

The Path Forward: JCEPT and Open Access

Vinod B. Damodaran*

Department of Chemistry, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA

"Harvard University says it can't afford journal publishers' prices." This recent article published in the Guardian [1] presents an alarming fiscally unsustainable trend in communicating science globally. This unprecedented revelation by one of the world's most prestigious and wealthiest institutions instigated serious debates over sharing academic research outputs, in a cost-effective manner. Accessing information being an integral part of the research process, the scientific community turned seriously into exploring the widespread use of the open access (OA) initiatives, where all research outputs will be freely available to everyone at the point of use. Starting with the Declaration of the Budapest Open Access Initiative in 2002, open access initiatives resulted in the availability of scholarly literature freely through internet, subjected to proper acknowledgement of authorship [2]. The beneficiaries of this initiative are not only limited to those from higher academia, but also include a wide range of community comprising independent researchers, school teachers, healthcare workers, doctors, and consultants. Because of this increased visibility and accessibility, there will be a higher impact on the published research and influence on the society. Anticipating these socio-economical beneficial impacts, a growing number of funding agencies are currently encouraging researchers to make their results accessible to public through open access formats. In a recent report published by the European Research Council (ERC), they claim that 62% of journal articles from ERC funded projects are made available to public through open access [3].

Among the currently available *green* (repositories) and *gold* (journals) routes, majority of the academic experts recommend *gold* route as an effective communication platform because of the immediate availability (devoid of any embargo period), effective peer-reviewing, and enriched web access through scientific databases. However, the gold open access route is still a matter of debate to account for the balance between the cost of publication and quality of the publishing journal.

In this regard, we saw that Journal of Chemical Engineering and Process Technology accomplished a great success in providing a meritorious platform for scientific communication through open

access. The rigorous quality assurance through effective peer reviewing upheld the quality of science reaching the public domain. With a wide viewership and impressive Index Copernicus Value (ICV), the journal stands as a rising star in the interdisciplinary field of research within the two years of publication.

About the Editor

Dr. Vinod B. Damodaran, a Research Scientist at Colorado State University, first began his research career as a pharmaceutical chemist with Merck KGaA. He received his doctorate in Chemical and Process Engineering from University of Canterbury, New Zealand under Prof. Conan J. Fee in 2010. During his doctoral studies, Dr. Damodaran was the recipient of a University of Canterbury doctoral scholarship (2006–2009), a BioRad-BIC international travel grant (2009) and an Education New Zealand postgraduate study abroad award (2009). He joined Colorado State University as a post-doctoral research associate with Prof. Melissa M. Reynolds in 2010, and promoted to Research Scientist – I in 2011. Dr. Damodaran's research interests include development of biomimetic materials for biomedical applications, tissue engineering nanoscaffolds, controlled drug delivery systems, and polymer therapeutics. He has authored over 20 publications in peer reviewed journals and conference proceedings, a book chapter, and one US patent and PCT applications related to polymeric drug delivery system and multifunctional polymers. Dr. Damodaran is currently serving as an editorial board member for 'Journal of Chemical Engineering and Process Technology' and 'Journal of Bioengineering and Biomedical Science'.

References

1. The Guardian (2012) Harvard University says it can't afford journal publishers' prices [WWW] Available from: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2012/apr/24/harvard-university-journal-publishers-prices> [Accessed 3/8/12].
2. Swan, Alma (2012) Policy guidelines for the promotion of open access (Open guidelines series), Paris, UNESCO.
3. European Research Council (2012) Open Access Status of Journal Articles from ERC Funded Projects, Brussels.

*Corresponding author: Vinod B. Damodaran, Department of Chemistry, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA, E-mail: vinod.damodaran@colostate.edu

Received August 03, 2012; Accepted August 03, 2012; Published August 04, 2012

Citation: Damodaran VB (2012) The Path Forward: JCEPT and Open Access. J Chem Eng Process Technol 3: e105. doi:10.4172/2157-7048.1000e105

Copyright: © 2012 Damodaran VB. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.