Leveling the playing field: re-imagining community investment in open scholarship

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The problem: Isolated Approaches

• Inequity in funding mechanisms and business models
  • Burden falls on a small subset (with shrinking budgets)
  • Limits meaningful participation from all stakeholders – no true community
  • Inequity in investment opportunities – only the resourced can participate
  • Silos of action – reinforces the myth that we are all alone
  • Consequence: lack of diversity in content -> publishers -> authors -> readers -> learners -> society
Radical new form of cooperation – facilitating community

- **We need a place that:**
  - Connects multiple stakeholders
  - Experimental and incubation space to test new models
  - Centralizes administration and funding at multiple scales
  - Includes bespoke programs, output from smaller publishers, and niche scholarly output
  - Enables flexibility and equity in investment
  - Encourages mission matching

- **Leaders in this space:**
  - Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services (SCOSS)
  - Invest in Open Infrastructure (IOI)
  - Community-led Open Publication Infrastructures for Monographs (COPIM)
  - Open Access Exchange (OAeX)
LYRASIS Open Access Community Investment Program

• Community-driven, scalable, crowdfunding and management program for community-vetted, open access content initiatives

• Pilot Project
  • LYRASIS, TSPOA
  • Community-vetted
    • *OA in the Open: Community Needs and Perspectives*

• Investment Criteria
  • About the Resource
  • Measures of Impact
  • Organization & Governance
Final thoughts

“We must reimagine the ways that our institutions and organizations facilitate scholarly communication. We must shift in understanding the goals of open access from making individual publications openly available to focusing instead on opening the infrastructure that supports our ability to make those publications, their data and their ensuing conversations available. We must approach the future collectively and collaboratively. We share the problems we face and so all must similarly share in the solutions. Even when we are most isolated, we remain most interdependent and the more we rely on our tools for interconnection, the more control we need over the ways they work. We have to acknowledge that building and sustaining shared, interoperable, academy-owned and -governed infrastructure to support scholarly communication is not only of the highest priority but is going to require radical new forms of cooperation across institutional lines.”

-Kathleen Fitzpatrick, OASPA Webinar, April 2020
Thank you!

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