

Abstract: Publication, or dissemination of knowledge, is an essential component of scholarly activity. However, the money and profit associated with access to scholarly information is the source of both a crisis and a revolution to address that crisis. It is most common for the author to lose ownership, copyright, other property rights and control over the information. Unfortunately, these problems are not recognized as public policy issues. Public policy is important because access to print journal information has traditionally been through publicly funded libraries, and libraries are in a long, downward crisis. Universities pay scholars, usually through income derived from governmental grants, grants from non-profit and for-profit corporations, tuition, fund-raising, corporate participation, etc. The majority of funding for scholarly activities comes from public sources. Scholars produce scholarly articles, and then universities pay for their libraries and scholars to have access to these scholarly articles. When scholars give up copyright to creative work, they have no say about how their research is disseminated and priced. The Journal of Applied Clinical Medical Physics is part of the open-source publication revolution. The author retains the copyright and retains full control over the dissemination of the scholarly contribution. The key for the JACMP was to lower transaction and production costs by a factor of four below the cost of providing a subscription-based print journal with restricted online access. The JACMP is squarely in the middle of the open-source publication revolution as it offers scholarly articles to the worldwide medical physics community without cost.

Objectives: 1. Understand the history and importance of the open-source publication revolution. 2. Understand the role of the JACMP in the dissemination of scholarly activity to the worldwide medical physics community