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Digital Initiatives Symposium

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### Lightning Talk: Public or Perish: Promoting Open Access in Tenure & Promotion

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## Lightning Talk: Public or Perish: Promoting Open Access in Tenure & Promotion

### Presenter 1 Title

Scholarly Communications Librarian

### Session Type

10-minute lightning talk

### Abstract

In a recent article in the Chronicle of Higher Education, Lindsay Ellis (2019) writes that “we are now at a turning point for scholarly publishing where the scales have been tipped towards open access;’ however, Ellis notes that one of the major challenges is that “departments largely do not consider open-access publication in their promotion-and-tenure decisions.” This lightning talk will consider barriers towards better integrating open access in the tenure and promotion process, and discuss examples of universities that are beginning this work.

### Location

KIPJ Room EF

### Keywords

open access, tenure and promotion

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# Digital Initiatives Symposium 2020 Lightning Talk Proposal

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## Public or Perish: Promoting Open Access in Tenure & Promotion

In a recent article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Lindsay Ellis (2019) writes that “we are now at a turning point for scholarly publishing where the scales have been tipped towards open access;’ however, Ellis notes that one of the major challenges is that “departments largely do not consider open-access publication in their promotion-and-tenure decisions” (p. B15). This lightning talk will consider traditional barriers towards better integrating open access in the tenure and promotion process, such as: traditional journal impact factors (McKiernan et al., 2019); departmental journal lists (Bales, Hubbard, VanDuinkerken, Sare, & Olivarez, 2019); The conflation of open access journals and predatory publishing (McCann & Polcsek, 2018); and the tension between faculty personally valuing OA, but giving it a low-priority ranking in publication decisions (Alperin et al., 2019). We will then look at examples of universities that are beginning this important work of institutionally valuing open access in tenure and promotion process.

## Works Cited

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- Bales, S., Hubbard, D., VanDuinkerken, W., Sare, L., & Olivarez, J. (2019). The use of departmental journal lists in promotion and tenure decisions at American research universities. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 45(2), 153-161.
- Ellis, L. (2019). Open access is going mainstream: Here’s why that could transform academic life. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, B13-B18.
- McCann, T. V., & Polcsek, M. (2018). False gold: Safely navigating open access publishing to avoid predatory publishers and journals. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 74(4), 809-817.
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