

# Biomedical Digital Libraries

<http://www.bio-diglib.com/info/update.asp>

Biomedical scientific communities increasingly articulate concern about the unsustainable *status quo* of traditional publishing paradigms, feeding ongoing debate and consideration of alternative publishing models. Seizing an opportune moment to contribute to the ongoing assessment and refinement of scholarly publishing in biomedical education, research, and patient care, an energetic group of librarians and faculty researchers endeavor to launch *Biomedical Digital Libraries*.

Perhaps more than any other knowledge profession, librarians understand that their own opportunities for collaboration and barrier-free exchange of ideas and research results have dramatically altered and ultimately improved the provision of services and resource management in their professional environment. More often than not, librarians are more aware

than their faculty or researchers that Open Access does not mean the absence of peer review. In a web-based information age of unfiltered content and one-stop search engine shopping, both biomedical scientists and information professionals are justifiably concerned that the Open Access movement without peer review simply adds to the morass of unfiltered, unproven hyperbole. Attention to peer review provides credibility, and BioMed Central even offers their journals the opportunity to publish review reports and preliminary drafts for each article as pre-publication history.

We invite the advocates, philosophers, caretakers, and architects of biomedical library digital content to take advantage of rapid peer-review and publication, content promotion, permanent URL, public archiving, and retention of copyright by submitting to *Biomedical*

*Digital Libraries*. Beyond our immediate narrow spheres of digital library practice and service, the community of open knowledge has the immediate and timely potential to inspire, inform, and create value on a global scale through permanent, uninhibited access.

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