

# Independent Journals: Solutions for Low-cost, Open Access Journal Publishing

*Leslie Chan<sup>1</sup> and Susanna Mornati<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Department of Social Sciences, University of Toronto at Scarborough  
1265 Military Trail, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

<sup>2</sup> Electronic Publishing Services, CILEA  
Via R. Sanzio 4, Segrate, Italy  
e-mail: chan@utsc.utoronto.ca; mornati@cilea.it

## Abstract

The growing momentum of the world wide open access movement has spurred a parallel trend of development of open source and low cost electronic publishing systems and digital repository services. These growth and development strongly reflect the desire of the scholarly communities to take back control of aspects of scholarly communication and to improve processes for the dissemination and impact of their research. The development of journal publication systems makes it easier for university presses, libraries, societies, and individual researchers to launch and run open access journals. Researchers are now less dependant on the decisions of large publishers as to which journals should be published (decisions that are often made on financial, rather than academic, grounds), how the journals should be priced, access policies, etc. Digital publishing systems also allow scholarly communities to experiment with innovative formats, to contribute to sharing and re-using digital research data, and overcome the limits of traditional publishing.

**Keywords:** Open Access publishing; Open Access journals

## Goal

This Workshop explores the state-of-the-art in journal publishing systems, giving participants an insight into the latest developments in open access journals, the political and policy landscape of open access, together with practical information on the open access publishing systems that are currently available. The goal is to allow participants to assess what systems may best suite their needs, and to provide ample time for debate and discussion. The workshop also aims to produce a comprehensive overview of the various systems, including the technical structure (installation and hardware requirements, etc), workflow (content ingestion, content types etc.), documented API (to support integration with repositories or other systems), and support requirements.

## Format

The Workshop consists of two half-day sessions. The morning session begins with broad issues surrounding Open Access journal publishing, followed by an overview of existing epublishing systems and their functionalities and the presentation of a complete publishing management system:

*Bollini, Andrea; Cotoneschi, Patrizia; Farsetti, Antonella; Minore, Sebastiana; Mornati, Susanna*  
An Innovative Integrated System for the Management of Editorial Processes: The Case of Firenze  
University Press

The afternoon session begins with demonstrations of innovative publishing systems, followed by a guided discussion and comparison:

*Horstmann, Wolfram; Reimer, Peter; Schirrwagen, Jochen*  
Serving Innovation in Scholarly Communication with the Open Platform "Digital Peer Publishing"  
*Barbera, Michele; Di Donato, Francesca*  
Weaving the Web of Science. HyperJournal and the Impact of the Semantic Web on Scientific  
Publishing