Medical Physics and Open Access Publishing

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Editor, Medical Physics (2005–2013)
Benefits of *Medical Physics* to AAPM

- National and international stature
- Publication of members’ papers
- Scientific and educational resource to members
- Revenue to AAPM
- Subscriptions to *Medical Physics* as member benefit
Revenue by Major Category; 2012 Budget

Total = $8,183,720

- Dues: $2,474,626, 30.24%
- Committee Projects: $1,470,118, 17.96%
- Education: $595,600, 7.28%
- Publications: $3,268,126, 39.93%
- Other: $375,250, 4.59%

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Expenses by Major Category; 2012 Budget

- Member Services: $1,508,884, 18%
- Governance: $164,147, 2%
- Committee Projects: $1,332,631, 16%
- Education: $721,071, 8%
- Publications: $2,520,247, 30%
- Administration: $240,937, 3%
- Other: $1,976,693, 23%

Total = $8,464,610

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Categories of Open Access Publishing

- Green Open Access – posting of articles on individual/institutional websites
- Gold Open Access – All articles published Open Access for a fee
- Hybrid Gold Open Access – Authors have option to publish Open Access for a fee
- *Medical Physics* is a Hybrid Gold Open Access journal (January 2013)
Incentives for Open Access Publishing

- Increasing subscription rates for commercial journals
- Taxpayer-supported research should be freely accessible
- Requirements of funders that research must be open access
- Support of some institutions for open-access publishing
- PubMed Central posting of published articles
Open Access articles in *Medical Physics* Without Fee Payment

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Anniversary Papers
Dark Side of Open Access Publishing

- Proliferation of Open Access journals (and conferences)
- Publish virtually anything for a fee
- Fees often not visible until paper is accepted
- Journal/conference titles closely aligned with legitimate journals/conferences
- At least 4000 predatory journals active today (Beall’s List)
- Invitations to serve on editorial boards/conference program committees
Future of Open Access for Medical Physics

- Wait and see posture
- Do not expect many Open Access “takers”
- Possible change in library subscription fees
- Follow legislative changes in Federal open access policies
- Keep an open mind about Open Access and electronic publication

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