WHAT IS PUBLISHING?

GROUP 1
How do we provide the greatest benefit of the scholarly enterprise to a global society in a sustainable way?
What can publishing become?

We’ve been talking about this for a long time.

“A day will come when journals will be superseded as a means of publishing new research.”

— Theodore “Robbie” Fox (1965), Editor of The Lancet 1944-1964
DEFINING THE PROBLEM

• Our notion of “publishing” was concrete, mechanistic, and monolithic -- a shared infrastructure with definitive boundaries.
• This paradigm is still in operation; it has been disrupted by the web, not transformed.
• Academic publishing models are largely the same as 30 (or even 350) years ago. Are we okay with this pace?
WHAT IS PUBLISHING?

... a process that creates/captures and makes discoverable artifacts of knowledge in order to facilitate the use and reuse of scholarship on a global scale. It enables research communities to build upon the work of others and provides a venue for evolving discourse.
OBSTACLES
Infrastructure Limitations
Authorship, Attribution, Credit
Standards & Rewards: Hiring, Promotion
Business Models
Publishing: Pace of Information Processing and Peer Review
WHAT IS THE MISSION?

• For everyone who needs access to scholarly information to have it;
• For authors to have choices that they don’t currently have;
• To encourage disruption in business models by unbundling the research process and opening up new services around it;
• To encourage entry of new individuals and organizations into the knowledge ecosystem.
Can we ‘UNBUNDLE’ publishing?

Single stable artifact (journal article or monograph) ---\(\rightarrow\) **multiple research objects**

Monolithic (one-size-fits-all) black box ---\(\rightarrow\) a menu of **unbundled service offerings**
CALL TO ACTION - NEXT STEPS

Within our context of publishing as an interdependent ecosystem...

• Audit what exists for and evaluate each module of an unbundled publishing ‘service’
• Form a working group on open source, standardized, federated, modular infrastructures
  – e.g. VIVO published works ontology, CrossRef, ORCID, Collaborative Knowledge Foundation, Ambra
How do we provide the greatest benefit of the scholarly enterprise to a global society in a sustainable way?

What is publishing? -> What will publishing be?
OUR TEAM

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Supporting notes: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ChYsQ9RxcSTuYv1PqLFnDXX3z0PjnrnI0EUWkP-QXC/edit?usp=sharing