

With this letter, I wish to state my motivation for becoming a SPARC board member. I am a professor of Scholarly Communication at the University of Southern Denmark. I am also Head of the Department for Research and Analysis and Head of Researcher Services at the second largest research library in Denmark - The University Library of Southern Denmark.

My interest in Open Science is deep and genuine.

The business model of the Giant Publishers is highly problematic. Universities produce research spending tax-payer money and then later buy back the same research with more tax-payer money. This means that the research aimed at creating a better world for all peoples are hidden behind paywalls. It is imperative that all the people - also those with limited funds - get access to solid scientific knowledge and not just fake science from predatory publishers. Insisting on OA publishing is a mean of ensuring equal spread of knowledge across the globe. But we must also ensure that the raw material of research – the data – is available after publication of results. First of all, they may be reusable to others secondly, they can help ensuring transparency and replicability of research.

But not only should the publications and the data be freely available to the tax-payers who originally sponsored both. The quality assessment procedures – the peer review processes – should be open and transparent as well. Frequently Research Councils are being accused of nepotism and foul play when assessing applications for research funds. Making these processes open and transparent would once and for all end such debate. Either because questionable practices then would be revealed or because it would be evident to all that there are good reasons why some applications are rewarded and others not. To unsuccessful it could also be beneficial in order for them to improve future applications.

Several studies have also shown that the peer review process is far from just. Underqualified reviewers hiding behind anonymity may severely damage hard working researchers' careers. For these reasons we should also strive for open peer review. And now that we are ad it: Shouldn't education be open as well?

At the current stage of my career much of my time is already dedicated to activities related to forwarding Open Science. I give speeches on Open Science locally in Denmark and internationally (my most recent on Frankfurt Book Fair), I have written several pieces on Open Science for local Danish media and have a few items in the pipeline for international news media as well. I am furthermore a member of the Danish National Steering Committee for Open Access.

I have quite extensive experience in working in international networks. I am charring one of LIBERS working groups (Innovative Metrics) and I am member of the organizing committee for the ILIDE conference. Before that I have been board member and later vice president of EJTA (The European Journalism Training Association).

With these experiences, competences and a strong political and moral drive I believe that I will be able to contribute significantly to ensuring that SPARC remains 'a key player in driving Open Access forward by influencing open policies in Europe' and will dedicate much of my energy in into developing the organization even further.

Dr. Charlotte Wien