

Publications Committee

Brief report submitted by Bob Eberlein

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Background

This report is prompted by the release of Wiley's annual publications report for the System Dynamics review. Some discussion of that and some other current topics follows.

Wiley Report

The Wiley report is attached as supplementary material to this report. I have not included financials in that report as these are considered to be sensitive by Wiley. The numbers included here pertain only to the Society.

The emphasis in the publisher's report is on the transition to open access publication and efforts that Wiley has underway to support the transition to open access and increase the awareness of authors related to publishing with Wiley journals. Much of the outreach emphasis in the report relates to authors and not readers. This is a reflection of revenue coming from authors on publication rather than libraries and readers under the open access model.

Overall the number of agreements that Wiley has with libraries and institutions has been going down over time. In addition, these agreements are not becoming transformational agreements that allow for both provision of non open-access articles as well as providing discounted or waived publication fees for open access content. Such transformational agreements are, by their nature, time limited. The ultimate end state of institutional agreements is unclear, since under open access no one has to pay to read publications.

Revenue received by the Society in 2024 (for 2023 activity) went up by about 8% from \$56k to \$61k. Within this revenue for traditional access went down from \$39K to \$35K, while open access document process related income went up from \$7K to \$15K and digital right remained largely unchanged at \$10K. Longer term traditional access will be 0 if all publications are open access, and digital rights will follow suit. Open access income, on the other hand, is limited to the revenue generated by all articles in the System Dynamics Review. Currently this is about 20 per year which places a cap on total income.

Starting in 2025 we will be receiving royalties from Wiley based on the new contract in which the percentage we receive has gone from 35% to 30%.

The Wiley report also provides some information on readership and publication mechanics which does indicate that the number view is increasing. Much of this is likely to do open access publications, though this is not detailed in the report. With the small number of articles published and the opaqueness of the current publication pipeline given Wiley's standard for reporting not much can be gathered from the acceptance and turnaround numbers.

Article Processing Charges

More and more institutions worldwide can publish in the System Dynamics Review at no or reduced cost. A current list is available at:

<https://authorservices.wiley.com/author-resources/Journal-Authors/open-access/affiliation-policies-payments/institutional-funder-payments.html>

Society members also get a 20% discount on APCs if they are required to pay them.

Practice Category

The category of Practice is now available for submission to SDR. Andreas is in the process of lining up new managing editors for this category.

Related to this Fast Track has been changed from a separate category to simply a submission option.

Ongoing Activities

Research and negotiation for a new contract will begin in 2025, with expectations that we will receive an offer for renewal by Wiley toward the end of 2025. For 2024 the publications committee is working to build more pathways for publication in the System Dynamics Review with a hope of increasing the number of articles published each year. Practice will help in this direction, but with the standard for a viable open access journal at around 100 articles per year the SDR will face some challenges. While we do not need to conform to that standard, some movement in its direction is likely necessary.