



# The Principles and Politics of Open Access

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# Definitions

“Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.”

Peter Suber

# Definitions

SPARC “How open is it?”

- Reader rights
- Reuse rights
- Copyrights
- Author posting rights
- Automatic posting
- Machine readability



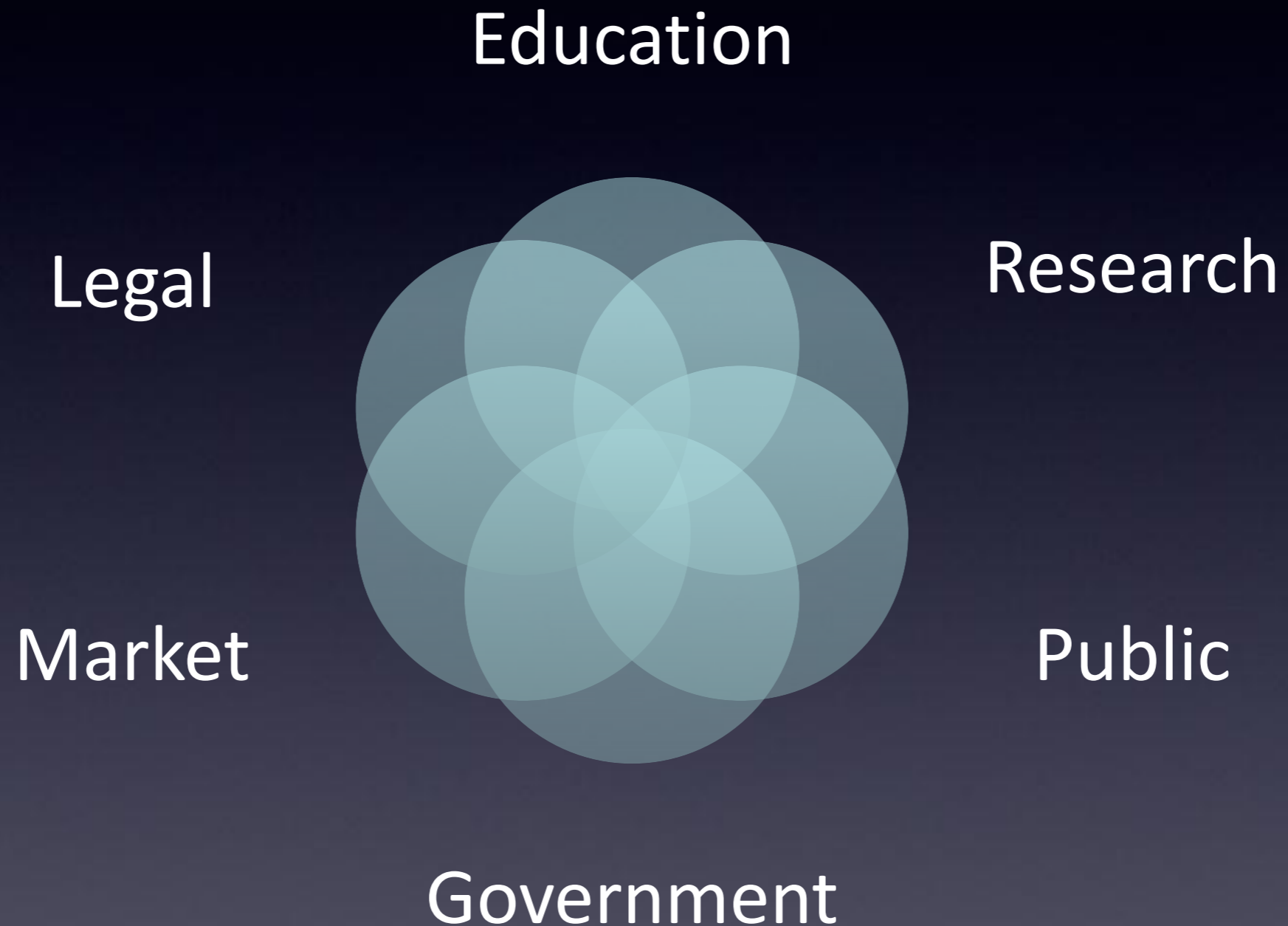
# Reflecting back to the Republic of Letters

“...learned Europeans used the systems of communication at their disposal – above all, letter writing and print – *to bring new public worlds into existence.*”

(Grafton *Worlds Made From Words* 2009)



# Open access environment





# Principles

- Tempe Principles for Emerging Systems of Scholarly Publishing (2000)
- Budapest OA Initiative (2002)
- Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities (2003)
- Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing (2003)



# Principles

Access

Fair use

Public domain

Universality

Reuse

Public good

Sharing

Taxpayers

Contribution

Participation

Competition

Quality

Sustainability

Economics



# Expectations

- Reach a global audience and promote more inclusive education and research opportunities
- Promote visibility and community outreach
- Advance the interests of the scholarly community and the public
- Amplify the public investment in federally funded research
- Leverage open technology
- Embed in learning environments





# Expectations

- Reduce or eliminate privileged and controlled access to knowledge
- Promote enhanced discoverability that leads directly to the best scholarship
- Open up and preserve the scholarly record and resources of the 20th century
- Enable future researchers to find, use, and reference the same research created and used by present day scholars



# Expectations

- Build a more robust system of experimentation, observation, verification, and replication of research
- Inspire and generate new ideas, methods, findings, and inventions
- Fuel the networked and creative economies
- Spur development of new markets, companies, tools, and business models that compete on openly available research



# Expectations

- Provide interoperability and linking
- Enable innovative publishing models that integrate data and other resources
- Facilitate text and data mining across domains to discover trends, patterns and new interdisciplinary knowledge
- Create institutional commitment
- Develop new supportive legal frameworks



# Policies and politics



# Academic institutions

- Competition among funding opportunities
- Revenue enhancement, IP policies, tech transfer, patents and inventions
- Promotion and tenure standards
- Rewards, awards, recognition, and incentives
- Independence and academic freedom
- Easy participation and enlightened self interest
- University Press or other publishing programs



# Federal agencies

- Mission and purpose
- Open and transparent government
- Public access and mandates
- Infrastructure and repositories
- Capacity and funding
- Bipartisan interest and support
- Policy ‘wars,’ rhetoric and counter arguments



# Publishers

- Mission, investment, revenue, and profit (or not)
- Relationship with authors and editors
- Ownership and rights
- Practical matters: work streams, click through licenses, versioning, etc.
- Restrictive conditions, e.g. embargoes, moving walls, IRs
- Establishing OA publications and funding sources
- Brussels Declaration (2007) – the role and value of STM publishers



# Associations and societies

- Mission
- What the publishing program funds
- Member expectations and value of membership
- Tension between policies, principles, and practicalities
- Ex. ACRL and the move to OA





# Academic policy as strategy

- Resolutions and mandates, opt ins and opt outs
- Repositories links to faculty websites, database
- Academic knowledge management
- COPE funding
- Positioning, peer pressure, visibility, aspirations
- Change, transformation or disruption



# Other Issues

- Many value propositions in play
- Identifying new measures of impact and importance
- Accreditation standards
- Tradition and inertia
- Interest and support of faculty for experimentation
- Disciplinary differences and interdisciplinary efforts
- Setting the default to “open”



# Issues

- Disruption of the overall system - intentional
- Changes in knowledge and behaviors – intentional
- Disruption of relationships – intentional?
- Funding – cost and who should pay
- Mandates – how enforceable
- Boycotts and petitions – how effective



# New prospects



# Extending the open movement

- Abstracts and snippets
- Preprints
- Open educational resources and courses
- Open records
- More data and images
- Open source software and tools
- Digital scholarship
- Large digitized “bibliomass”



# Uniting information literacy and scholarly communication

- Authors/users understand the array of choices that confront them;
- Have knowledge of intellectual property issues added to the repertoire of literacies;
- Engage with the myriad aspects of information and scholarship at different stages and roles in their life and work; and
- Assemble the right resources and assimilate the right knowledge at the right time. (Ogburn 2013)



# Summing up



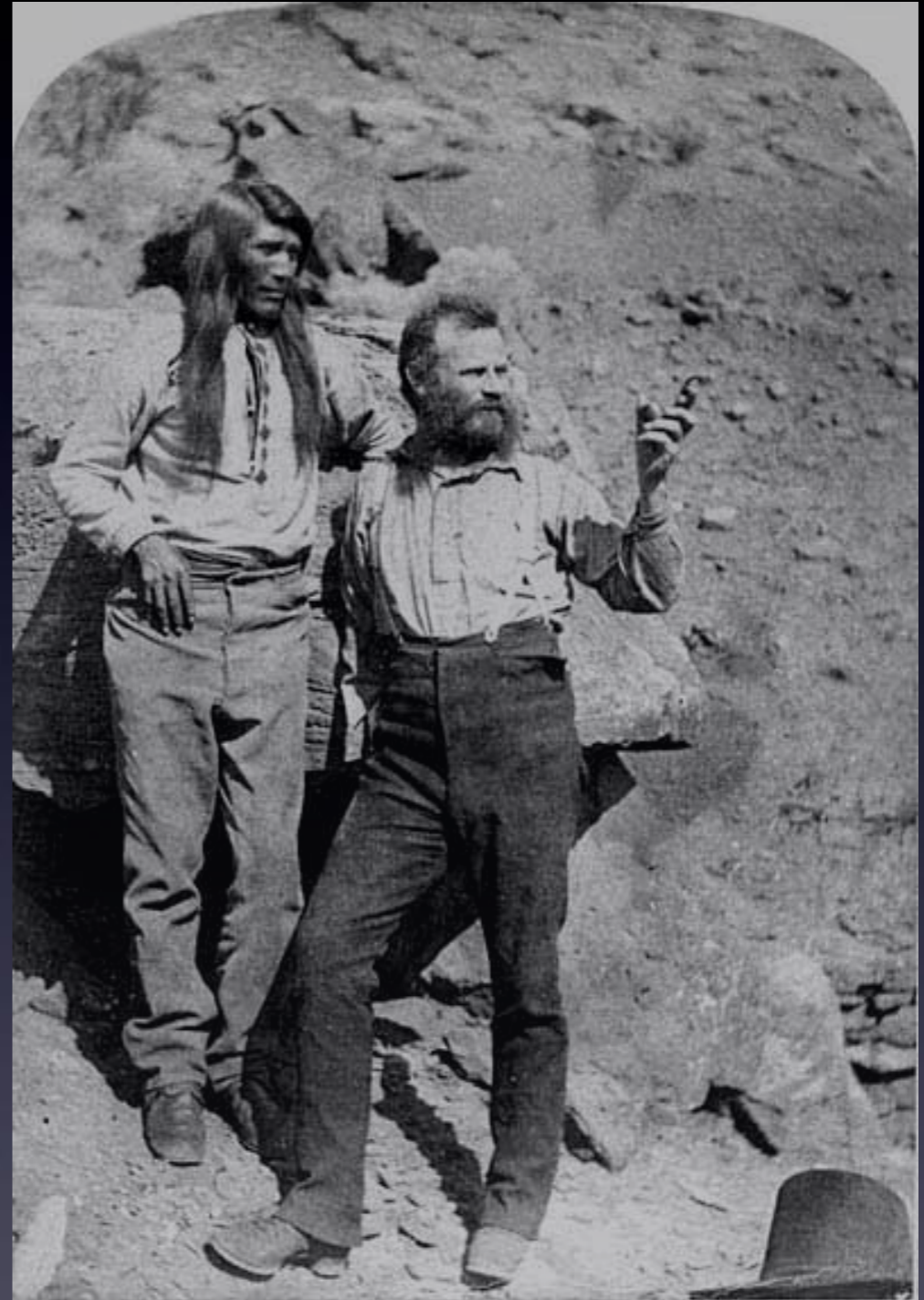
# John Wesley Powell

“The learning of one man does not subtract from the learning of another, as if there were a limited quantity to be divided into exclusive holdings; so discovery by one man does not inhibit discovery by another...That which one man gains by discovery is a gain of other men. And these multiple gains become invested capital, the interest on which is all paid to every owner, and the revenue of new discovery is boundless. ....”





“It may be wrong to take another man’s purse, but it is always right to take another man’s knowledge, and it is the highest virtue to promote another man’s investigation...”





*Good ideas become great ideas  
when they are used over and over again*



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