



OPEN LITERACY

& the Problem of Access Refusal



Overview

- Open Access
- Open Literacy
- Findings
 - Problems
 - Suggestions
 - Challenge
- Questions

robynhall.ca/OpenAccess





OA

in a

Nutshell





Information Literacy

- “foundation for continued growth throughout their careers”
- “informed citizens and members of communities”





Access Denied



Real World

Research





The gift of **Open** **Literacy**



Perspectives?



Fluid Surveys .com





RESULTS

Years as a librarian?



Response	Percentage
0-4 years	29%
5-9 years	25%
10-14 years	15%
15 years or more	31%

Institution?



Response	Percentage
University	73%
College	24%
Polytechnic	4%

Classes taught yearly?



Response	Percentage
0 classes	2%
1-4 classes	16%
5-9 classes	16%
10-14 classes	20%
15 classes or more	45%

Education level?



Response	Percentage
First or second year of higher education	38%
Third or fourth year of higher education	11%
Graduate students	15%
All of the above	36%

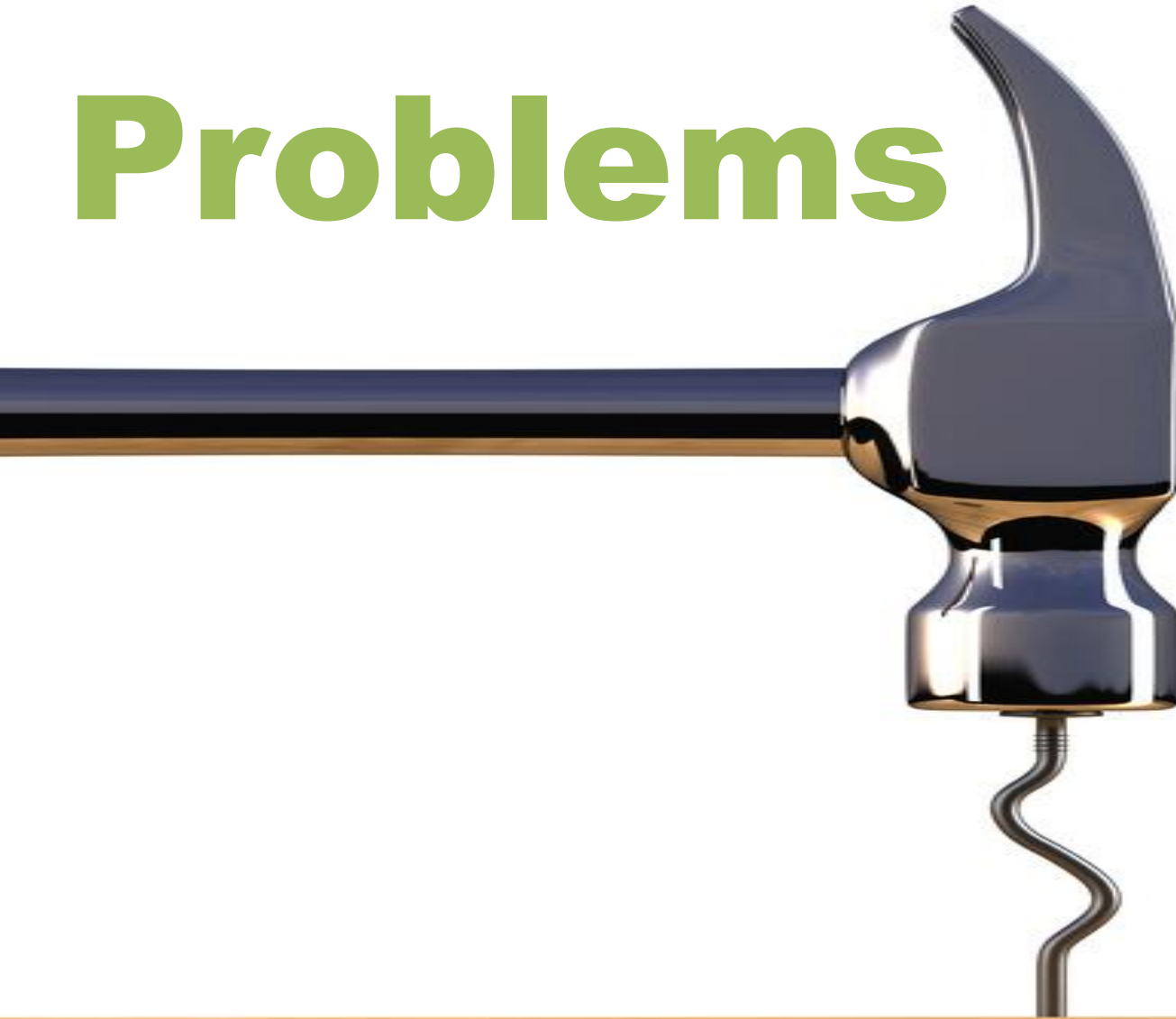


Taught students OA?

Response	Percentage
Yes	57%
No	43%



Problems



Baby Steps



Given that I am often teaching them their first class in Library/scholarly research, it seems that baby "in-house" steps are more useful and less foreign.

The students experience a pretty steep learning curve when it comes to academic research. I like to make sure they have the basics under their belts ...

My level of college and level of classes is more at the "I cannot tell if this is a scholarly source -- could you help me?" or at the using newspapers and finding that challenging -- level.

Info- Noise



Undergrads need to know where to find evidence and how to evaluate it. Adding the concept of OA would be increasing irrelevant "noise" in an already overwhelming information learning process.

My knowledge of them is limited, and there are already so many things to show students, it seems like an extra frivolity.



Relevance?



Open Access doesn't include titles of interest to our students, many of them are rather obscure.

Undergrads are only ready to learn about the information concepts that will get them through their immediate information need - usually an assignment.

... OA is primarily of importance to librarians.

...the students care about the information and its quality, not the packaging.



Paid
vs.
Unpaid



**We feel that our resources
are sufficient.**

[We're] trying to promote
the resources we pay
subscription fees for.

Some of the management are reluctant to advertise free resources when we are paying so much for databases and the like.



Faculty Support

... their discipline
instructors want
us to concentrate
on the subscribed
resources.

It is something that we try to speak to Faculty about but never receive a positive or encouraging response.

I don't know how it
could be done, given
the institutional culture.



**Not
Enough
Time**

“Not enough time to differentiate. Too complex.”

“The class time is too limited to cover even the basics.”

“Many classes are much too short with much too much to cover.”

There are only so many hours in the day: we are incredibly understaffed and really do very little promotion in any way.

Should librarians do more to teach students about OA?



Response	Percentage
Yes	92%
No	8%



Suggestions



OA Promotion

Response	Percentage
Celebrating OA Week (www.openaccessweek.org)	61%
Including OA in online subject or resource guides	72%
Adding OA to OPAC	70%
Educating reference staff	63%

openaccessweek.org



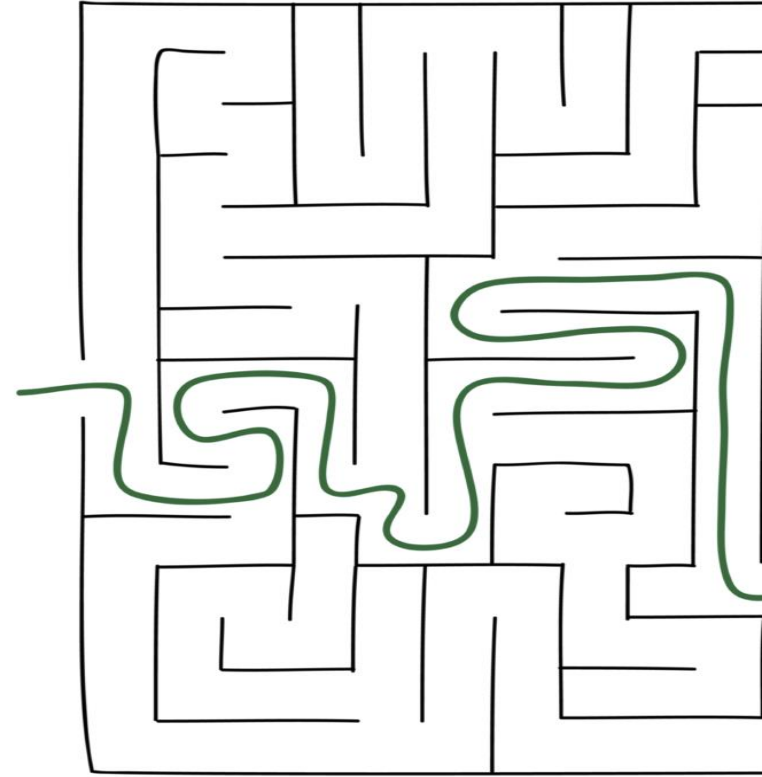
OCTOBER 22 - 28, 2012 | EVERYWHERE

LEARN. SHARE. ADVANCE.

For the most part, the sessions are attended by librarians and library students because it's heavily promoted to these groups. The library should call on Communication Officers to plan Open Access week events together to attract a wider audience.



Research Guides



“I certainly try to include open access into the research guides when appropriate.”

“Pointing them out as a viable alternative (in the research guide alongside Biological Abstracts and Web of Science) with a note on why they are "good" will raise their profile.”

rdc.libguides.com/nursing

Library » Learning Resources » Library Subject Guides » Nursing & Health robyn.hall@rdc.ab.ca « Guide Admin « Dashboard « Sign Out

Nursing & Health

Tags [health](#), [medicine](#), [nursing](#), [subjectguide](#)

This guide will help you find information related to nursing & health.

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- current, specific, in-depth information
- peer-reviewed (scholarly) information
- reference lists for further research

About Find It


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All RDC students, faculty, and staff can access Library article databases, e-books, and e-resources from off-campus.



Nursing Article Databases

Access articles on your subject using RDC Library's licensed databases.

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RefWorks

Save your research and share it easily with RefWorks.

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If you are off-campus, you will need your NEOS ID and iCard barcode.

[RefWorks Tutorials](#)

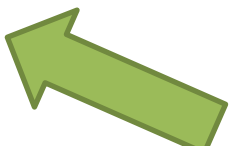
Get started with these short video tutorials.


[RefWorks](#)

Nursing-related Open Access Article Databases

Open Access refers to scholarly literature that is freely available on the Internet. For more information, visit our [Open Resources Guide](#).

- [BioMed Central](#)
Search open access biomedicine journals.
- [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#)
An extensive directory of scholarly open access journals from around the world.
- [Free Medical Journals](#)
Provides links to dozens of open access medical journals.
- [HighWire Press](#)
Search full-text articles in science, medicine, special education and occupational therapy. Most, but not all, are free for download.
- [Public Library of Science \(PLOS\)](#)
Publishes a range of open access science journals and other scientific literature. Subject areas include biology, medicine, clinical trials and genetics.
- [PubMed Central \(PMC\) Advanced Search](#)
Allows health and life sciences literature searches that you can limit to a wide range of free, full-text articles.



- [Micromedex: Thomson HealthCare Series](#) 
Includes publications previously published as USP DI® Vol. 1 and USP DI® Vol. 2, and much more. Username: REDDEER Password: T152379

rdc.libguides.com/open

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Open Resources

This guide will help you find "open" resources online, including scholarly literature, multimedia, teaching objects, and software.

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About Open Access

Open Access (OA) refers to scholarly literature that is freely available on the Internet.

These resources are sustained by the academic and scientific communities that produce them.

They are typically found in peer-reviewed *Open Access Journals* and *Institutional Repositories*, which act as archives of institutions' scholarly output.



Open Access 101



Open Access 101, from SPARC from Karen Rustad on Vimeo.

Need Help?

Ask Us!
chat | email | phone

Learn More

- [\(Mis\)Leading Open Access Myths](#)
A response to many common (and misleading) arguments against open access from BioMed Central.
- [Create Change Canada](#)
An educational initiative examining new opportunities for scholars and researchers in a digital environment.
- [OASIS: Open Access Scholarly Information Sourcebook](#)
Training and resources for anyone interested in OA initiatives, including researchers, students and librarians.

Multi-Subject OA Databases

Ensure you evaluate any Open Access research materials you use for credibility and quality. For help with this, take a look at the [CRAAP Test](#).

- [Canadian Institutional Repositories](#)
Links to Institutional Repositories maintained by Canadian universities.
- [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#)
An extensive directory of scholarly open access journals from around the world.
- [Directory of Open Access Repositories \(OpenDOAR\)](#)
A directory of repositories worldwide that house open access research materials.

Use OA



“I've explained the term "open access" and found examples of open access journals for the students.”

“I briefly mention the fact that if a journal is not available via the library, the students could check the web to see whether it is freely available in an open access journal. If I am teaching PubMed, I point out the 'free' journals.”



[Advanced Scholar Search](#)

☒ Articles (☒ include patents) ☐ Legal opinions and journals

Stand on the shoulders of giants





Evaluate OA

A good way to approach it is by showing actual examples of article citations on the same topic in open access journals vs. traditional journals.

We have a discussion of critically assessing information and what may or may not be available to them where they work...



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[Home](#) > **Vol 12, No 2 (2010)**

Anthropology Matters

Welcome to the latest issue of Anthropology Matters: Vol 12 No 2 (2010).

Anthropology Matters is an initiative developed by postgraduates and early-career anthropologists. The site aims to stimulate discussion on the production of anthropological knowledge through a focus on training, teaching, research and writing.

<http://www.anthropologymatters.com>



international · peer reviewed · open access

<http://www.librarystudentjournal.org>



OA Assignments



Encourage students not only to use OA resources, but plant the seeds of publishing or at least archiving their own publications in OA repositories.



Higher Education

I let higher level students know that upon graduation, they will lose access to the library's resources and that many of them will have to rely on materials that are freely available on the web.

We should make it clear that we want them to learn how to use resources that will actually be available to them when they no longer have access to the library's collection - put Open Access resources in the context of their future in the workforce.

... graduate students
and Alumni would likely
benefit from this type of
information more.

exploreguides.conestogac.on.ca/nursingalumni

The image shows a screenshot of the Conestoga Library Resource Centre website, specifically the Nursing (Alumni) guide page. The page features a header with the Conestoga logo and the text 'CONESTOGA Connect Life and Learning' and 'LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE'. Below the header, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Library Resource Centre » Guides Home » Nursing (Alumni)'. The main title 'NURSING (ALUMNI)' is displayed in large, bold, green letters. Below the title, there is a section for 'Last Updated: Apr 5, 2012' and a URL: 'http://exploreguides.conestogac.on.ca/nursingalumni'. There are also links for 'Print Guide', 'RSS Updates', and a 'SHARE' button. A navigation bar contains several tabs: 'Articles from Databases', 'Books, E-Books & Media', 'Online Journals', 'Fact Finders', 'Web Sources', 'Associations', and 'Contact'. The 'Online Journals' tab is currently selected. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'FREE ONLINE JOURNALS' with a list of links: 'Directory of Open Access Journals', 'Free Medical Journals', 'HighWire Press', and 'Open Medicine'. To the right of this list, there is a 'Comments (0)' link. Below the 'FREE ONLINE JOURNALS' section, there is a 'Comments (0)' link. The main content area is titled 'NURSING (ALUMNI)' and includes a 'Last Updated: Apr 5, 2012' and a URL: 'http://exploreguides.conestogac.on.ca/nursingalumni'. There are also links for 'Print Guide', 'RSS Updates', and a 'SHARE' button. A navigation bar contains several tabs: 'Articles from Databases', 'Books, E-Books & Media', 'Online Journals', 'Fact Finders', 'Web Sources', 'Associations', and 'Contact'. The 'Articles from Databases' tab is currently selected. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'FIND ARTICLES IN DATABASES' with a description: 'Find articles from thousands of scholarly journal sources related to nursing.' There are two links: 'Cochrane Reviews' and 'PubMed'. The 'Cochrane Reviews' link has a description: 'Keyword searchable and provides summaries and abstracts of systematic reviews. Full text for the reviews is available from the Cochrane Library by clicking on the Full Text button or from a link that is found in the middle of the page.' The 'PubMed' link has a description: 'Provides free access to biomedical journal citations and abstracts, drawing primarily from MEDLINE. Includes a Clinical Queries filter that streamlines searches for evidence-based medicine. Although much of the content provides citations only, full text articles are also included.' To the right of the 'FIND ARTICLES IN DATABASES' section, there is a section titled 'PUBMED TUTORIALS' with two links: 'Searching Using Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) (video)' and 'List of Other PubMed Tutorials'. There is also a 'Comments (0)' link.

CONESTOGA
Connect Life and Learning

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Library Resource Centre » Guides Home » Nursing (Alumni)

NURSING (ALUMNI)

Last Updated: Apr 5, 2012 | URL: <http://exploreguides.conestogac.on.ca/nursingalumni> | [Print Guide](#) | [RSS Updates](#) | [SHARE](#)

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Online Journals

[Comments\(0\)](#)

FREE ONLINE JOURNALS

- [Directory of Open Access Journals](#)
Provides free, full text access to quality c
- [Free Medical Journals](#)
Dedicated to the promotion of free acces
- [HighWire Press](#)
From Stanford University, free online acc
- [Open Medicine](#)
Features peer-reviewed articles that exp

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FIND ARTICLES IN DATABASES

Find articles from thousands of scholarly journal sources related to nursing.

- [Cochrane Reviews](#)
Keyword searchable and provides summaries and abstracts of systematic reviews. Full text for the reviews is available from the Cochrane Library by clicking on the Full Text button or from a link that is found in the middle of the page.
- [PubMed](#)
Provides free access to biomedical journal citations and abstracts, drawing primarily from MEDLINE. Includes a Clinical Queries filter that streamlines searches for evidence-based medicine. Although much of the content provides citations only, full text articles are also included.

PUBMED TUTORIALS

- [Searching Using Medical Subject Headings \(MeSH\) \(video\)](#)
- [List of Other PubMed Tutorials](#)

[Comments \(0\)](#)



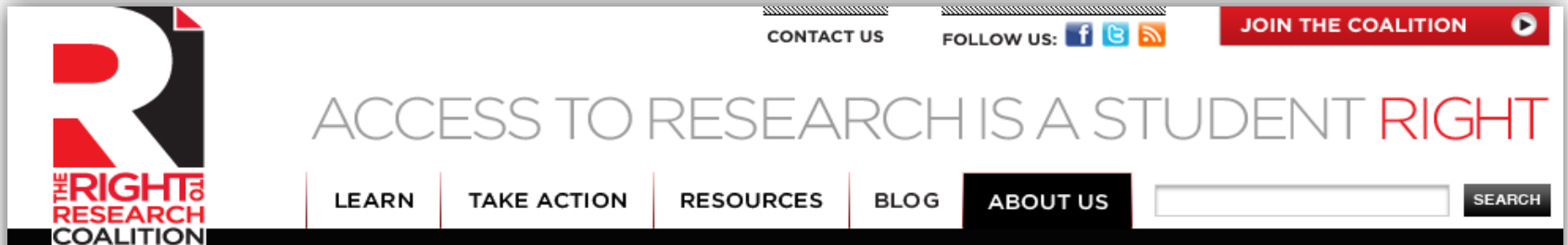
**Just Tell
Them...**



We have compiled a Q&A for faculty regarding OA publishing and associated questions, but this survey has led me to think about also compiling a 5-minute blurb about OA for students with an accompanying handout.

Open access is very important -- for the world, for academics, for research. Understanding a lot about open access is not very important for my students. Knowing that it exists and to know at a basic level only why it is important is excellent and enough for them.

rightto**research**.org



“We will undertake activities, in our membership and on our campuses, to educate students about Open Access and to engage them in efforts supporting Open Access.”

“There is a great need for us to teach OA more.”

“Thank you for this eye-opening survey! I was almost embarrassed to admit that I don't talk about OA with students - just with faculty, but this is a great way to bring up important issues, and explore solutions. I would be interested in reading about your findings! Thanks again!”

“More discussion of OA at all conferences would be helpful.”



Vigour, Thrift & Resourcefulness





Take the
Open Literacy
Challenge





robynhall.ca/OpenAccess



Questions?

Thank You!

