



Figure 1 Library Logo

Open Access Publication Fund Annual Report:

2022-2023

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Executive Summary

The Open Access Publication Fund at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi underwrites author publication charges for open access scholarly journal articles, book chapters, and monographs. The fund seeks to encourage greater participation in open access publishing so that Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's research is free of subscription barriers, and we support the adoption of open science practices that can help sustain Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi's status as an R2 Doctoral University. Numerous research studies show that OA publishing increases the visibility of publications, thereby increasing visibility, citations, and the use of faculty research all of which enhance the reputation of TAMU-CC and its faculty.

Major outcomes for 2022-2023:

- The Open Access Publication Fund distributed funds for 56 faculty, staff, and graduate students from all 6 colleges as well as both the Harte Research Institute for the Gulf of Mexico Studies and the Conrad Blucher Institute.
- The Open Access Publication Fund supported the publication fees for 24 articles and two book chapters for a total amount of funding distributed of \$44,375.31.

What are the Goals of the Program?

The Open Access Publication Fund at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi underwrites publication charges for scholarly journal articles, book chapters, and monographs published in open access publications.

The goals of the Open Access Publication Fund at TAMU-CC support and encourage:

1. Increase access to research and scholarship produced by researchers at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
2. Support and encourage innovative models of scholarly publishing that take advantage of digital and networking technologies
3. Help cover costs for TAMU-CC faculty and researchers publishing materials to Open Access venues

The Mary and Jeff Bell Library, the Division of Research and Innovation, and the Office of the Provost each committed \$16,000 at the beginning of the fiscal year, for a total of \$48,000 for the 2022-2023 year. Following high demand over the first six months of the fiscal year, the Library committed an additional \$4,000, for a total of \$52,000 for the 2022-2023 year.

Due to changes in policies from the previous years, authors were able to request funding at the time of submitting their article, rather than at the time of acceptance. This led to what looked like high demand, with the library adding an additional \$4,000, but due to articles being rejected or taking longer than the fiscal year to be accepted, only \$45,000 of the original \$48,000 was spent out. The remaining funding has rolled over into the new fiscal year. There are three articles that were guaranteed funding that were not accepted for publication before the end of the fiscal year, therefore the authors are still guaranteed funding for the new fiscal year.

How is the Program Managed?

Eligibility

Any current member of the faculty or full-time research staff at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi are eligible to apply to the Open Access Publication Fund. The Open Access Publication Funds apply to Open Access publication charges: fees for peer-reviewed articles and book chapters or scholarly monographs published in journals or monographs that provide free online access to all peer-reviewed articles they publish. Manuscripts published in journals or monographs with a hybrid open-access model or delayed open-access model are not eligible for support from the Open Access Publication Fund.

Application Review Process

The Scholarly Communication program of the Mary and Jeff Bell Library administers the Open Access Publication Fund. The library has advertised the program through campus-wide emails, a website, and presentations to various groups around campus. The Open Access Publication Fund application review process is as follows:

1. The application and eligibility for funding can be found at <https://guides.library.tamucc.edu/OpenAccess/OAFund>.
2. Publication OA and peer review status are verified using: Directory of Open Access Journals, Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, or Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association member list. Publication fees checked against fee schedule on publisher's website.
3. If eligibility criteria are met, the Scholarly Communication Librarian calculates individual author allocation based on total OA fee divided by number of eligible TAMU-CC authors on publication. Cumulative allocations to authors are tracked. Each author can request a maximum of \$3,000.00 per annum.
4. If the application is approved and ready for payment, an acceptance email is sent to applicant and TAMU-CC co-authors with directions for payment/reimbursement via Library Business Manager.
5. If the application is declined, an explanatory email is sent detailing reasons and, where necessary, pointers to relevant resources provided in support of successful future application. Most rejections are due to the applicant publishing in what is known as a hybrid journal, the Open Access Publication Fund does not support publishing in such journals. However, the library encourages the author(s) to submit a version of their manuscript to the [TAMU-CC Repository](#), using Green Open Access as an alternative option.
6. The article is archived in the faculty publications collection in TAMU-CC's institutional repository.

What are the Program Outcomes?

Who was funded?

The Open Access Publication Fund distributed funds to 56 faculty, staff, and graduate students in support of publication fees for 24 articles and two book chapters for a total amount of funding distributed of \$44,375.31 in the 2022-2023 academic year. Awards averaged \$1,776.28 per application with a range of \$567 to \$3,000.

Open Access Publication Funds were distributed to faculty from 18 departments or organizations in different colleges/research organizations (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of authors funded by the Open Access Publication Fund by college and department, 2022-2023.

College	Department	Number of Awards
Business	Decision Sciences & Economics	5
Business	Marketing	1
Education & Human Development	Kinesiology	2
Engineering & Computing Science	Computing Science	4
Engineering & Computing Science	Engineering	1
Liberal Arts	English	1
Liberal Arts	Psychology and Sociology	3
Liberal Arts	Social Sciences	1
Nursing & Health Sciences	Health Sciences	1
Nursing & Health Sciences	Nursing Practice	4
Science	Health Sciences	1
Science	Life Sciences	8
Science	Mathematics & Statistics	1
Science	Physical & Environmental	2

Research Institute	Number of Awards
Conrad Blucher Institute	1
Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies	1

Funding Challenges

New for 2022-2023 was allowing authors to apply for funding at the time of submitting their article for publication, rather than at the point of acceptance. This led to several issues, including articles being rejected from the journal, but authors did not notify the program before submitting their article elsewhere. Policies have been updated to indicate that authors are welcome to apply

for funding again if their article is rejected from their first choice, but they do need to resubmit an application for the new journal.

Additionally, several authors submitted for funding, but due to several factors, after consulting with the Scholarly Communication Librarian, they chose to withdraw their article due to concerns of predatory publishers. Due to this, new in 2023-2024, the application asks authors to provide information as to where their journal is indexed, to help mitigate retractions from journals and for funding.

Table 2. Publishers for 2022-2023.

Publisher Name	Article/Book Chapter Funded (#)	Book Title or Journal Name
Association of Field Ornithologists	1	Journal of Field Ornithology
BMC	2	Public Health; Women's Health
Crimson Publishers	1	Journal of Biotechnology and Bioresearch
European Geosciences Union	1	Atmospheric Measurement Techniques
Frontiers	5	Communication; Conservation Science: Human-Wildlife Interactions; Environmental Science; Psychology
Hindawi	2	Aquaculture Nutrition; Advances in Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Sciences
IGI Global	2	Journal of Global Information Management
InTech Open	2	Primary Care Medicine - Theory and Practice; Volunteering
MDPI	8	Behavioral Sciences; Economies; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health; International Journal of Financial Studies; Journal of Theoretical and Applied Electronic Commerce Research; Remote Sensing
Sage	1	Open Nursing
Wiley	4	Conservation Science and Practice; Ecology and Evolution; Limnology and Oceanography Letters; Marine and Coastal Fisheries