

The Ecology of Scholarship: Critical Issues

- Open Access as a Social Justice/
Human Rights Issue
- The Ecology of Scholarship in the
Adolescent University

Open Access

- Can *dramatically* expand access
 - E.g., *Behavior and Social Issues* receives over 3000 online article accesses per month, from all over the world
 - Included in on-line databases
 - Authors maintain rights, so can post, distribute, archive, etc.
- Costs to scholars involved however, are high
 - Many of the items previously handled by publishers
 - Universities can help with some of these

Open Access, Social Justice and Human Rights

- “Some things are not to be sold”
- High costs differentially affect, and in fact isolate, poorer institutions and scholars, e.g., those in the developing world
- Lack of access to critical information (e.g., HIV/AIDS, reducing collective violence)
- Loss of potentially ground-breaking work by those closest to the issues

Open Access & the Professions

- Evidence-based practice in the professions requires access
- The Reality: Differential access based on resources
- “Preferential Option for the Poor”
(Paul Farmer)

Open Access & Universities

- Emerging university support for open access and related alternatives may be unstable, given increasing interlocks with the corporate world
- To encourage scholarship: “Make it possible for them to become rich” (??)
- High potential for ethical compromises: Integration with corporate sponsors has limited availability of proprietary scientific information, for example

The Ecology of Scholarship in The Adolescent University

- Adolescence and Identity (e.g., Erik Erikson)
- A Choice Point: Who Shall We Be?
 - Strive to move up a few spots on conventional rankings of universities? (the conventional option)
 - Choose to lead in genuinely new directions (the distinctive option)

- Support for Open Access: One step toward becoming the *Urban Justice University*, for example
 - Consistent with the Great Cities concept
- Iris M. Young: Vibrant, diverse city life as potentially a normative ideal ...
but ...
- Social injustice currently precludes realization of that vision
- The Hull House option ...

Behavior and Social Issues

www.bfsr.org/BSIONline.html