

# Special Issue on Open Access (OA)

HKBU Library Newsletter | Jun 2023

## Background on the RGC Open Access Plan

In February 2021, the UGC sent out its [OA Plan of the RGC](#) to all universities asking for support in its implementation. The Plan proposes a list of initiatives that span a five-year period. Key initiatives of Phase I (Feb 2021 to Jan 2024) include:

- Enabling the collection of additional OA information on publications at the project and university level
- Developing the [RGC Publication Gateway](#) for presenting research outputs arising from RGC funding
- Organizing training on Research Data Management for academics at the 8 universities

A *Coordination Platform for the OA Plan* was established for the RGC to collect comments and needed OA data from universities. The Library and the Research Office have each delegated a staff member to the Platform.

The [Working Group on OA \(WGOA\)](#) was also formed to steer and monitor the implementation of the Plan. The Library was appointed as the representative of HKBU. A progress report of the Plan was distributed and discussed at a WGOA meeting on May 16. **This newsletter highlights the findings of the report supplemented with other data, and proposes necessary actions.**

UGC believes that free access to research outputs arising from public funding benefits the community and accelerates knowledge sharing.

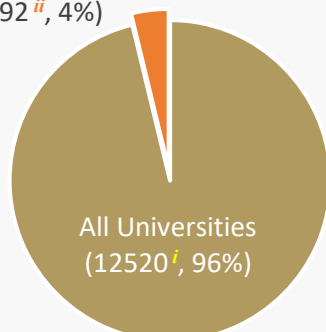


## Data Related to Publication Information Submitted to RGC

### Journal Articles Arising from RGC Granted Projects (2018-2020)

The RGC extracted publication information previously submitted by HKBU researchers for the Library to clean and verify. These articles are now searchable on the [RGC Publication Gateway](#).

HKBU (492 <sup>ii</sup>, 4%)

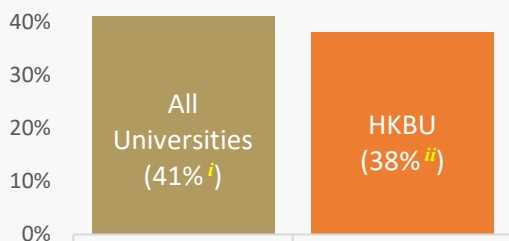


### Total Number of Articles Reported

This low proportion of HKBU-authored research is unrepresentative and is mainly due to incomplete reporting of publications at project completion.

<sup>i</sup> Sum of verified data submitted to RGC by all 8 universities. These data were shared with WGOA members through the progress report.

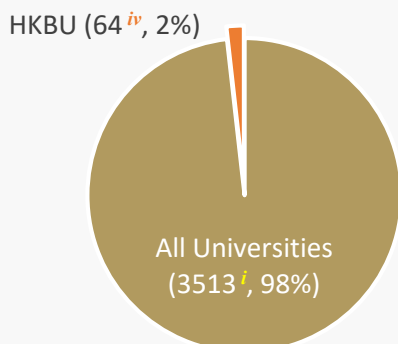
<sup>ii</sup> Data verified and submitted by the Library.



### OA Compliance Rate

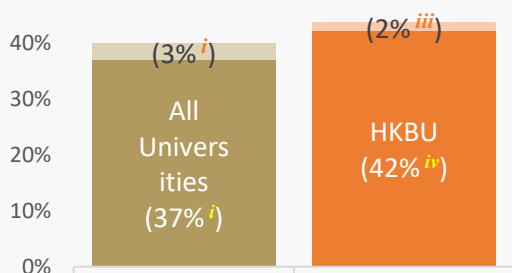
HKBU's OA compliance rate for older articles is lower than the average and needs improvement.

## Journal Articles Arising from RGC Granted Projects Reported in CDCF 2021/22<sup>iii</sup>



### Total Number of Articles Reported

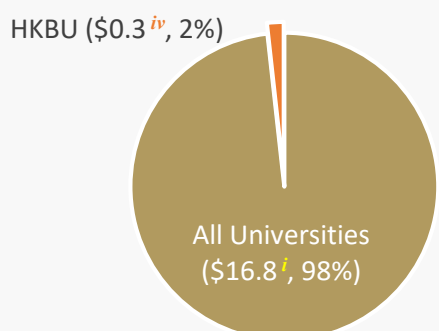
HKBU researchers are encouraged to get into the habit of linking their publication records to the corresponding project records in IRIMS to help ensure accurate representation in these statistics.



### OA Compliance Rate

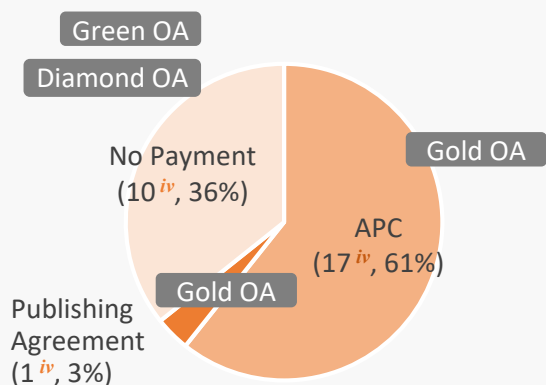
HKBU's OA compliance rate for more recent articles is higher than the average but can be improved.

- Immediate OA
- Embargo for 1 year



### Total APCs Paid (\$ in HKD million)

17 articles paid APCs at a total cost of HKD \$280,794. The average cost per article was around HKD \$16,517.



### OA Routes of HKBU Articles

Out of 28 HKBU articles that are OA:

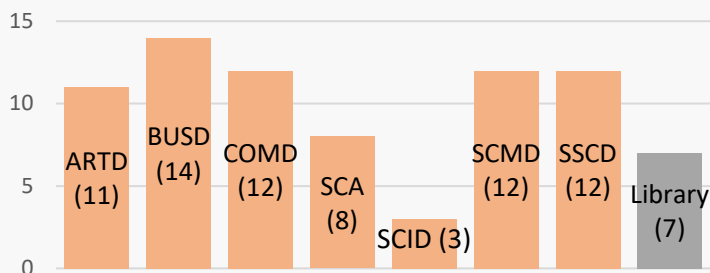
- 17 articles (61%) paid APCs
- 1 article (3%) benefited from the Library's [OA publishing agreements](#) newly signed with publishers
- 10 articles (36%) were either published in free OA journals or their post-prints have been uploaded to IRIMS.

<sup>iii</sup> Only peer-reviewed articles with research output categories 21 & 22 are counted in these tables.

<sup>iv</sup> Data based on the HKBU's CDCF Table 61 & 61B datasets.

## RGC Research Data Management Training

The RGC invited the UK-based Digital Curation Centre (DCC) to offer all-round training in research data management for researchers of the universities. 4 rounds of virtual workshops, each with 9 training hours, have been conducted between March and June 2023. 77 HKBU faculty members and staff registered.



## Recommendations on the Way Forward

### RGC PROJECT COMPLETION REPORTS

1. Report all published and in-process research outputs to RGC

### IRIMS

2. Associate your future publications to the corresponding projects in IRIMS
3. For publication records that have been validated, please send pairs of Pure IDs (publication & project records) to the Library at [lib-sct@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:lib-sct@hkbu.edu.hk). The Library will update the records for you.

### PUBLISHING OA

4. Publish with the following publishers that have [OA publishing agreements](#) with the Library
  - American Chemical Society
  - Company of Biologists
  - Microbiology Society
  - Talyor & Francis
  - Cambridge University Press
  - IEEE
  - Royal Society of Chemistry
  - Wiley
5. Publish in OA journals, which are [listed here](#) by department with Scimago journal metrics provided by Scopus
6. Pay APCs using your project grants and upload the invoices to IRIMS to facilitate CDCF reporting
7. The Library is collecting post-prints from researchers after checking the journal's self-archiving policy. If you are approached by us, your prompt assistance is greatly appreciated.

For questions about the RGC Plan, please contact Rebekah Wong (Head of Digital Initiatives and Research, Library) at [rebekahw@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:rebekahw@hkbu.edu.hk).

For general IRIMS questions, please contact the Library at [lib-sct@hkbu.edu.hk](mailto:lib-sct@hkbu.edu.hk).