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Business Models in (Digital) Academic Publishing

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Message from the Guest Editors

As the number of universities, libraries, and students continue to increase, growth in scholarly publishing is likely to continue. Demand for traditional printed books is influenced by electronic books, print-on-demand services, book rental options and sales of individual book chapters. An increased demand for instant access to scholarly journals, with their double-digit annual price increases, is putting even greater pressure on library budgets and the purchase of scholarly works. Clearly, traditional business models for academic publishing are no longer sustainable. Innovative business models are needed to capture value from new digital publishing technologies. Open access, print on demand, hybrid publishing, agile publishing, digital archives and open data curation are examples of new digital publishing models—but none of these can address all aspects of this dynamic industry.

This Special Issue invites authors to submit articles that examine new or alternative forms of digital academic publishing—with an emphasis on describing the business model that will make this new form sustainable.



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Special Issue