



Minutes of the 1st Projekt DEAL-Wiley Publish and Read Agreement Advisory Board meeting

Abbreviated version for public consumption

Date: 14 June 2021

Time: 3.00-5.30 pm CEST

Board members:

Prof. Dr. Sören Auer, Director, Head of research group Data Science and Digital Libraries (German National Library of Science and Technology)

Prof. Dr. Wolfram Koch, Executive Director (German Chemical Society)

Dr. Lars Kristiansen, Executive Director (International Brain Research Organization)

Prof. Dr. med. Beate A. Schücking, Rector (University of Leipzig)

Günter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost & Executive Director (California Digital Library)

Board guest:

Prof. Dr. Gerard Meijer, Co-Speaker of Projekt DEAL (Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society)

Wiley attendees:

Dr. Guido F. Herrmann, Managing Director

Natasha White, Senior Director OA transition

Josefa Fernández, Business Manager (**minutes taker**)

MPDLS attendees:

Dr. Ralf Schimmer, Director Scientific Information Provision (Max Planck Digital Library)

Inga Overkamp, Systems Librarian & Developer (Max Planck Digital Library)

Colleen Campbell, Team Lead for Open Access and External Affairs (Max Planck Digital Library)

Session chair and moderator: Wolfram Koch

AGENDA

- I. Welcome
- II. Introduction of participants
- III. Agenda and expectations
- IV. Context of the DEAL-Wiley Agreement
- V. Objectives, progress & status of the DEAL-Wiley Agreement
- VI. Discussion & recommendations
- VII. Wrap up and next meeting

VI. Discussion & recommendations

The overarching conclusion by all Board members was that the ambitious goals of the DEAL agreement had been widely met and is a success. The large uptake of OA by German authors in the Wiley journals is very impressive and the Board unanimously encouraged Project DEAL and Wiley to continue the DEAL agreement also in the future.

Discussion & recommendations

- DEAL and Wiley should improve information regarding license choices. Authors do not necessarily know what the different CC licenses mean (Goal: Achieve "informed choices"). Consider revision of license signing workflow to incorporate more detailed information to help the author make such an informed decision.
- Authors should remain to have the choice to select the most appropriate journal to publish his/her research -> Recommendation: Cover more publishers, in particular also smaller ones with transformative agreements.
- Speak to the heads of the DEAL institutions: Wiley and DEAL together should cooperate to strengthen the support as the whole system changes. German universities are funded by the 16 federal states and the states have to understand what is happening and will have to put money in different places than before. A political solution has to be found for the necessary redistribution of funds. If this fails DEAL will not have a sustainable future. In this context, it was announced that a "DEAL Cost Modelling Tool" will soon be launched, enabling institutions to uncover their publishing trends and develop a broader perspective on the various cost dimensions.
- An article-based cost/finance model with the publishers should be the base. When the costs are distributed among the institutions there are possibilities to approach this in a different way. The non-research intensive institutions do reap the benefits of reading the research content. Publishing and reading component of the agreement should be included for research intensive and non-research intensive institutions respectively.
- There is need to convince all the parties involved that this is the way forward even though at first sight this maybe seen as difficult or unfavourable but in the long run it is not.
- Recommend that contract/agreement is extended and position it as part of a broader digitization initiative. Not just covering financial terms but enhancing scholarly records. Bringing forward modern digital approaches.
- What DEAL has done for the publication environment has been successful. In particular the DEAL agreement has a significant international importance and significance ("signal function"). Germany is among the pioneers in this area, which should be communicated as such.
- Establish a mechanism to transmit/communicate the benefits of the transformative agreements better.

VII. Next meeting

The next regular meeting to discuss the performance of 2021 will be held around March/April 2022, scheduled and organized by MPDL and Wiley.

Minutes of the 2nd Projekt DEAL-Wiley Publish and Read Agreement Advisory Board meeting

SUMMARY

Date: Oct 27th, 2021

Time: 4:00-5:30 pm CEST

Board members:

Prof. Dr. Sören Auer, Director, Head of research group Data Science and Digital Libraries (German National Library of Science and Technology)

Prof. Dr. Wolfram Koch, Executive Director (German Chemical Society)

Dr. Lars Kristiansen, Executive Director (International Brain Research Organization) **apologized**

Prof. Dr. med. Beate A. Schücking, Rector (University of Leipzig)

Günter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost & Executive Director (California Digital Library)

Wiley attendees:

Dr. Guido F. Herrmann, Managing Director

Dr. Lorna Stimson, Publishing Director

Tanya McMullin, Manager OA transition

Natasha White, Senior Director OA transition

Josefa Fernández Loro, Business Manager (**minutes taker**)

MPDL Services gGmbH attendees:

Dr. Ralf Schimmer, Director Scientific Information Provision

Colleen Campbell, Team Lead for Open Access and External Affairs

Dr. Kristine Gampe, Team Lead for MPDL Services matters and finances

Session chair and moderator: Wolfram Koch

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Agenda overview
- II. Recap of recommendations made in June's Advisory Board Meeting
(Agenda items III-VI outline aspects of the response to these recommendations.)
- III. Outline of the DEAL Cost Modelling Tool as launched in July 2021
- IV. Updates to the new DEAL Governance Structure
- V. Overview of the 15th Berlin Open Access Conference (B15)
- VI. Progress and status of the White Paper: *Monitoring the transition to open access: the 2019-2020 Projekt DEAL–Wiley transformative agreement report*
- VII. Discussion and recommendations
- VIII. Summary and next meeting

VII. Discussion and recommendations

The discussion centered on the overarching issues of change management, institutional engagement, and stakeholder involvement. Board members spoke to cultural change, the position of libraries, learning from experiences of other Transformative Agreements, perspectives of Authors and the Open Science movement.

Key takeaways

- Projekt DEAL represents a positive shift in research culture where stakeholders are better informed and aligned, working with each other. However, more could be done to ensure that all stakeholders are fully aware of the irreversible implications of this transformation and the organizational changes that are required.
- The growth in content that is made openly available (through the DEAL agreement and beyond) can be cumbersome for researchers to manage and there is a need for the community to focus on developing new means of accessing and interrogating research (e.g., machine learning /AI) and the wealth of information available to them. It is important to make sure that the publications contribute to the curation of scientific knowledge.
- The DEAL agreement is having a positive impact on developments toward open access in the US. For example, the University of California (UC) now has 10 Transformative Agreements in place and the growth of TAs in the US has been possible because Europeans have led the way and provided lessons learned for a US context. Projekt DEAL has provided a signal to consortia around the world. The cohesion between stakeholders in Germany is impressive.
- Feedback from researchers about the Projekt DEAL-Wiley agreement has been very positive, both from researchers as authors and as readers. There is a need to address concerns about how the costs will be handled and distributed in the long term, reassuring researchers that they will not be disadvantaged or financially burdened.
- Projekt DEAL should expand its scope and engage with smaller publishers to preserve the right of authors to publish in whichever journals they choose.
- Open Access should be seen in the broader context of Open Science (Open Research). Projekt DEAL is in a position to help to start conversations about how open access can contribute to open research and accelerate the process of research more broadly.

VIII. Summary and next meeting

The members were thanked for joining. There have been major achievements through transformative agreements, and the agreement partners are making significant progress towards open access. The next regular meeting to discuss the performance of 2021 will be held around March/April 2022, scheduled and organized by MPDL Services gGmbH and Wiley.