

The Twelve Step OA Program, or, How I Learned to Give Up My Addiction to Commercial Publishing and Support Open Access



1. We admitted that we were powerless over publishers –and that our research publications had become unmanageable
2. Came to believe that Open Access could restore us to sanity
3. Made a decision to turn our scholarship over to the principles of Open Access
4. Made a searching and fearless inventory of our research production
5. Admitted to our library, ourselves, and another colleague the exact nature of our intellectual property wrongs
6. Were entirely ready to have Open Access remove all these defects of intellectual property weakness
7. Humbly asked our colleagues to make our research widely available
8. Made a list of all readers, colleagues and co-authors we had failed to support and became willing to help them achieve wider distribution of and Open Access to their research
9. Made direct amends to such people whenever possible by helping to get the word out about their research, except when to do so would violate copyright
10. Continued to take personal inventory, and when we slipped up and were tempted to sign a publisher's agreement without thinking, promptly admitted it
11. Sought, through careful reading of agreements and negotiation with publishers, to improve our commitment to Open Access
12. Having had an intellectual awakening as a result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to other academics, and to apply the principles of Open Access in all our publishing efforts

Brought to you by the Dean and Faculty of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library in celebration of Open Access Week, October 21-27, 2013