

Generalizing Openness

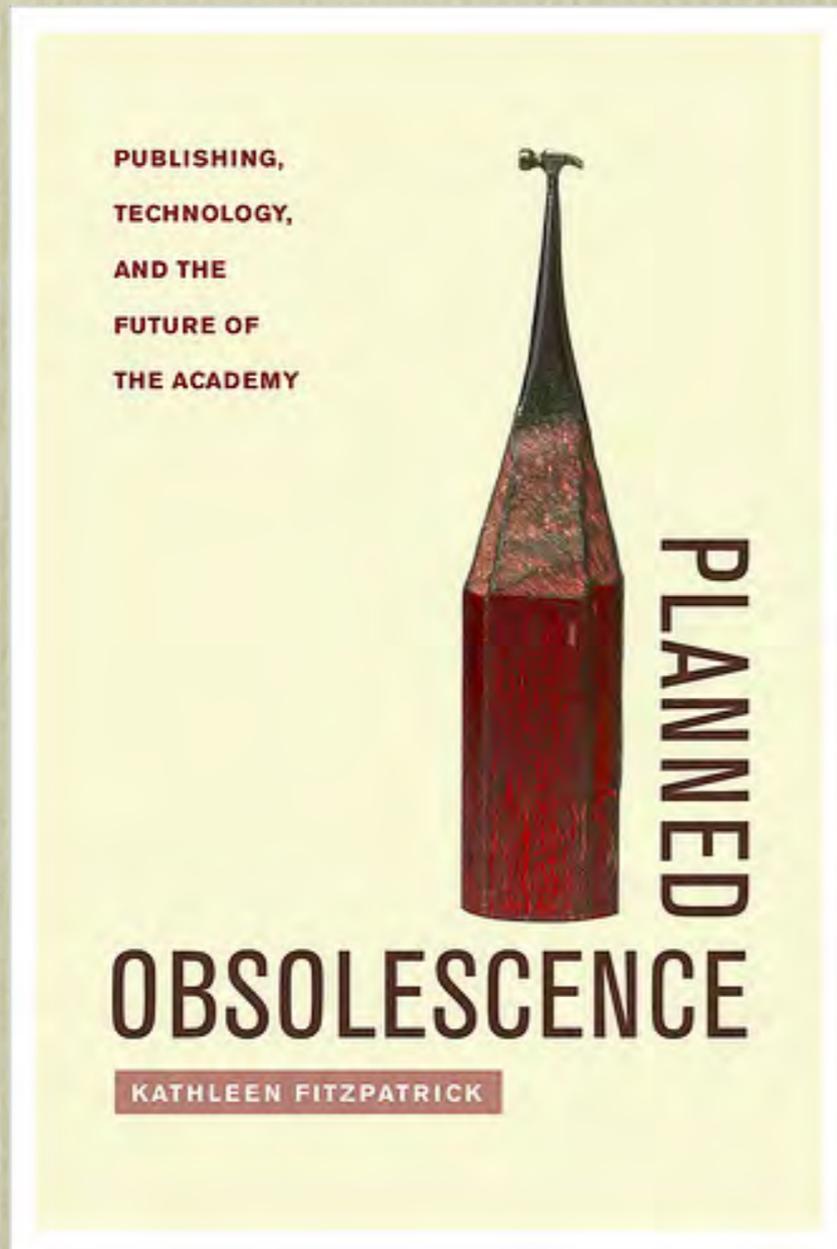
More Suggestions for the Future of Scholarly Publishing



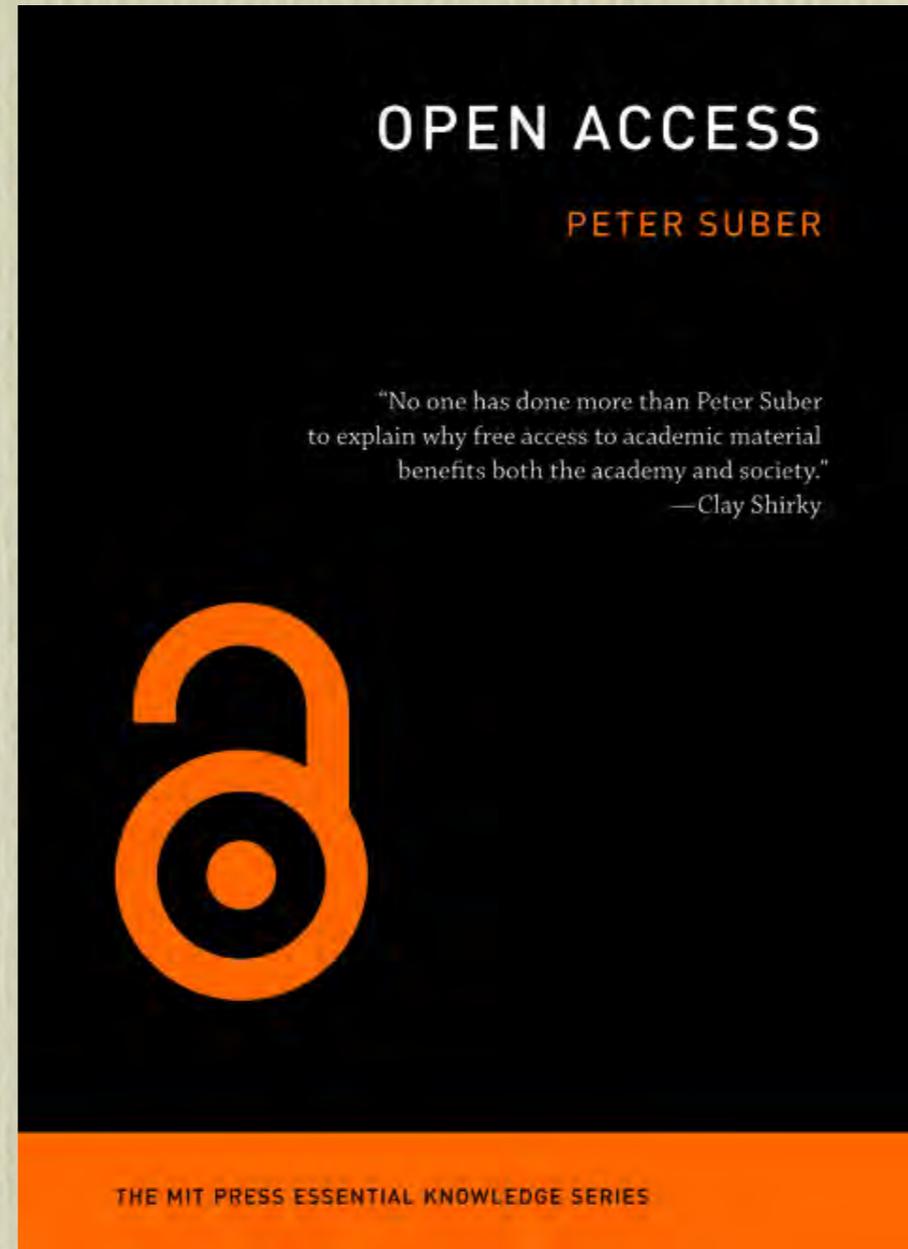
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Primary influences and debts



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Three interwoven suggestions

(1) Scholarship

(2) Peer review

(3) Credit

Gratis vs. libre OA

Gratis OA = digital, online, and free of charge

- removes price but not permission barriers

Libre OA = gratis OA + free of unnecessary
copyright and licensing restrictions

- removes both price and permission barriers
- allows reuse rights which exceed fair use

<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/newsletter/08-02-08.htm>

(see also: Stuart M. Shieber. The case for the journal's use of a CC-BY license. *Journal of Language Modelling*, 0(1):5-8, 2012.)

Why go libre?

- to (re-)distribute copies or to quote long excerpts
- to create and archive copies (or migrate to new formats or media) for long-term preservation
- to make an audio recording of a text
- to translate a text into another language
- **to create and distribute enhanced versions**
- **to include works in a database or mashup**
- **to copy a text for indexing, text-mining, or other kinds of processing**

Open-access evidence racks

- identify the basic propositions in the field / subfield / theoretical framework / publication...
- create a separate OA page for each proposition
- fill in the page with evidence in support of the proposition (citing work where appropriate)

Some benefits of evidence racks

- Consolidate currently disparate efforts to bring together materials pertaining to key ideas.
- Enhance static publications with dynamic content from evidence racks.
- Build a centralized citation database for semi-automated bibliography generation.

An evidence rack network

- Start a wiki or similar crowd-publishing site (and get a group of scholars to subscribe to it).
- Scholars propose propositions for racks, committing to authoring the rack if ‘approved’.
- Approval happens when a minimal editorial team self-assembles around the proposition.

Open review

- Author drafts a version of the evidence rack and posts it for the (anonymous) editorial team.
- Editorial team provides comments on the draft (and on each other's comments) in a specified review period. (Author may also participate.)
- Author incorporates comments, editorial team approves, evidence rack is published.

Post-publication review

- Published racks remain open for public comment by members of the rack network.
- Bibliographic additions and cross-references among related racks particularly welcome.
- Original authors (or their surrogates) may be invited periodically to incorporate these open comments into official updates of their racks.

Encouraging participation

- We perform much of this labor anyway — in seminars, workshops, etc. — but many of the basic fruits of our labor are often lost.
- Opportunity for many to collaborate on a large-scale reference project, and to receive credit for editorial work as well as authorship.
- But how useful is this kind of line on a CV?

Task credits

- Suppose ‘task credits’ are given for work on evidence racks (both authorship and editorial).
- Credits may be exchanged among members of the rack network for other ‘academic services’:
 - research assistance (e.g. help with stats)
 - providing conference crash space
- Task credits may be enhanced by ‘reputation points’ from members of the rack network.

Other potential credit uses

- conference abstract submission review
- conference session chairing
- other conference volunteer work
- journal editorial (e.g., review) work
- creation and maintenance of accessible databases
- designing and sharing teaching materials

Thank you.