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**Title**

Advancing the Impact of Research: The Berkeley Research Impact Initiative (BRII)

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# Advancing the Impact of Research: The Berkeley Research Impact Initiative (BRII)

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## Motivation

"If Berkeley faculty are to take advantage of new and less expensive means of publication, the **campus can help** by providing departments and individuals **with start up funds** ... For example, campus seed funds could be established to support a range of faculty actions including the creation of new, open-access journals; publication in open-access journals ..."



## Financial support for open access publishing

In January 2008, the UC Berkeley Library created the Berkeley Research Impact Initiative (BRII), a central fund to pay for authors' open access fees.

BRII provides UC Berkeley authors with funds to help cover open access publishing fees that are not supported by grants or contracts.

### Goals

- Increase the impact of UCB research
- Encourage experimentation with publishing
- Enable more publishing choices for authors
- Enhance the Library's role in scholarly communications

As of November 2011, there are 17 campus-based open access funds in North America.



**\$3000**  
per OA journal article

**\$1500**  
per hybrid journal article  
(e.g., many society journals)

## Specifications

- Eligibility** UC Berkeley faculty, post-doc, or graduate students. Supports grant-funded research projects if publication funding is not available.
- Criteria** No embargo periods
- Publications** Full OA or hybrid journals
- Limits** Funding ceiling per research group, per year

## Results

Since 2008, BRII has approved/funded more articles than any other campus-based OA fund in the United States. (SPARC OA Funds in Action, 2011)

**133** articles approved      **28** unique departments  
**97** unique submitting authors      **25** unique publishers

## Getting the word out

- Blogs
- Flyers
- Website
- Postcards
- Journal articles
- Targeted emails
- OA Week promotions

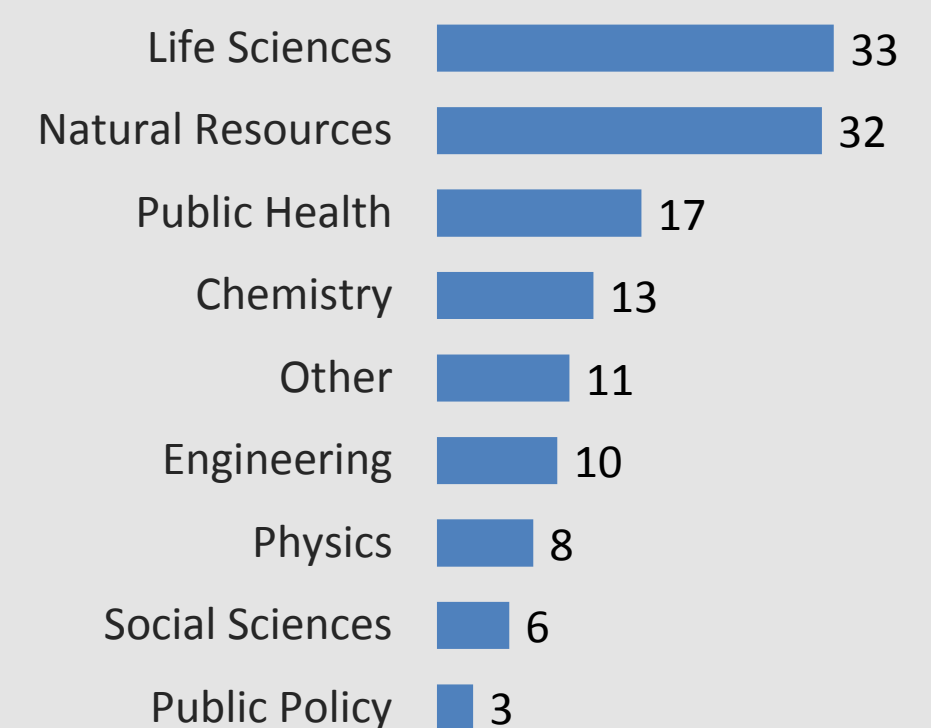


More OA journals approved/funded than hybrid journals

Hybrid journals  
44 articles  
33%

OA journals  
89 articles  
67%

Many disciplines seek BRII funding (ranked by article count)



## Lessons learned

Campus-based OA funds can be **sustainable**.

BRII provides funding for only a small percentage of Berkeley-authored OA articles. Most authors use extramural funding to pay OA fees.

In PLoS and BMC journals published from 2008 to 2010, there were 186 articles where the OA fee was paid by a Berkeley author; only 22 of these articles (12%) were funded by BRII.

**Money is an effective tool** for engaging faculty and students in conversations about open access and scholarly communication.

**Less than 1%** of our serials budget can make a big difference.



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