

ASPB Open Access Option

The Open Access movement in scholarly publishing advocates that research content should be freely available to all immediately upon publication. This approach has prompted publishers to examine the feasibility of a shift from traditional subscription-based (“user pays”) financial models to an “author-pays” model, in which some or all of the costs of publication are typically borne by authors.

What does our author community think about Open Access? To gauge the plant science community’s interest in this new approach to publishing and to help ASPB determine the viability of “author-pays” publishing models, the Society is conducting an 18-month Open Access “experiment.” Beginning with the December 2005 issues of *The Plant Cell* and *Plant Physiology*, authors of articles accepted by the journals will be given the option to pay a surcharge to make their online article free from the moment of publication to anyone with Internet access. The surcharge, which is in addition to the usual author charges, will be \$1,000 (discounted to \$500 if the author’s institution subscribes to the journal).

For more information, go to <http://www.aspb.org/publications/openaccess.cfm> or contact Nancy Winchester, ASPB director of publications, at nancyw@aspb.org.

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