



Scholarly Communications Crisis: Setting the Context

**Dr Paul Ayris,
Director of Library Services, UCL
e-mail: p.ayris@ucl.ac.uk**

The Issues (1)

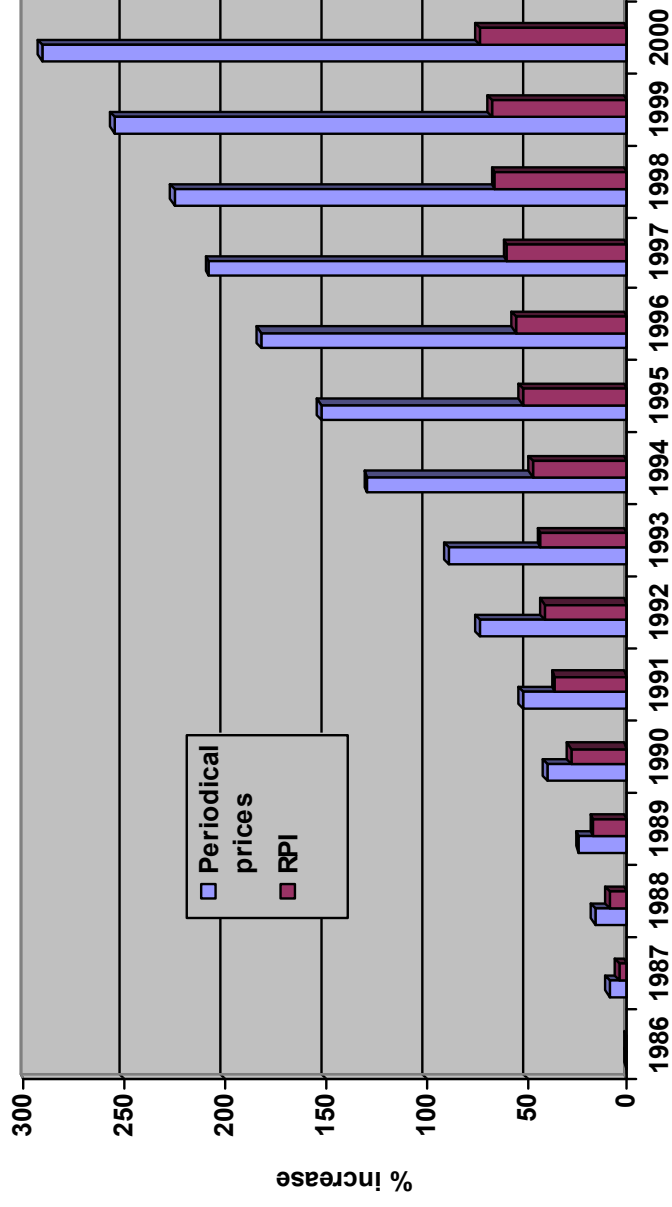
- Finance
- IPR
- SPARC and SPARC Europe
- Public Library of Science
- Digital Preservation
- Advocacy campaigns
- Open Archiving Initiative (OAI)

The Issues (2)

- **International Scholarly Communications Alliance (ISCA)**
- **Manifesto for action!**

Finance (1)

Periodical price increases mapped against the RPI



Finance (2)

- Commercial publishers are predominantly interested in profit margins
- *‘We can talk about anything but profit’* – Derk Haank
- Librarians have not sold their case well in the past!
- Dialogue starting but difficult

Finance (3)

- What model best suits a CURL library?
 - ‘All you can eat deal’
 - Paper bundled with electronic access?
 - Tiered model? Now to be tested by CURL with Blackwells Science
- VAT a big problem for a move to electronic only delivery

IPR (1)

- *The model:*
- Academics/researchers are paid to produce research
- IPR is handed over to commercial publishers
- Universities buy it back in journal subscriptions

IPR (2)

- Universities coming to a resolution about local IPR arrangements – which are not identical
- CURL has composed a questionnaire on IPR for the Russell Group Vice-Chancellors to map local arrangements

IPR (3)

- CURL is trying to lobby the Funding Councils
- Library Committee of the Wellcome Trust to discuss the question tomorrow!
- CURL is trying to get statements about free access to IPR written into the Letters of Grant from Funding Agencies

SPARC

- SPARC
- Set up by ARL in the U.S.
- Produces electronic journals at a fraction of the cost
- Some Editorial Boards have moved wholesale to SPARC

PLoS (1)

- Public Library of Science
- Campaign by academics and researchers
- Current publishing model is questioned
- Commercial publishers are calling our bluff

PLOS (2)

- What is the next step?
- PLOS to launch new electronic journal/suite of journals
- But how many are needed to make an impact?

Digital Preservation (1)

- Digital Preservation is a principal constraint in the new e-economy
- No-one is doing it
- Reed Elsevier is in discussion with international libraries over trusted repositories
- CURL CEDARS project a good exemplar

Digital Preservation (2)

- Digital Preservation Coalition launched at the Houses of Parliament
- A principal aim is to foster debate and to attribute responsibilities for digital archiving
- We need action!! Not just words

Advocacy campaigns (1)

- Librarians are on the whole converted!
- Sir Brian Follett says the escalating costs in periodical subscriptions are marginal to a university
- Academics see periodical inflation rates as a problem only for the Library

Advocacy campaigns (2)



- CURL has devoted Jan.-April 2002 to a national advocacy campaign
- We are trying to reach academics and Subject/Liaison Librarians
- You have an enormously important local role to play!
- Partnership between Library and academics is vital

Open Archiving

- Open Archive Initiative
- Pre-print servers to archive papers
- Subject-based or institution-based?
- What is the role of refereeing?



OAI: SHERPA (1)

- CURL-led project for the community
- Bid submitted to JISC
- Outputs
 - Collaboration with MIMAS at Manchester as a long-term digital store
 - Service servers set up at CURL exemplar sites



OAI: SHERPA (2)

- Nottingham (lead); White Rose partnership (Leeds, Sheffield, York); British Library; Glasgow, Edinburgh; Oxford, MIMAS
- Advocacy to academics at these sites
- Consultancy service to all other CURL institutions on setting up OAI servers
- Architecture will enable **all** CURL institutions **and others** to join within the 3 years of the project, if funded

ISCA (1)

- International Scholarly Communications Alliance
 - A CURL initiative comprising library consortia in US, Canada, UK and Ireland, the rest of Europe, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and New Zealand
- Global problems require global solutions

ISCA (2)

- Press release launched in early 2002; covered in the UK by the *THES*
- A joint work plan now being prepared:
 - Globalise the SPARC brand
 - Share advocacy materials
 - Commission research

Manifesto for Action (1)

- Train all Subject/Liaison Librarians in the issues
 - How is that best done in your own institution?
- Establish a web presence
 - Cf. Glasgow's excellent website at <http://www.gla.ac.uk/createchange/>

Manifesto for Action (2)

- Is Scholarly Communication the correct title for this??
- Launch local Advocacy campaigns to engage academics, subject by subject
- Make sure that the Research Support Libraries Group takes the issue seriously

Questions and Discussion

- And now over to you...

