Looking Forward to the August 21st Program on Predatory Publishers

I’m looking forward to the SLA Silicon Valley Chapter and Science-Technology Division program on August 21st at Gilead Pharmaceuticals, and as a webinar for those outside Silicon Valley. My presentation will examine scholarly open-access publishing in the context of libraries and the work of librarians. I’ll present a survey of the various scholarly communication distribution models, including the traditional model, and green, gold, and platinum open-access. I’ll also tell you about predatory open-access publishers and explain how they are poisoning the entire scholarly publishing ecosystem.

I’ll discuss criteria that you can use to determine which publishers are predatory and discuss the many negative consequences of predatory publishers, including an apparent increase in research misconduct, bogus peer review, and lack of digital preservation. I’ll also discuss how predatory publishers are blurring the line between authentic science and pseudo-science.

Changes in scholarly publishing affect the roles of librarians. Traditionally, libraries offer readers’ advisory, directing readers to works that meet their information needs. Increasingly, librarians are being called on to provide authors’ advisory, guiding scholarly authors on the best publishing venues, copyright and open-access licenses, and the use of institutional repositories.

I’ll also cover the open-access movement and some of its weaknesses. There are differences between the European and North American views on open access, and the talk will describe these. My blog, Scholarly Open Access, and its two lists are written to help scholars avoid publishing in questionable journals. I’ll conclude with advice on how to handle predatory publishers in different library contexts and what we as librarians should do regarding them in the context of our work.

Jeffrey Beall
May 22: SLA-SV and SLA-SFBR Joint Meeting featuring Phoebe Ayers

An evening with Phoebe Ayers

Wednesday, May 22

Phoebe will talk about her work with the Wikimedia Foundation, and how crowdsourcing and social media are changing information exchange.

Phoebe Ayers is a science and engineering reference librarian at the University of California, Davis. Since 2003 she has been an editor and volunteer with the Wikimedia Foundation, which runs Wikipedia and its sister projects, and from 2010-2012 was a member of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees. She is also the co-author of a book about Wikipedia, “How Wikipedia Works.”

Registration Information and Venue: TBA.
Volunteers Needed!

SLA 2017
Phoenix

SLA SF/SLA SV Joint Dinner Program
Travel Grant Winner 2017 Conference Recap
Post-Conference Mixer
Mixer at Dan Gordon’s in Palo Alto