ETH zürich

Open Access at ETH Zurich: Experiences and Challenges

Impact of Open Science on research careers, swissuniversities, 05.09.2017

Dr Rafael Ball, Director of ETH Library, ETH Zurich

AGENDA

1. Open Access at ETH Zurich
2. Open Access Survey 2017
3. Road Map and Further Steps

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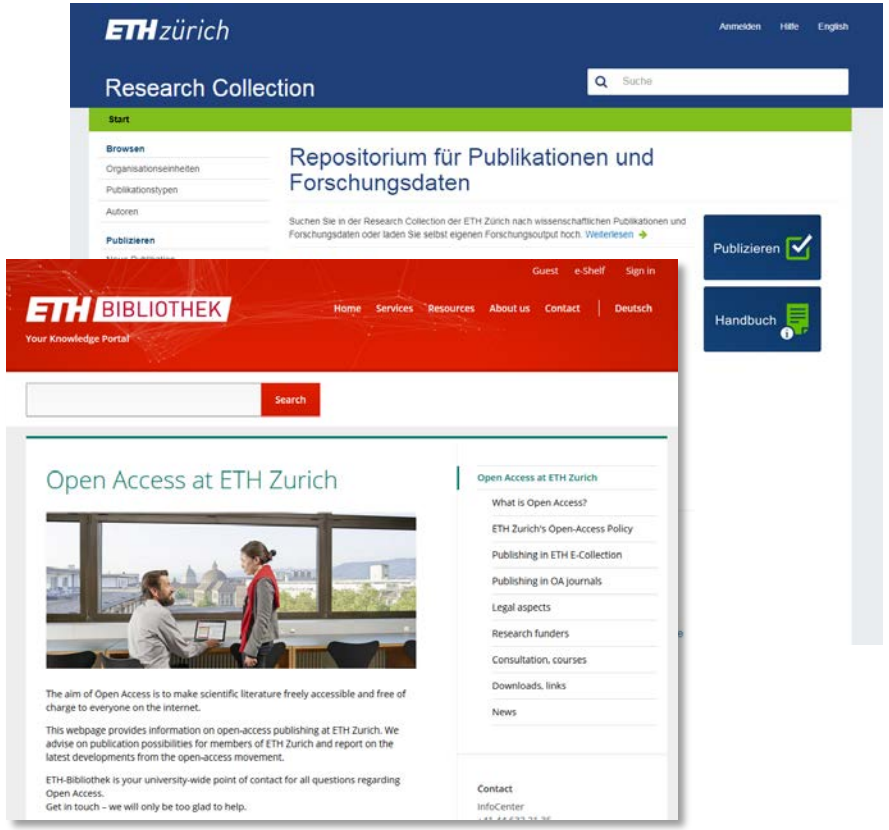
What has happened so far at ETHZ

2006	Signing of Berlin Declaration on Open Access
2008	Open Access policy for ETHZ
2008	Open Access becomes mandatory for doctoral theses
2015	Signing of LERU Initiative “Christmas is Over”
Since 2016	Involvement in the National Open Access Strategy
2017	swissuniversities signs OA2020 Initiative

OA services at ETHZ

ETH Library services

- **Green Road**: OA repository Research Collection
- **Golden Road**: payment of article processing charges (APCs) at BioMed Central, SpringerOpen, PLOS, Copernicus, MDPI, Frontiers und Wiley
- Consulting on copyright issues
- Consulting on OA specifications from funding organisations
- Webinars, workshops & information events

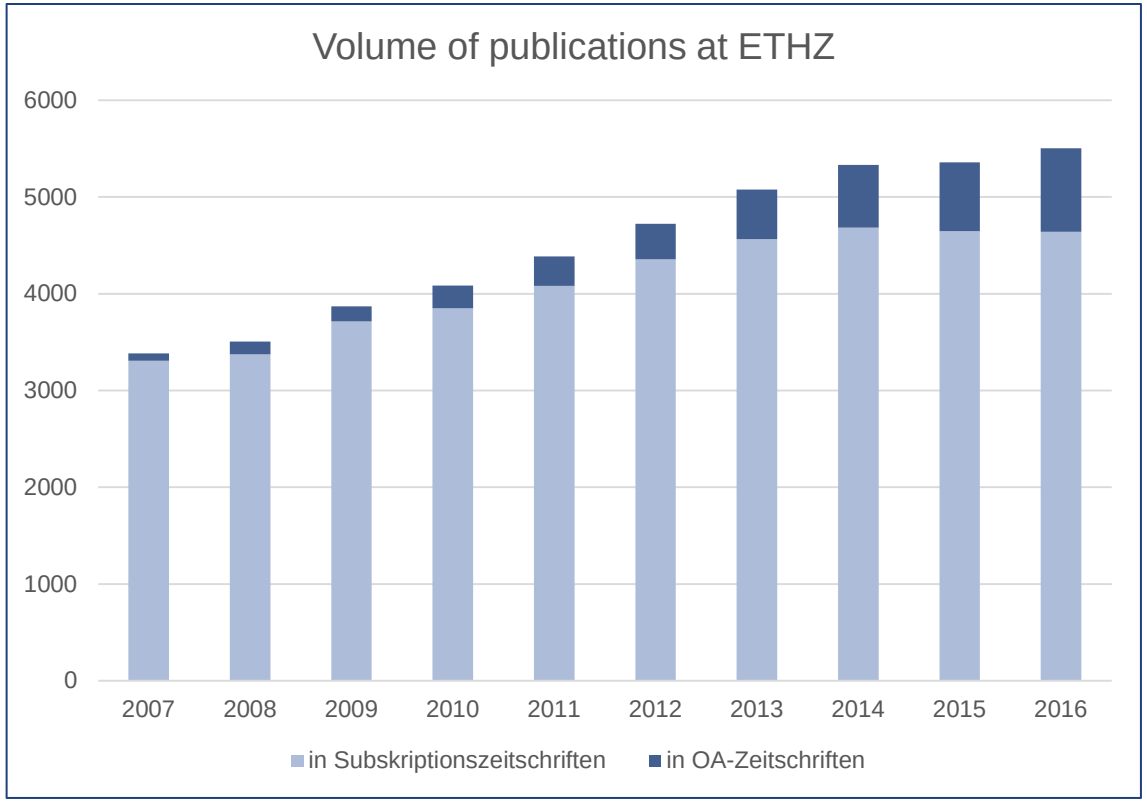


Some figures on OA at ETH Zurich

- **Green Road**
  A total of 164'400 entries in the ETH Research Collection, thereof 21'300 fully accessible full texts

- **Golden Road**
  About 15% of peer-reviewed journal literature published in Open Access journals

- All **doctoral theses**
  deposited in the ETH Research Collection. Approximately 70% published immediately, approximately 30% within 1-3 years



[Source: Web of Science]

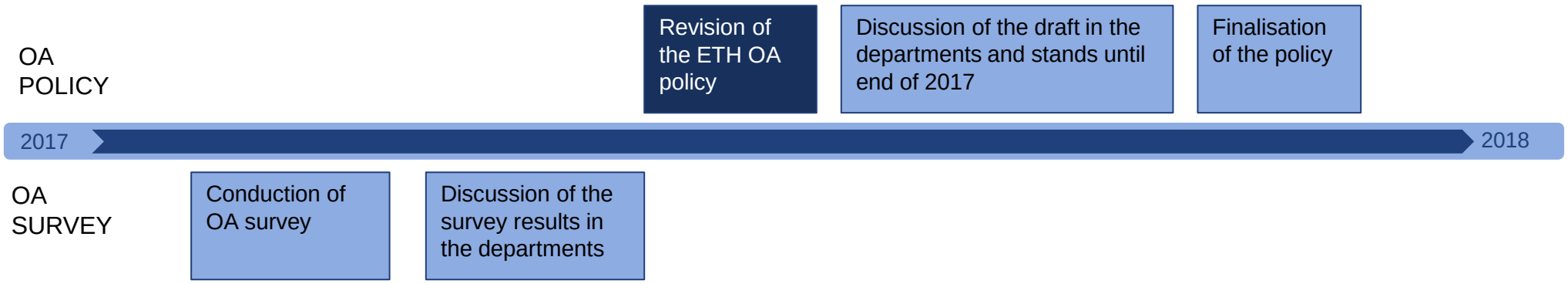
Current status of OA policy at ETHZ

OA policy at ETH Zurich from 2008

- All publications accepted in a peer reviewed journal, doctoral theses and other research results should be published OA in ETH E-Collection (now: Research Collection) as soon as possible
- All researchers are encouraged to publish in a suitable Open Access journal; ETH Zurich will cover the publishing fees, such as APCs.

The new OA policy

- Reasons for the revision:
  - Major developments in OA, library systems and publishing since 2008
  - Superordinate framework for Switzerland by adopting swissuniversities and SNF OA strategies
- In preparation for this: OA survey at ETH Zurich by ETH Library in 2017



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Framework of the survey

OBJECTIVES

- Widespread information about Open Access
- Find out about attitudes, experiences and expectations among ETH Zurich Scientists
- Launch a broader discussion
- Start implementation strategy

METHODOLOGY

- Online survey among the entire scientific staff at ETH Zurich
- Distribution of the questionnaire: www.iafob.ch
- Survey period: 1 – 24 February 2017
- Questionnaire takes about 15 minutes to complete

RESPONSIBILITY

- Executive Board of ETH Zurich
- ETH Library

Note: the results differ significantly according to the department, form of appointment, research years as a whole and research years at ETH Zurich.

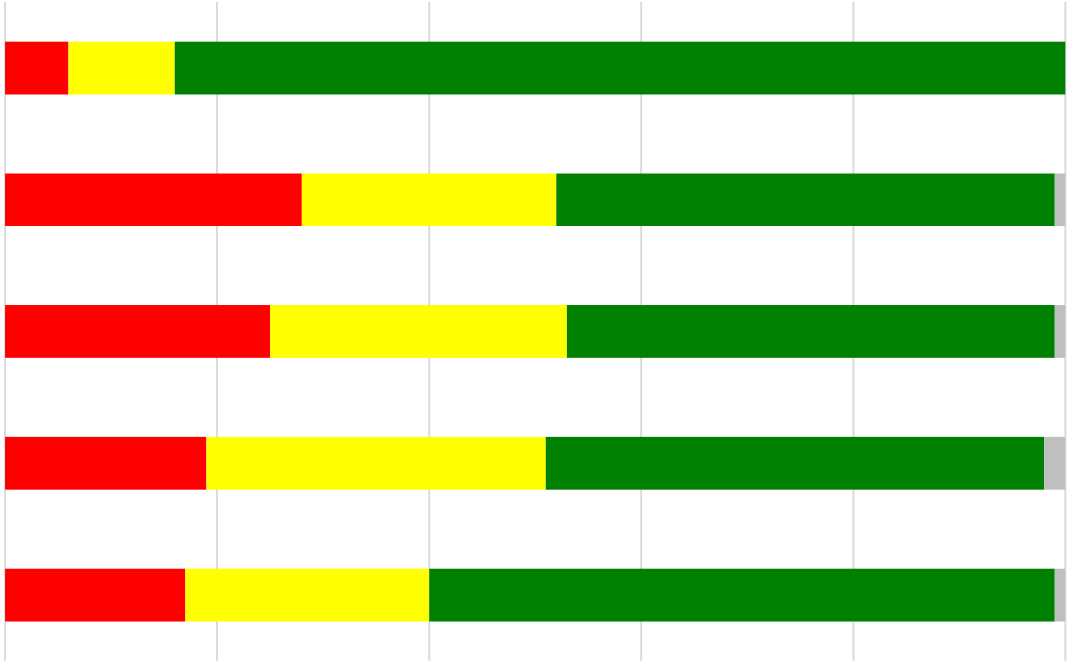
Who was asked

- Professors and assistant professors
- Scientific and senior assistants
- Academic research staff

Publication of academic results and your own publication behaviour

How important is the following for you when submitting your research paper?

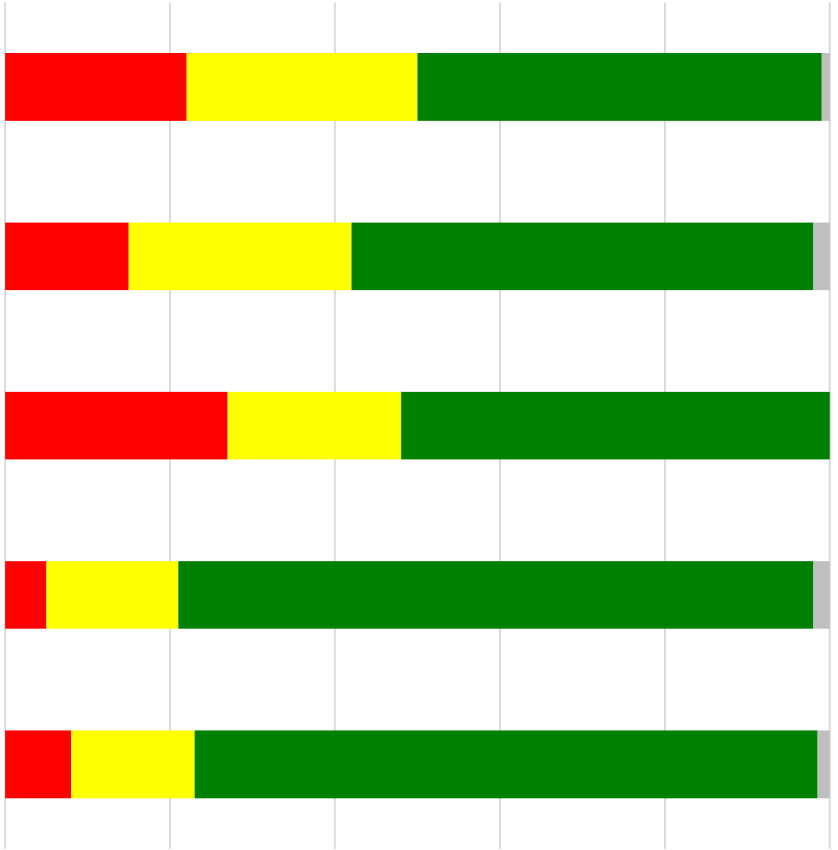
- Impact factor
- Possibility to publish pre-print or post-print
- Not having to pay publication fees
- Permitted length of the publication
- Possibility to publish additional data



Publication of academic results and your own publication behaviour

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

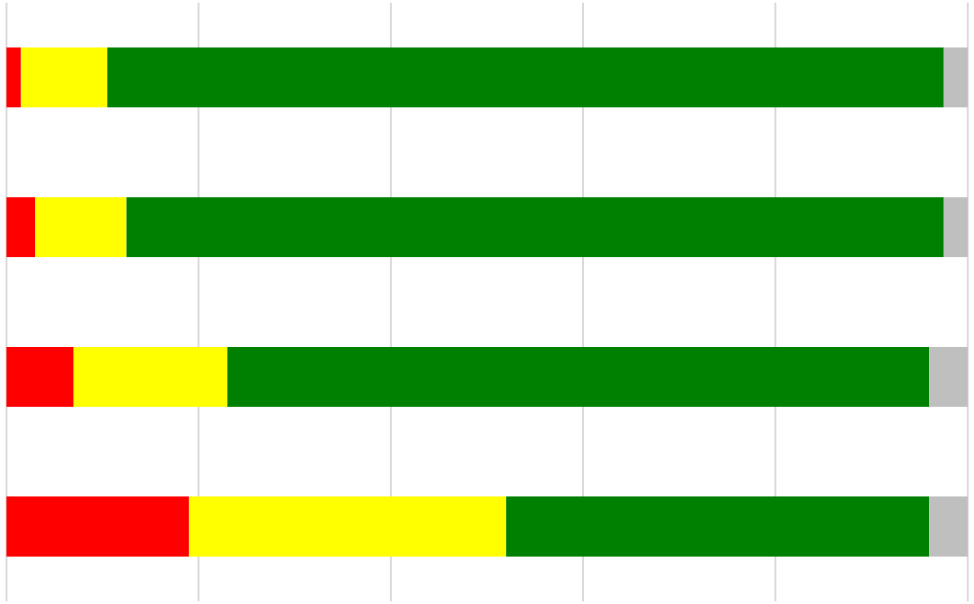
- Publishers provide key services for the dissemination of research results
- Universities should offer more support on publishing research results
- If journal prices exceeded an acceptable amount, I'd agree to "do without individual journals"
- In the event of a disproportionate pricing policy among publishers, I'd agree to refuse or step down from duties on an editorial board
- In the event of a disproportionate pricing policy among publishers, I'd agree to refuse or step down from duties as a reviewer



Open Access services at ETH Library

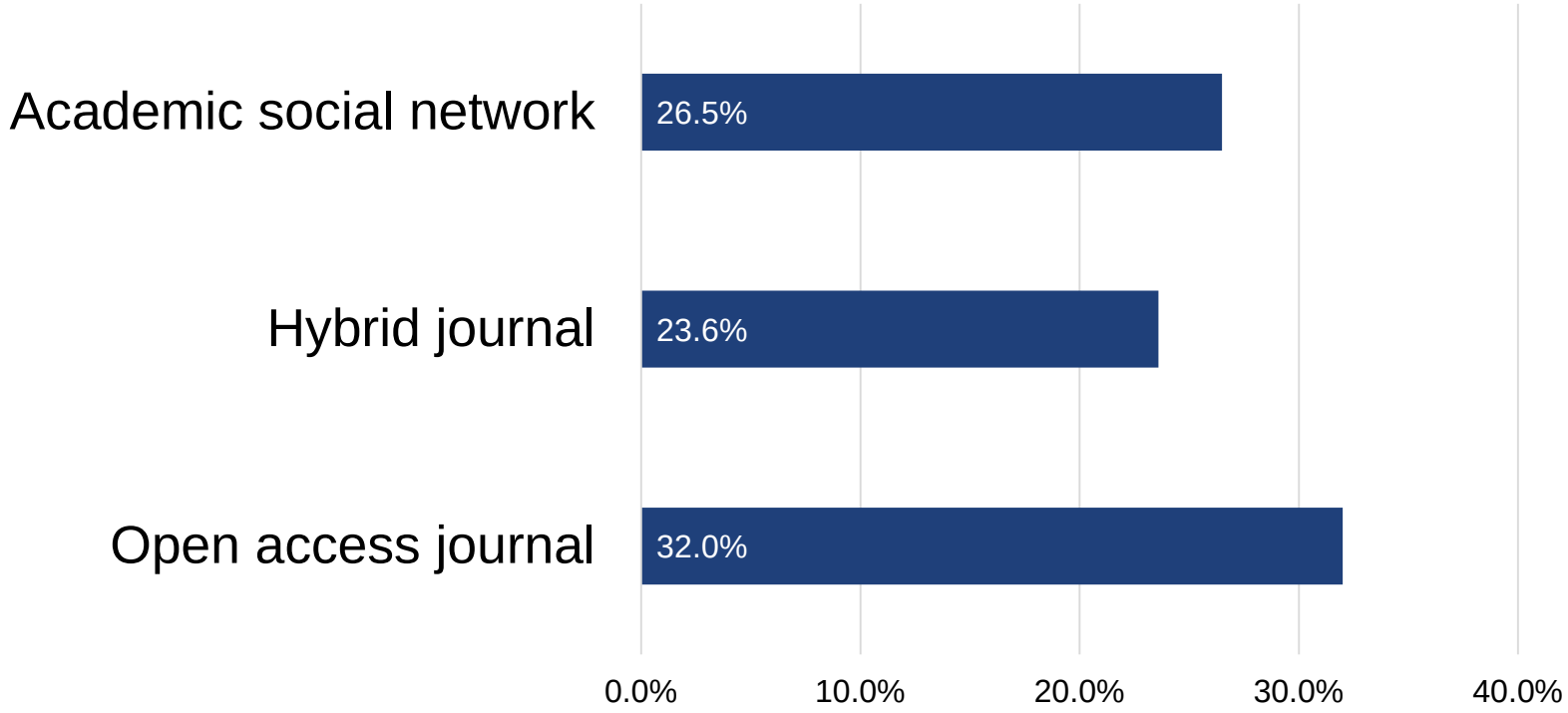
How important are the following aspects for an Open Access policy?

- Continued free choice of journal
- Free access to my publication by third parties
- Retaining my author's exploitation rights (e.g. right to publish the pre- or post-print).
- Policy should generally be compulsory and not merely regarded as a recommendation



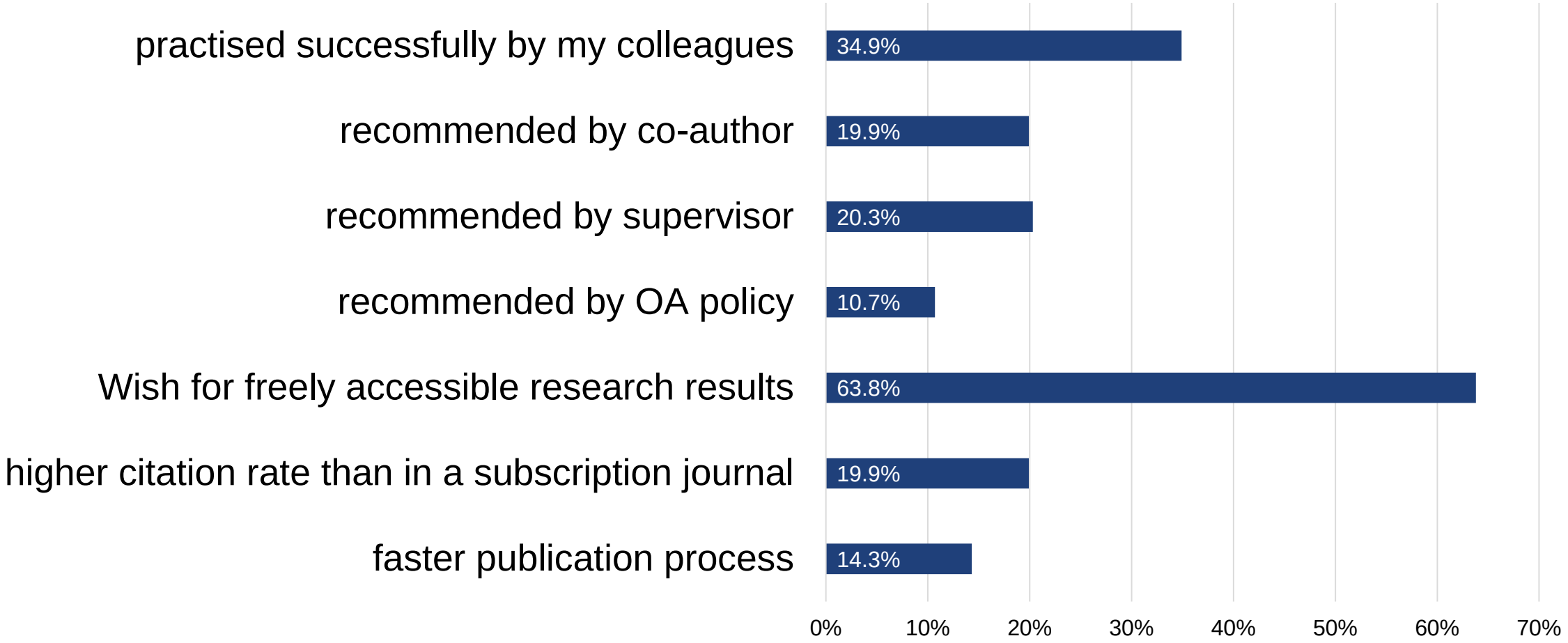
Open Access publishing

How have you published OA in the past twelve months (multiple answers possible)?



Open Access publishing

Reason for publishing Open Access in the past twelve months

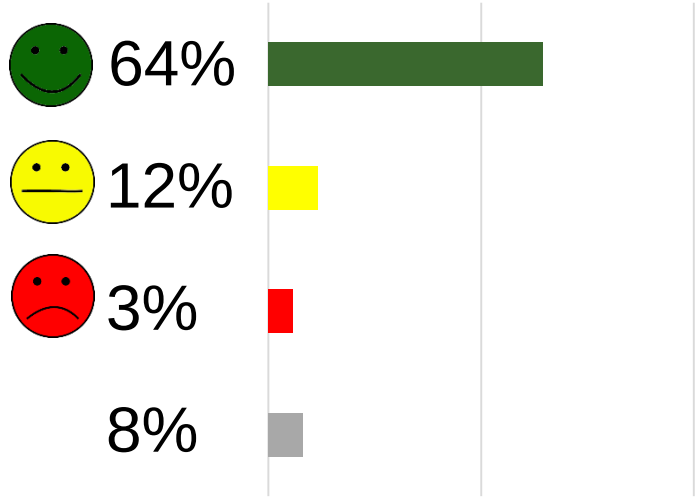


2. Open Access Survey 2017

Future use of Open Access journals at ETH Zurich

How would you rate a complete transformation of academic publishing from the subscription-based model to Open Access (APCs paid by university)?

- Very positive or positive:
- Neutral:
- Very negative or negative:
- No answer:



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On the way to a new OA policy at ETHZ

OA POLICY

- Revision of ETH Zurich's OA policy
- Discussion of the draft in the departments and stands until 31 December 2017
- Finalisation of the policy

2017 → 2018

OA SURVEY

- Conduction of OA survey
- Discussion of the survey results in the departments

Challenges

Global dissemination of new knowledge and maximising the chances of young researchers without obstacles

- Controlling costs and time in the migration period
  (implementing OA shouldn't lead to higher costs)
- Young scientists' careers should be promoted, not jeopardised
- Different publishing cultures in the disciplines need to be treated adequately
- Different research cultures in Europe, the USA and Asia
- Development of the publishers: attractive new business models for OA?
- Future "publication world" not foreseeable; Golden Road just one of several ways

Thank you very much for your attention!

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