

Helping Conference Authors Meet Open Access Publishing Requirements

One of the trends in publishing is to make research articles publicly available through a process called “Open Access” (OA). To enable your conference authors to fulfill open access guidelines from their funding agencies, below is information on how the IEEE Author Posting policy can address their concerns and make them comfortable submitting papers to your conference.

Overview

The motivations behind this movement to open access are many. Much of the drive is coming from funding bodies, such as governments, who see the research they fund as benefitting the public good. There are two common forms of OA. The first, referred to as “Gold OA”, is an author-pays approach. The author (Or author’s employer/funding agency) pays a charge to ensure that the final version of an article is made openly available to the public—that is, no subscription is needed to view the article. The second is “Green OA”. In this form of OA, an “as accepted for publication” (that is, not final) version of the article is self-archived by the author in a public space, such as on a personal Web page or in an institutional repository.

While most of the focus in OA technical publishing today is on journals, funding agencies’ policies may also apply to articles submitted to and accepted by conferences. IEEE is currently looking at its conference publications portfolio to determine how it will respond to this new demand for OA conference articles.

Process

While IEEE has no approach to make the entire proceedings of a conference open, conference authors may post their own versions of their papers as accepted by a conference, to comply with Green OA practice. The current IEEE current publishing policy, as defined in the IEEE PSPB Operations Manual, Section 8.1.9 (Electronic Information Dissemination) allows authors to “follow mandates of agencies that fund the author’s research by posting accepted versions of their articles in the agencies’ publicly accessible repositories.” This also includes the author’s and their employer’s repositories. This qualifies IEEE to be considered a “Green OA” publisher by OA databases that track publisher practices (e.g., [SHERPA RoMEO](#)).

The full text of the IEEE policy, along with an author FAQ, may be found at http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/rights/paperversionpolicy.html.

This approach is intended to support an individual author’s need to provide public accessibility to their work. ALL papers delivered to IEEE from the conference for publication in IEEE *Xplore*® as part of the proceedings of the conference will be available only through paid-for access to Xplore, and access to the content via Xplore will not meet guidelines for public access, as it is not freely available.

Conference Communications

To assist your authors understanding of how a conference can meet their need to publish their research in publically accessible repositories, it may be helpful to include the IEEE statement below - “Supporting Your Open Access Publishing Needs” - in your call for papers and on the conference website.

Supporting Your Open Access Publishing Needs

Consistent with the IEEE publishing policy, authors may post their final, accepted paper to their own, their employer’s or their funding agencies’ publically accessible repository for the purpose of meeting public availability requirements prescribed by their funding agencies.

Before submitting manuscripts to conferences, authors are encouraged to learn the specific requirements of their funding agencies, including whether self-posting is acceptable.

Details of the IEEE Author Posting policy may be found at:

http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/rights/paperversionpolicy.html

Authors with questions about IEEE policy may e-mail copyrights@ieee.org.