

Special Issue on Open Access

JUN
2024

Background on HKBU's OA Policies

HKBU's commitment to open access (OA) and open data to enhance academic and societal impact is evidenced by its early formulation of policies and its ongoing promotion of OA ideals.

The University's [OA Policy](#) was first endorsed by the Senate in 2016. Under this policy, HKBU faculty need to provide the Library with a digital copy of their accepted peer-reviewed journal articles for OA wherever possible. OA support was first mentioned in the Library's Strategic Priorities 2019-2022 when it was included as an action item. In the Library's latest [three-year plan](#), OA support has been further emphasized by its inclusion as one of four major strategic priorities.

*This newsletter highlights the **encouraging success** and **impact of our OA strategies** throughout the years since 2019.*

OA Strategies

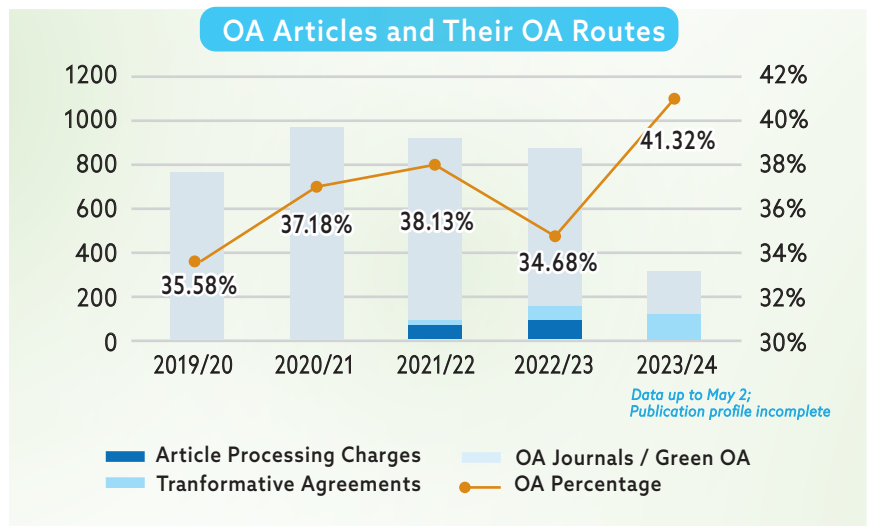
- 1 HKBU is the leading university in Hong Kong in terms of investments in [OA publishing agreements](#) with major publishers. Agreements between HKBU Library and ten global publishers (encompassing 7,169 journals) allow HKBU academics to publish their articles via the gold OA route. Authors need not pay article processing charges (APC) and all charges are covered by the University. These agreements are highly cost effective. **On average, OA charges under these agreements are about 26% of the list price.** As of 2 May, 2024, a total of 206 journal articles have been made gold OA under these agreements.
- 2 The Library also checks publisher policies for each article newly inputted in [IRIMS](#) and makes them publicly available as far as possible. This effort reduces the burden on researchers while ensuring compliance with copyright and other stipulations.
- 3 For publishers allowing green OA, the Library also worked to collect manuscripts from authors and share them with the public through the same platform.

Success and Impact of HKBU Publications



Increasing OA Compliance Rate

These OA strategies have proven to be successful. As of May 2, 2024, **3,837 research outputs** published after Oct 1, 2019 were deposited in IRIMS, with an **average OA compliance rate of 36.8%**, which has also shown an upward trend over the years.



14,750 Downloads
data from IRIMS since Sep 2021

“ 23,720 Citations ”
77% higher than non-OA articles

Impressive Downloads & Citations

Significantly, 14,750 downloads of these OA publications have been recorded since the launch of IRIMS in September 2021, and 23,720 citations to these publications have been recorded in Scopus with **an average of 6.2 citations each**. In contrast, Scopus showed 22,951 citations for non-OA research output published by HKBU in the same period, with an average of 3.5 citations. The number of citations for OA articles was thus **77% higher than for non-OA counterparts**.

Increased FWCI

Field Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) is a measure that anchors an output to its peers and controls for disciplinary differences. An FWCI greater than 1.0 indicates outperformance of the global average for similar outputs. For OA and non-OA articles published by HKBU during the reporting period, **the average FWCI was 2.1 and 1.7 respectively, an increase of 23.5%**.

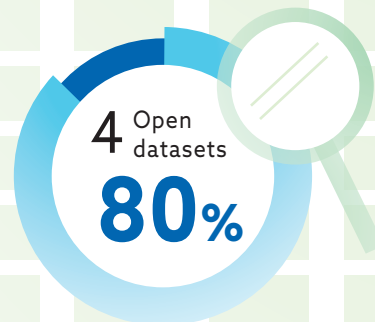
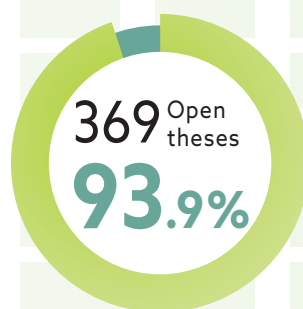
FWCI 2.1
23.5% higher than non-OA articles

Success and Impact of Other Research Output

Open Theses and Datasets

There were also 369 open theses (OA compliance rate 93.9%) and 4 open datasets (OA compliance rate 80%) published after Oct 1, 2019 deposited in IRIMS.

OA Compliance Rate



OA Journals

Published by HKBU

▶ **International Journal of Chinese and Comparative Philosophy of Medicine**

(Indexed by the Emerging Sources Citation Index ESCI of Web of Science)

▶ **Journal of Asian Energy Studies**

(Indexed by Scopus)

▶ **Asian Journal of Physical Education and Recreation**

(Indexed by SPORTDiscus of EBSCOhost)

▶ **Sino-Humanitas**

OA Journals Published by HKBU

HKBU publishes four [OA journals](#) using the Open Journal System (OJS), publishing traditional peer-reviewed and innovative research outputs. Since Oct 1, 2019, 1,102 OA articles have been published with international authors, with 79,743 downloads and 227,666 full-text views in this period.

Published
1,102
OA articles

↓ 79,743
Downloads

👁️ 227,666
Full-text views

Digital Scholarship Projects

HKBU also supports individual academic staff developing [Digital Scholarship projects](#) since 2015 with funding and support administered by the Library. These online applications/websites share primary research resources and research data generated by HKBU researchers with the public in a way that is easily discoverable and re-used. 37 projects have been developed so far, with a total of 11,292,229 website views since Oct 1, 2019.

📁 37
Projects

👁️ 11,292,229
website views

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 their 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. The Library will update the records for you.

PUBLISHING OA

4. Publish with the following publishers that have [OA publishing agreements](#) with the Library :

➤ Association for Computing Machinery

➤ American Chemical Society

➤ Cambridge University Press

➤ Company of Biologists

➤ IEEE

➤ Institute of Physics

➤ Royal Society of Chemistry

➤ Springer

➤ Taylor & Francis

➤ 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 library's OA initiatives, please contact Rebekah Wong (*Head of Digital Initiatives and Research, Library*) at rebekahw@hkbu.edu.hk.

For general IRIMS questions related to the recommendations above, please contact the Library at lib-sct@hkbu.edu.hk.