

Society Publishing and Open Access

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Royal Society of Chemistry**

RS•C

My Background

- Ph.D. Chemist
- Post-doc research in Germany
- *Ca.* 20 papers published
- Associate Editor Angewandte Chemie
- Editor of Advanced Materials
- Editorial Director Wiley-VCH
- Since 2002 Managing Director RSC Publishing

Thomas Graham House



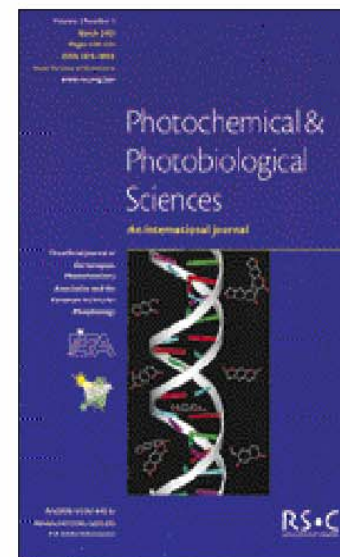
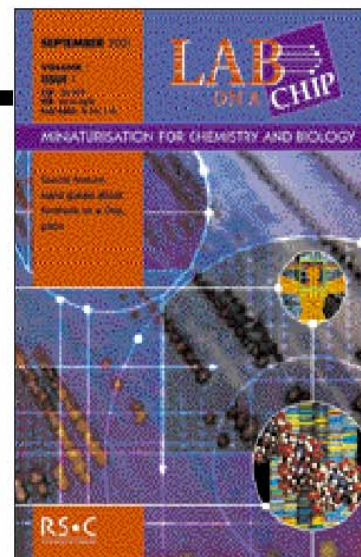
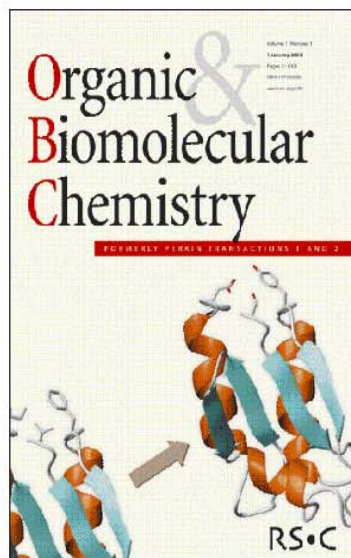
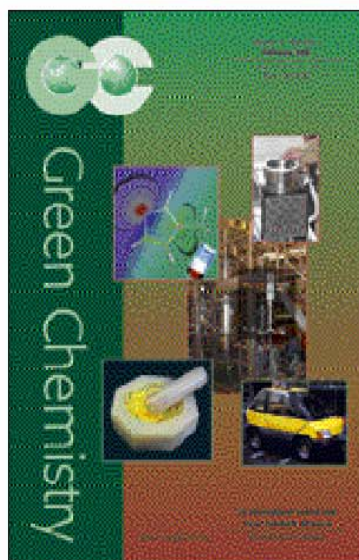
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RSC Publishing

- 23 Journals
- Several databases (Analytical Abstracts, Methods in Organic Synthesis...)
- *Ca.* 45 books/year
- Own web platform
- Based in Cambridge
- *Ca.* 150 staff

RSC Products

Journals

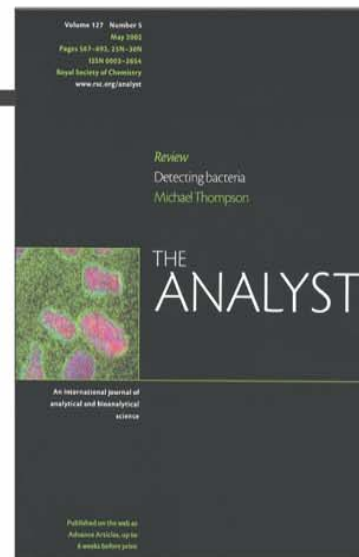
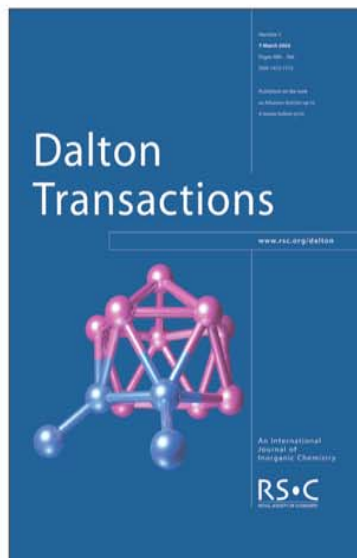


RSC

advancing the chemical sciences

RSC Products

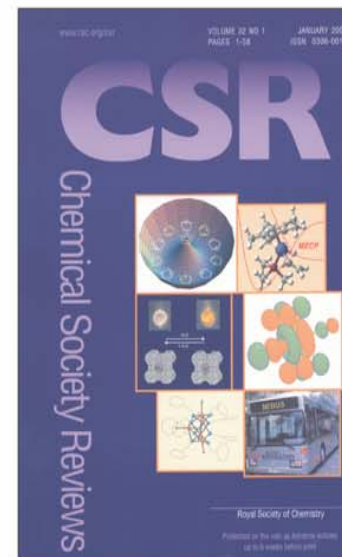
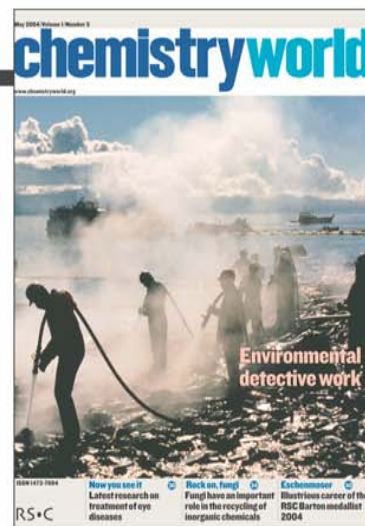
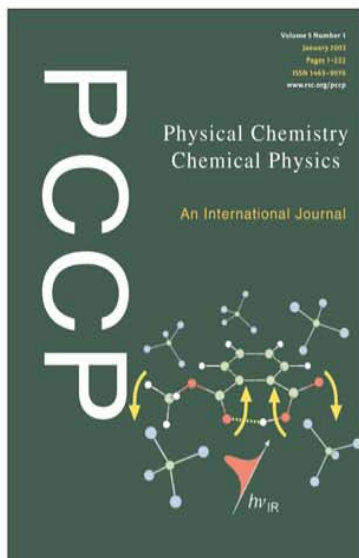
Journals



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RSC Products

Journals



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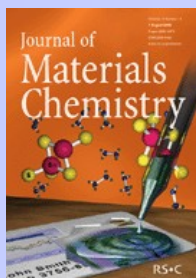
New in 2005



- Weekly issues
- 3-page communications



- Monthly issues
- Comprehensive reviews



- Weekly issues



- Monthly issues

The Plan

- Society mission statements
- What do societies do?
- What does it cost?
- How to fund it?
- Communities and solutions
- Issues of the funding models
- Who has or wants access?
- What do societies want?
- Conclusions

Mission Statements

- IOP: “Established to promote the advancement and dissemination of physics
- ACS: “advances knowledge and research through scholarly publishing, information resources.....”
- IEE: “support electrical engineering...through providing business and technical information.”

Mission Statements

- CUP: “Dedicated to the advancement of knowledge through publishing and printing, advancing knowledge,
- OUP: “furthers the University’s objective of excellence in research, scholarship, and education by publishing worldwide”
- RSC: “to foster the chemical sciences by the dissemination of chemical knowledge...”

What do societies do?

- Support the development of their scientific areas
- Provide member services and products
- Provide funding and infrastructure for charitable activities

How does publishing contribute?

- Furtherance of science
- Dissemination of scientific information
- Quality control
- Scientific and ethical standards
- Services to memberships
- Providing funding and infrastructure for charitable activities

Furtherance of science

- The development of new fields supported by publication of results
- Guarantee of the scientific record
- Determination of priority in discovery
- International collaborations

Dissemination of scientific information

- Relatively low-cost print products
- Investment in web platforms
- Promotion to large professional memberships
- Close relationships with the scientific communities
- Flexible payment models

Quality control

- Facilitation of the self regulation of the scientific community
- Application of peer-review procedures
- Qualified professional staff
- Technical standards & editing
- Centralised checking the viability of content

Scientific and ethical standards

Policing of:

- Ethical behavior (fraud, favoritism)
- Publishing behaviour (multiple, changes..)
- Use of nomenclature
- Publication and promotion of protocols and standards
- Maintenance of the scientific record

What does it cost?

In 2004, for the cost of The Tetrahedron and Tetrahedron Letters (combined subscription \$29,035),

a Librarian could buy:

(Package A + Package G + AA = \$25,795)

Annual Reports A, B & C

Chemical Communications

Chemical Society Reviews

CrystEngComm (online only)

Dalton Transactions

Faraday Discussions

Geochemical Transactions (online only)

Green Chemistry

Journal of Materials Chemistry

Methods in Organic Synthesis

Natural Product Reports

Natural Product Updates

New Journal of Chemistry

Org.Biomol.Chem.

Chemical Science

Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics

PhysChemComm (online only)

Analytical Abstracts

The Analyst

Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry

Journal of Environmental Monitoring

AND receive free site-wide access to RSC print journals

AND have more than \$3,000 left over

RSC

Is that expensive?

- Compared to scientific equipment?
- Compared to consumables?
- Compared to the cost of running a library?
- Compared to the cost of a repeated experiment?

What do Subscriptions and Other Things Cost?

- \$ 1725 Subscription to ChemComm
- \$ 125 1 g d₈-anisole
- \$ 3000 Cost/researcher/month
- \$ 60k IR spectrometer
- \$1.5m RSC Library
- \$????? Cost to repeat an experiment

So what is really the issue?

- All journals are too expensive?

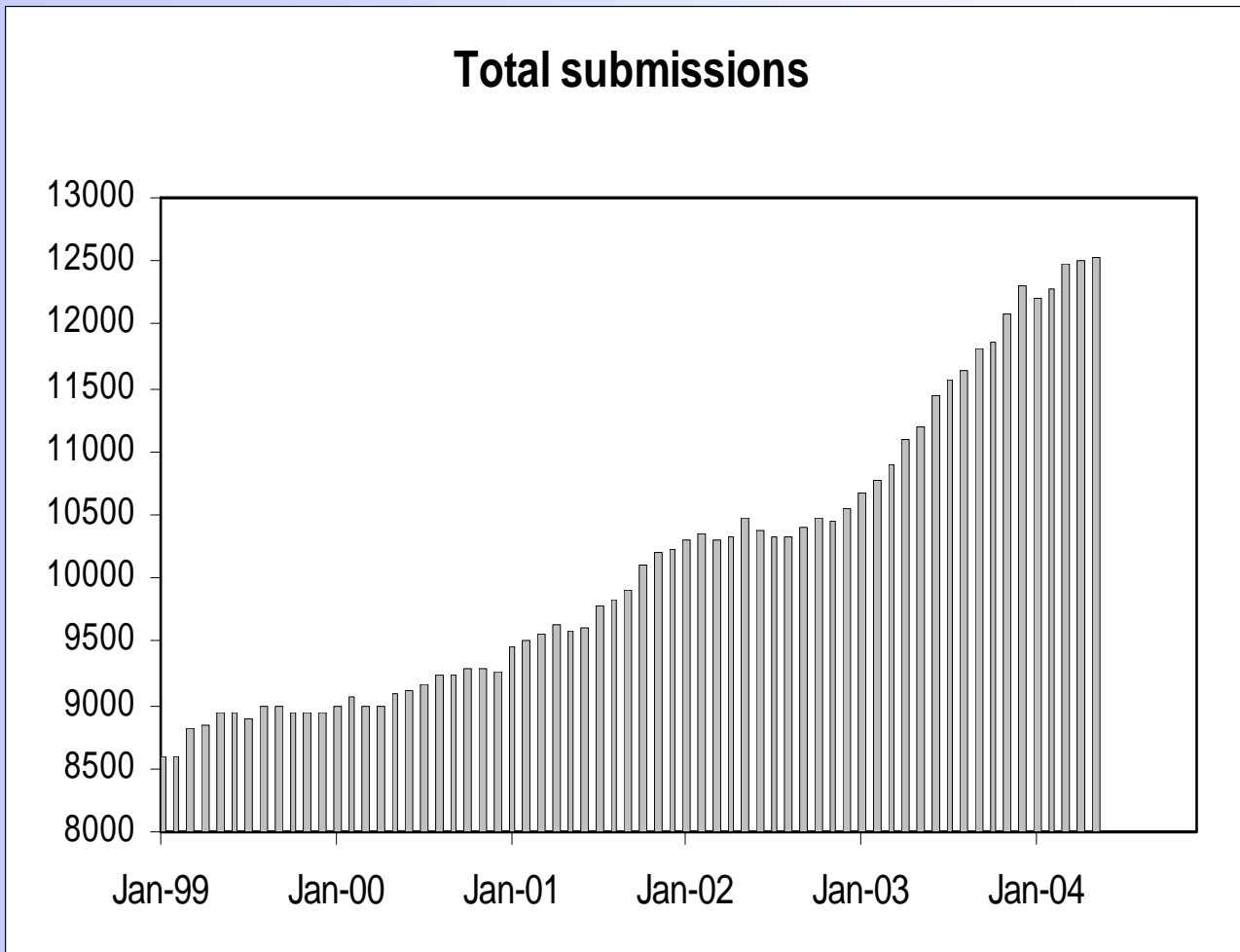
OR

- Some journals are too expensive?
- Some journals are more expensive than others?
- Some publishers have higher prices than others?
- Libraries are under funded?
- Your issue here

Serials Prices

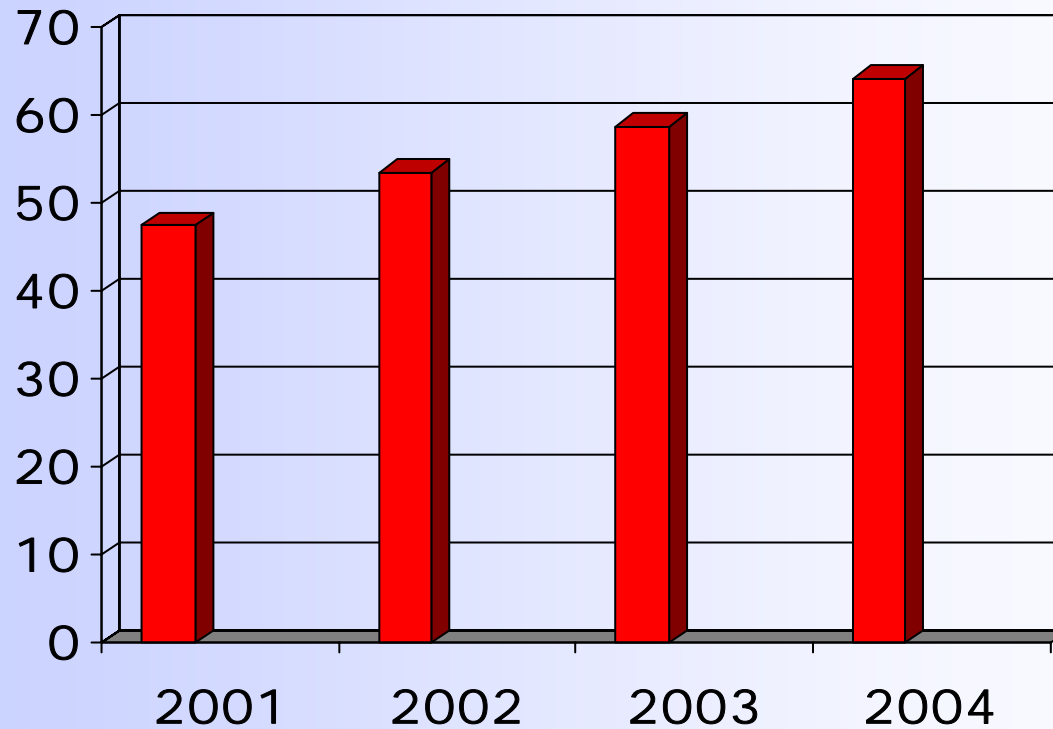
- Why not just inflation?
 - Inflation
 - Attrition
 - Investment
- Increased submissions
- Increased published output

RSC Journal Submissions

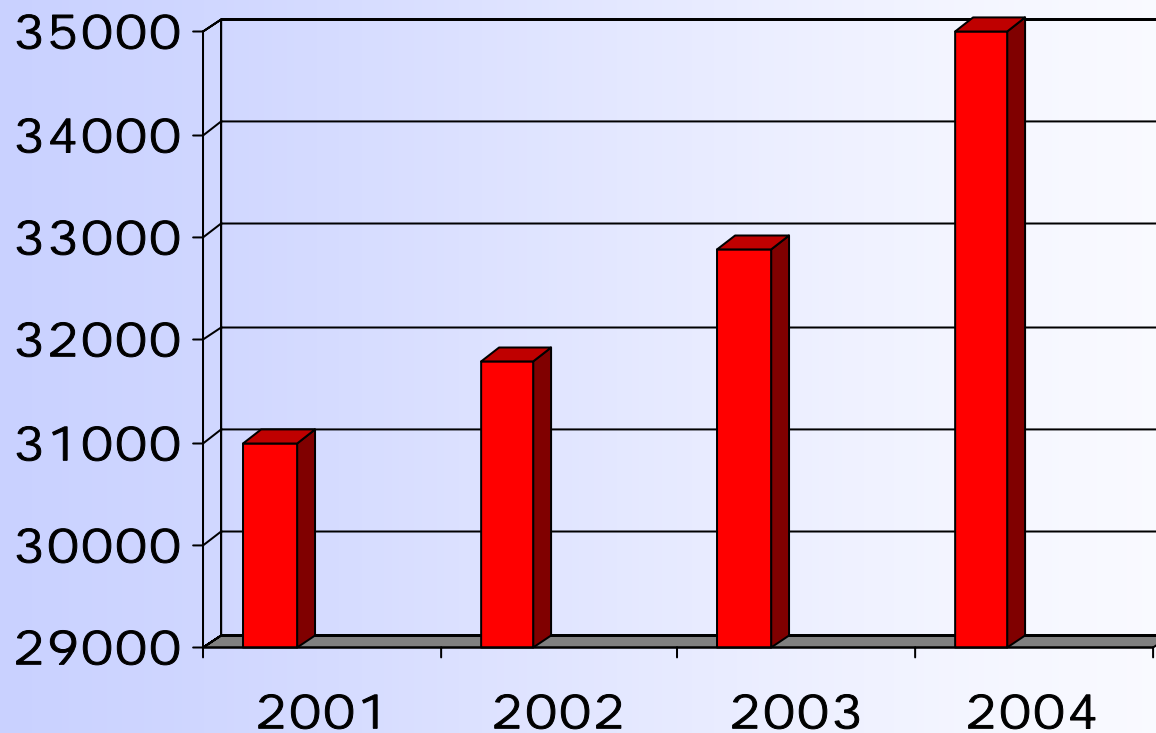


03/02
+17%

RSC Journals - Rejection Rates in %



Published Pages—RSC Primary Journals



04/03
+6.5%

RSC

2005 RSC Package Growth

- Package A increases from 219 issues to 276 (+26% vs. 2004)
- Package B increases from 132 journal issues to 180 (+36%)

How to fund it?

- Subscription revenue
- Licence income
- Pay-per-view charges
- Author charges
- Advertising
- Sponsorship
- Others

Different Communities

- Chemistry: High proportion of best chemistry is published by society publishers; some influence of commercial publishers
- Physics: High proportion from societies
- Bioscience: Much higher proportion from commercial publishers
- Materials/Engineering: Very high proportion from commercial publishers

Different Solutions

- Currently, many models co-exist
 - Subscription
 - Pay-per-view
 - Author/page charges
- Author-charging models have failed in chemistry/physics but may have better chances in biosciences

Consequences of Subscription Models

- Centralised buying
- Stress on library funding
- Industry pays for use
- Publication cannot be “bought”
- Market-driven: The consumer, not the provider, determines the development
- Academic library funding does not keep pace with scientific output/pricing of the journals
- Niche journal topics less viable
- Library services need to be maintained

Issues with Pay-per-View

- Publishers concentrate on publishing material likely to be highly “viewed”
- Worthy-but-dull articles not published
- Worthy-but-dull work repeated ad infinitum
- Huge additional costs to science
- Only useful as a supplementary model

Issues: Author-pays models

- Favors the “can-pay” and “have computer”
- Social discrimination “if you can’t pay we’ll waive the fee” instead of “if your work is correct we will publish”
- No libraries necessary
- Loss of income from industry—academics subsidize industrial access
- Academic funding not in place

Issues: Author-Pays II

- Huge additional admin bureaucracy
 - Few customers vs. many authors
 - Credit control with individuals
 - Unis have many more transactions
- Rich and famous won't (always) pay
- They have been tried before: Phil. Trans, ACS, Maxwell journals

Open Access

- Who has access?
 - Academics in subscribing organisations
 - The public through legal deposit libraries
 - Whole countries (Russia, Israel, Australia..)
 - Whole states (California, NRW, Ohio...)
 - Those using PPV
 - Those in the poorest countries (HINARI/PERI/INASP)
- Who does not have free access?
 - The general public at home

What else is wanted?

- Copyright retention
- Institutional repositories
- Lower prices
- Access for the “have-nots”
- No simultaneous-user restrictions
- Perpetual access on cancellation
- Services for referees
- Guarantee of the scientific record
- Healthy Societies

What is the Answer?

- Publish with the RSC or with any number of other society-based publishers!

Yes to Maximum Access!

No to Author Pays!

- Maximizing access is good
 - For science
 - For scientists
 - For Societies
 - For publishers
- “Author-pays” is fundamentally flawed

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What do societies want?

- Quality information
- Reliability
 - E.g. for scientific record
 - Maintenance of standards
- Equality (not who pays wins)
- Sustainability
- Efficiency
- Information to be valued and treasured
- Free market competition

Which model then?

- Mixture of:
 - Subscription models
 - Author-pays models
 - Pay-per-view
- Market (not supplier or Governmental) regulation of the mix

Conclusions

- Publishing is part of science
- One model does not fit all
- Competition to publish should be based on quality not money
- Access has never been higher
- Author-pays models are supplier-driven, are not new, and have failed
- Infrastructure and services need investment and funding