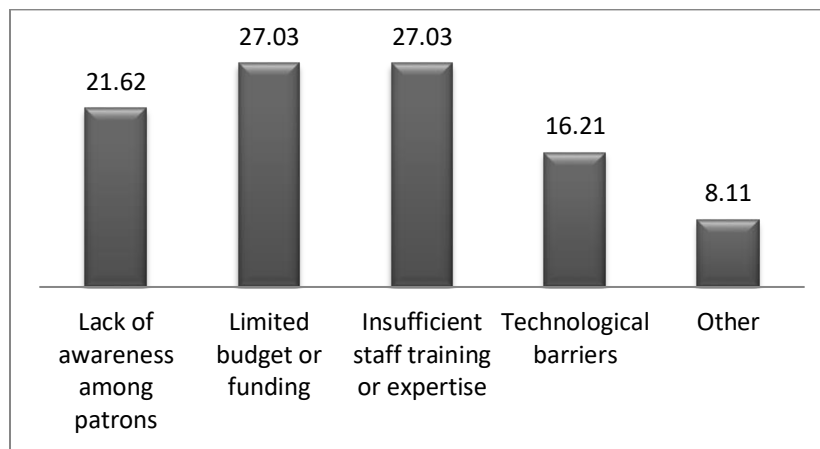


Figure 9 : Responds received from the Librarian

### 2.5.10. What challenges does your library face in adopting Open Access resources?

The respondents stated that libraries are encountering numerous challenges while implementing open access materials, including 18.92% of respondents expressed worries about the reliability or quality of open access resources; 18.92% reported integration problems with current systems; 24.32% reported limited availability of OA resources in specific fields; 32.43% raised concerns about licensing or copyright; and 5.41% raised other concerns.

Table 10. Responses Received from Librarians

Challenges	Total	Percentage (%)
Concerns about quality or credibility of OA resources	07	18.92
Integration issues with existing systems	07	18.92
Limited availability of OA resources in certain fields	09	24.32
Licensing or copyright concerns	12	32.43
Other	02	5.41
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100</b>

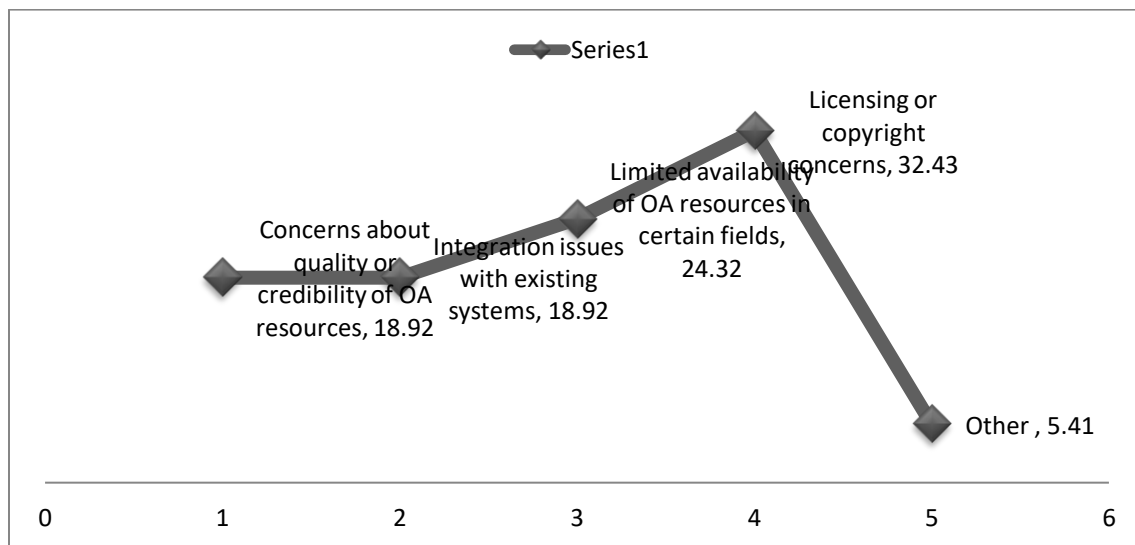


Figure 10 : Responds received from the Librarian

## CONCLUSION

While the promotion and adoption of open access (OA) in libraries carries potential benefits, it also introduces a range of significant challenges that must be carefully considered. One of the most pressing issues is the financial strain OA publishing models can place on libraries and academic institutions. The rise of Article Processing Charges (APCs) has shifted the cost of publishing from subscribers to authors and institutions, potentially leading to a situation where only well-funded researchers or wealthy institutions can afford to publish their work in OA journals. This creates a new set of inequalities in access to academic publishing, undermining the original goal of making research more accessible to all.

Furthermore, the rapid growth of OA has also led to concerns about the quality and credibility of some OA publications. The increase of “predatory” journals—publishers that take advantage of the OA model to charge fees without providing proper peer review or editorial oversight—poses a risk to the integrity of academic research. Libraries, often acting as gatekeepers of academic quality, may struggle to differentiate between trustworthy and exploitative OA publishers, potentially putting researchers and institutions at risk. The infrastructural demands of supporting OA publishing also cannot be overlooked. Managing OA repositories, ensuring compliance with open-access mandates, and keeping up with the technological needs of OA can be costly and resource-intensive, particularly for smaller institutions with limited budgets. As libraries take on these responsibilities, they may find themselves diverting resources away from other core services, such as information literacy, archival preservation, and user support.

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## **Questionnaires for Librarian**

### **Topic: Promotion and Adoption of Open Access in Libraries**

**(Please provide the necessary information or put a check mark (✓) opposite the item that corresponds to your response)**

**1. Library Type (Select one):**

- Public ☐
- Academic (librarian, research scholar) ☐
- Special (corporate, medical, legal) ☐
- Other (please specify) ☐

**2. How long has your library been engaged in Open Access initiatives?**

- Less than 1 year ☐
- 1–3 years ☐
- More than 3 years ☐
- Not engaged in Open Access initiatives ☐

3. **How much involvement do students in your college with the concept of Open Access (OA)?**

- Very familiar ☐
- Somewhat familiar ☐
- Not familiar ☐

4. **How important do you think Open Access is for library services?**

- Extremely important ☐
- Very important ☐
- Somewhat important ☐
- Not important ☐

5. **What strategies does your library use to promote Open Access resources?** (Select all that apply):

- Workshops or seminars for patrons ☐
- Training sessions for faculty, researchers, or students ☐
- Marketing via social media or website ☐
- Collaboration with publishers or Open Access platforms ☐
- Integration of OA resources in library catalogs or search tools ☐
- Not Access ☐

6. **What types of Open Access resources does your library promote?** (Select all that apply):

- Open Access journals ☐
- Open Access books ☐
- Institutional repositories ☐
- Open educational resources (OER) ☐
- Preprint servers ☐
- Null ☐

7. **What tools or platforms does your library use for Open Access resource discovery?** (Select all that apply):

- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) ☐
- Open Access Button ☐
- Institutional repository ☐
- Other ☐

8. **Does your library actively collaborate with researchers to publish in Open Access?**

- Yes ☐
- No ☐

9. **What challenges does your library face in promoting Open Access?** (Select all that apply):



- Lack of awareness among patrons ☐
- Limited budget or funding ☐
- Insufficient staff training or expertise ☐
- Technological barriers ☐
- Other (please specify) ☐

**10. What challenges does your library face in adopting Open Access resources?** (Select all that apply):

- Concerns about quality or credibility of OA resources ☐
- Integration issues with existing systems ☐
- Limited availability of OA resources in certain fields ☐
- Licensing or copyright concerns ☐
- Other (please specify) ☐