ASAPbio
preprint preferences survey

2016.05.22
357 total responses

Each question was optional

I am a...

- Other
- Industry scientist
- Senior academic faculty (>10 years)
- Junior academic faculty (<10 years)
- Staff scientist
- Postdoc
- Graduate student
- Technician
- Undergraduate/intern

Geographic distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provided valid email</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did not</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

357 total responses

Geographic distribution

168
77
6
3
0
2
A preprint server should be hosted by a...
A preprint server should be hosted by a...

Responses (count)

- Academic institution (like arXiv at Cornell)
- Journal or publisher
- Scientific society
- Government agency (like PubMed Central)
Preprint servers should be responsible for...

- screening for plagiarism
- screening for non-scientific content
- the lead author certifying that all authors agree to submission
- the lead author certifying adherence to ethical guidelines
- just posting preprints (journals should do these checks)
Preprint servers should post...

- research manuscripts ready to be submitted to a journal
- negative results
- review articles
- smaller units of science (single-figure, data set)
- perspectives/editorials/meeting reports

Responses (count)
A governing body (eg Board of Directors) for a preprint server should be appointed by...

- the preprint server
- agencies funding the server
- election by the scientific community
During the submission process, I want to...

- upload my paper rapidly with minimal (<20 min) time investment
- sign in with an existing account (ORCID, Google, Twitter, etc)
- list my grant support as a searchable term
- approve my converted manuscript files (in PDF/HTML) before posting
- submit my preprint to my preferred journal through a menu option
Responses (count)

General preprint server features

- Blue: The server should support commenting
- Orange: Commenter identity should be disclosed
- Gray: Commenters should be anonymous
- Yellow: I do not want public comments on my preprint
- Black: I want view/download metrics displayed

Responses (count)
As a reader, I want to...

- Browse preprints on the web (HTML) as well as download PDFs (Responses: 100)
- Read a typeset document featuring integrated text and figures (Responses: 90)
- Access references and databases via preprint hyperlinks (Responses: 80)
- Find preprints via current services - e.g., Google Scholar (Responses: 70)
- Find preprints via services like PubMed, Web of Science, Scopus (now for peer reviewed papers) (Responses: 60)
**Licensing & APIs**

- **All the manuscripts on a server should be under a "CC BY" license**
- **Authors choose their license - eg no commercial use without permission**
- **I want preprints to be available via an API so that web applications and services (including text mining) can make use of this content**
I feel that scientists should pay $__ to upload a preprint...

- A server as they exist now
- A future server with all features I want
There should be multiple preprint servers.
Simplicity. One point of search, no additional stratification of the 'good' or 'glamorous' server. 

I don't think it matters either way as long as they have similar operating principles and openness/exposure to search etc.

Centralization leads to power, which leads to abuse of power. Decentralization is more democratic.

Competition is a good thing.

Don't dilute this.

I am neutral because I don't know the relative merits of either option.

Both are wrong. Maybe limited [# of servers] is the right answer.

One is a single point of failure. There already are multiple servers, and this encourages innovation.

Different scientific communities have different publishing cultures. A one-size-fits all server is unlikely to be able to serve all of them adequately.

One vetted place where I know I can find and trust preprint articles.

Multiple servers = fragmentation. Which will lead to confusion and lack of adoption.

A meta-server would be best. It is hopeless to try to make it one preprint server.

It won't matter as long as they are searchable via existing web search.

Why?
**Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desired characteristics</th>
<th>Areas of neutrality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Non-profit model</td>
<td>• One vs. multiple servers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Low cost for upload</td>
<td>• Licensing</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Quality control</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Scientist-elected governance</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Non-traditional posts (especially negative data)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Non-anonymous commenting</td>
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