

Ensuring Diversity in Scholarly Publishing: A UCT Libraries perspective

National Scholarly Book Publishers' Forum
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THE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS LANDSCAPE



- FROM INFORMATION CONSUMER

- Collecting and organising scholarly resources for discovery and use

- TO INFORMATION PRODUCER

- Technological innovations in production and dissemination of scholarship
- Challenges to (global north) traditional publishing practices and models
- Intellectual property management
- Increase access to scholarship

CONTEXT

OA and social justice (access to resources, equity, participation, diversity & human rights)

Changing scholarly communications landscape

- Inclusion and participation of African voices

Access to information and research about Africa

- Behind paywalls
- The need to add African research to this body of knowledge
- Inform policy, relevant interventions and appropriate responses to development challenges

Growing confidence in:

- African collective
- Quality of research

Goal – unhindered multi-directional participation in knowledge production

SCHOLARLY SERVICES

Collection development – shift towards decolonizing collections

Advocacy of OA scholarship

Developing and hosting local publishing platforms

Development and management of institutional repositories

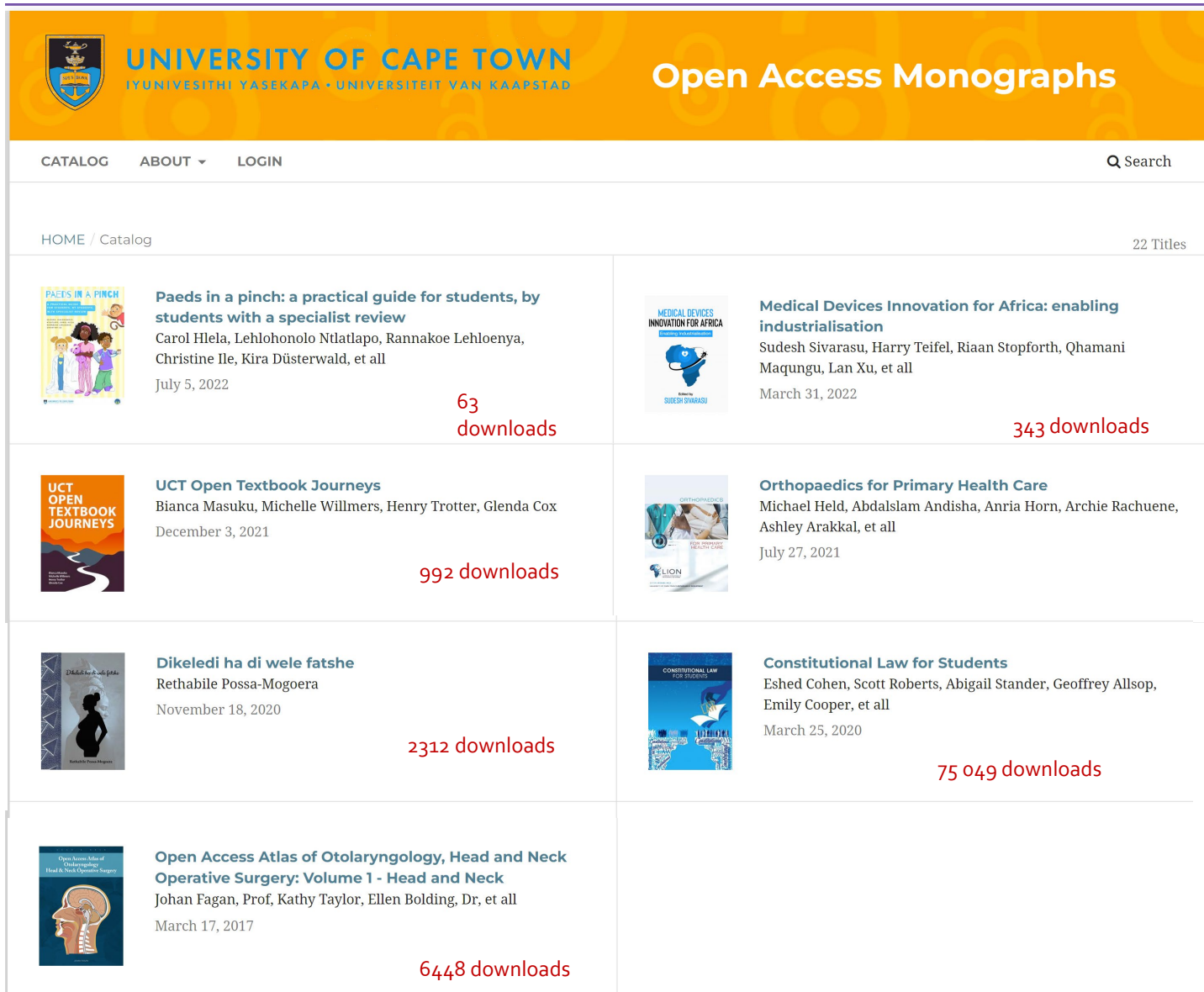
Bibliometrics – use of metrics to measure impact of research

Intellectual property rights management

Right of FAIR use

<https://openbooks.uct.ac.za/uct/catalog/>

LIBRARY AS PUBLISHER



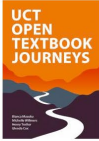



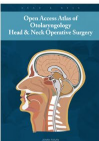


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Open Access Monographs

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 <p>Paeds in a pinch: a practical guide for students, by students with a specialist review Carol Hlela, Lehloholo Ntlatlapo, Rannakoe Lehloeny, Christine Ile, Kira Düsterwald, et all July 5, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: right;">63 downloads</p>	 <p>Medical Devices Innovation for Africa: enabling industrialisation Sudesh Sivarasu, Harry Teifel, Riaan Stopforth, Qhamani Maqungu, Lan Xu, et all March 31, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: right;">343 downloads</p>
 <p>UCT Open Textbook Journeys Bianca Masuku, Michelle Willmers, Henry Trotter, Glenda Cox December 3, 2021</p> <p style="text-align: right;">992 downloads</p>	 <p>Orthopaedics for Primary Health Care Michael Held, Abdalslam Andisha, Anria Horn, Archie Rachuene, Ashley Arakkal, et all July 27, 2021</p>
 <p>Dikeledi ha di wele fatshe Rethabile Possa-Mogoera November 18, 2020</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2312 downloads</p>	 <p>Constitutional Law for Students Eshed Cohen, Scott Roberts, Abigail Stander, Geoffrey Allsop, Emily Cooper, et all March 25, 2020</p> <p style="text-align: right;">75 049 downloads</p>
 <p>Open Access Atlas of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Operative Surgery: Volume 1 - Head and Neck Johan Fagan, Prof, Kathy Taylor, Ellen Bolding, Dr, et all March 17, 2017</p> <p style="text-align: right;">6448 downloads</p>	

According to Jill Claassen:

- Wide dissemination, equitable access and visibility
- Open access, decolonising scholarship with a focus on local peer-reviewed scholarly content
- Publishing costs - no cost to the author and cost of publishing is covered by the university's operational budget
- Researchers are rewarded for publishing local content (promotion criteria relates to social responsiveness goal of universities)
 - DHET Subsidy
- Diversification of:
 - Publication type (Monographs, textbooks and conference proceedings)
 - language (Multilingualism)
 - formats of accessing scholarship (audio, video, annotated notes, text to voice)
 - authors to include all academic voices (especially students, early career researchers)
- A central publishing platform
- Capacity building and sharing of publishing skills

Open Access Publishing Continental Platform

The continental platform allows the African research community to take ownership of creating and sharing its own scholarly content, which contributes to the growth and development of local research for African society. The publishing platform addresses the challenge of Africa's low production by practicing diamond open access, that is knowledge is free to access for the reader and the author does not pay to publish. In this model, diamond open access is a community-based publishing alternative model that disrupts the commercial publishing system. This shift returns the control of publishing back to the researcher community; free from third-party publishers imposing their restrictions to access.

The continental platform consist of **open access journals** and **open access monographs and textbooks**.

If any African institution would like to publish open journals or open monographs/textbooks on this continental platform, please contact [Jill Claassen](#), Section Manager: Scholarly Communication and Research



Open Journals

The African open access journals available on the continental platform are:

South Africa

- [University of Cape Town](#)
- [Durban University of Technology](#)

Namibia

- [University of Namibia](#)

Zimbabwe

- [Bindura University of Science Education](#)
- [Catholic University of Zimbabwe](#)

Botswana

- [University of Botswana](#)

The University of Botswana has committed to making their open access journals available on the continental platform in the upcoming months.

Open Monographs and Open Textbooks

The African open access monographs/ textbooks available on the continental platform are:

South Africa

- [University of Cape Town](#)

EXPANDING THE FOOTPRINT...

- **MoU** with the Association of African Universities (AAU) (2022)
- African research community to take ownership of creating and sharing its own scholarly content (including open access journals and open access monographs and textbooks),
- **Diamond open access model**, i.e. knowledge is free to access for the reader and the author does not pay to publish
- Institutions retain their **own identity and branding**
- Capacity building in open journal systems and open monograph publishing

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LIBRARY PUBLISHING PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN:

Establishing

a community-owned, community-led scholarly communication ecosystem (LPC, 2022)

Giving

us “the freedom to build an inclusive, demarginalized, equitable and diverse knowledge system” (R. Raju, 2022).

Ensuring

“Everyone should be able to access and contribute to the knowledge that shapes our world” (SPARC)