Exciting Changes Ahead: Publishing Your Articles in Cambridge University Press Journals

In April 2019, University of California (UC) and Cambridge University Press announced that they had entered into a transformative open access agreement that will give UC authors who publish with Cambridge the opportunity to make their research freely available and advance the global shift toward an open access future for research. The agreement will also maintain UC’s access to Cambridge’s more than 400 journals.

If you are a UC author, you will soon begin to see some changes from Cambridge after they have accepted your article for publication. Here is an explanation of those changes, and an overview of the opportunities they create for advancing UC’s mission to make knowledge more broadly available and facilitate new discoveries.

**What is changing for 2019?**

Soon, when Cambridge accepts your article for publication, their workflow system will ask you whether you wish to make your work available open access. You'll have two choices:

- **If you wish to publish open access**, you can do so for free in 2019. You will receive a follow-up email from Cambridge (sent by the Copyright Clearance Center’s RightsLink system, which manages payments for Cambridge) asking you to complete payment processing for a discounted article processing charge. But, in 2019, you won’t actually have to make any article processing charge payment; the UC libraries will be covering the entire cost of publishing your article open access. You just need to log into RightsLink and select the UC libraries as the payment provider. If you’ve already published an article open access in 2019, we can retroactively pay the article processing charge for you. (You should be hearing from the UC libraries soon about this.)

- **If you do not wish to publish open access**, you can opt out by indicating in the Cambridge workflow system that you want the article to remain paywalled.

**What is changing for 2020?**

In 2020, if you select the open access publishing option, the UC libraries will pay at least $1,000 toward your discounted article processing charge with Cambridge. When you log into Copyright Clearance Center’s RightsLink for payment processing, you will see the discounted charge and the libraries’ $1,000 contribution, and you will then be asked whether you have any grant funds to pay any balance on the article processing charge. If you do not have grant funds to cover that
difference, no problem: The UC libraries will cover the balance and pay the entire article processing charge for you.

**How will this advance open access publishing?**

Making open access publishing the default pathway for authors, and offering the discounted article processing charges and the UC libraries’ financial support of at least $1,000 towards each article processing charge, will enable and encourage more authors — particularly those in disciplines without significant grant funding — to publish open access. In addition, because the overall spend on the agreement with Cambridge is capped — with UC’s payment for access to subscription content decreasing as payments for open access publication increase — the financial risk to UC and UC authors is limited.

We encourage you to check out UC’s Cambridge publishing Frequently Asked Questions page to learn more about what the agreement means for you and how it’s structured to control costs. Cambridge also has a companion information page [here](#).

We will also share more information with you as the article acceptance and payment processing workflows take shape under the new agreement.
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Notes to editors:

About Cambridge University Press’s read and publish agreements: Cambridge University Press has made a number of read and publish agreements to establish open access publishing in Cambridge journals for publicly-financed research articles. Details about these agreements can be found on the Press’s website.

About Cambridge University Press: Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge. It furthers the University’s mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence. Its extensive peer-reviewed publishing lists comprise 50,000 titles covering academic research and professional development, as well as school-level education and English language teaching. Playing a leading role in today’s international marketplace, Cambridge University Press has more than 50 offices around the globe, and it distributes its products to nearly every country in the world.

About Open Research at the Press: As the Open Research movement seeks to unlock the potential in academic research by making knowledge accessible to all, we believe that making Open Research work for our communities is crucial. Our history, relationship with the University, and not-for-profit status creates a strong position from which we can engage the community, invest in innovative solutions, and play an important role in helping to shape Open Research as it evolves.

About the University of California Libraries: Individually and collectively, the University of California libraries provide access to the world’s knowledge for the UC campuses and the communities they serve, directly supporting UC’s missions of teaching, research, and public service. The University of California libraries, which include some of the world’s most distinctive collections and innovative services, comprise the largest university research library in the world.

About the California Digital Library: The California Digital Library was founded as part of the University of California in 1997 to take advantage of emerging technologies that were transforming the way digital information was being published and accessed. Since then, in
collaboration with the UC libraries and other partners, we have continued to provide transformative digital library services, grounded in campus partnerships and extended through external collaborations, that amplify the impact of the libraries, scholarship, and resources of the University of California.

**About Open Access at the University of California:** Open access publishing supports the mission of the University of California by transmitting knowledge more broadly and facilitating new discoveries that build on the university’s research and scholarly work. In 2013 the systemwide faculty Academic Senate endorsed an Open Access Policy that affirmed its commitment to “disseminating its research and scholarship as widely as possible.” Transformative agreements are one of many Pathways to Open Access being pursued at UC, where we believe a diverse open access ecosystem can best serve the needs of the academy and society at large. Learn more about open access at UC.