Accessing information and disseminating research: are we on the right path?

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“Commercial publishers have been able to command high prices because as near monopolies, they have a captive audience and are not subject to normal market forces.”

_The Changing World of Scholarly Communication: Challenges and Choices for Canada_  
(Final report of the AUCC-CARL Task Force on Academic Libraries and Scholarly Communication, October 1996)

**Twenty years later...**

Some things sound awfully familiar  
But, proven collaborations and OA foundation

**We’re on the CUSP of transformative change**

1. Push for change in the publishing oligopoly  
2. Push for new models for the scholarly record
Retain our values: supporting local cultures in a global knowledge commons
Scholarly Record for Today and Tomorrow

- Open (science, government, education)
- publications
- data
- code
Are we on the right path?

Some possibilities, from least to most “disruptive”
Flip existing journals to open access with APCs
Publishing cooperatives
Next generation repositories: global knowledge commons
At each of our institutions?

- Information resource digital strategies versus research “collections”
- Portion of staff resources focused on research dissemination
- Open access information literacy
- Acting locally and advancing globally
Three Questions

1. APCs have helped perpetuate the journal publishing oligopoly: what shall we do now to shift to a more equitable version of open access?

2. Should we have more staff time focused on fostering openness and disseminating knowledge and less on selecting, managing and teaching about licensed resources?

3. In moving our organizations from a print paradigm to the digital realm, are we doing more than shifting the format?