

## Editorial letter, December 2014

Dear authors, dear readers,

We recently organized a **survey** about your experience with **Open Access**. We thank all the responders for their participation in the survey. You can see a brief summary of the results by clicking the links in Page 2. Considering the countries of the respondents, we are glad that our journal is widely recognized in Europe, but also outside Europe.

Let us first remind the issue of Open Access. In some countries, and in Brussels (European Commission), new rules for the results of projects supported by research institutions were recently issued: a publication of the results has to be done with Open Access. Consequently, our journal, in connection with its publisher, Hirzel verlag, considers the new situation. As you know, green open access is already possible for the papers published in Acta Acustica united with Acustica (AAA) (the author version, either in personal homepages or in Open-Access Archives). For the moment there is an embargo of 12 months after publication in the journal and before the access to the papers on Archives. Some institutions agree with this time, some others ask for reducing this period to 6 months. One result of the survey is that the great majority does not specify this time: there is a great variety of situations, and consequently a great variety of opinions. For the Gold Open Access (payment by the authors or their institutions in order that the publication is immediately available openly) Hirzel proposed to create a hybrid model, similar to that proposed already by other journals, such as JASA or JSV: the journal will publish two kinds of papers, in Open Access or not (keeping the traditional functioning). Taking into account the responses to the survey, we will go further in the discussion with our publisher, and a decision will be taken during the year 2015.

For your information, we add some useful websites. The transition to Open Access is in progress, but obviously it will be intricate.

The improvement of our journal remains a permanent concern. Two special issues were published in 2014; one was focussed on bioacoustics, and launches a new domain for the journal. Proposals for other special issues are welcome. Another wish is to develop lively exchanges, by publishing **letters to the Editor**, seeking to publish true results in order to encourage discussion rather than doing quality rating ahead of publication. An example is given in this first issue of 2015 by a letter written by David Politzer (winner of the Nobel Prize 2004 in Physics). Discussion after publication is rare in our recent issues, and we hope that this aspect can be developed. Moreover we encourage the submission of "Technical and applied papers". Of course we should distinguish this kind of papers with those published in [Acoustics in Practice](#), which are addressed to a very large audience.

Finally let us inform you that the submission rate to AAA is still satisfactory. Many thanks to the authors. Many thanks also to all Associate Editors.

Have a Merry Christmas and a fruitful New Year!

Jean Kergomard, Editor-in-Chief

Summary of the survey responses

<https://www.euracoustics.org/activities/acta-acustica-united-with-acustica/survey-aaa/download>

All responses data

<https://www.euracoustics.org/activities/acta-acustica-united-with-acustica/results-of-aaa-survey/download>

Reminder: Open Access Hirzel model

<https://www.euracoustics.org/activities/acta-acustica-united-with-acustica/acta-acustica-united-with-acustica-open-access-2013-hirzel-model/download>

#### Other interesting documents

**ALLEA calls for Enhancement of Open Access to Scientific Publications**

<http://www.allea.org/Pages/ALL/33/527.bGFuZz1FTkc.html>

Agreement IoP -Austria

<http://ioppublishing.org/newsDetails/Austria-open-access>

Obama administration issues directive on open access to federally funded scientific research

<https://libraries.mit.edu/news/obama-administration/10736/>

UK Government

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/open-access-research>

French Academy of science (see pages 13 to 23 in English)

[http://www.google.fr/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCYQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.academie-sciences.fr%2Fpresse%2Fcommuniqu%2Ffrads\\_241014.pdf&ei=DPSOVMPLAsLMOt24gfAG&usg=AFQjCNH9HSd9oIU8E1jm88YSS0AHaVkhg&sig2=DB8KIXvLrKOXaqFDAXT1dQ&bvm=bv.81828268,d.ZWU](http://www.google.fr/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCYQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.academie-sciences.fr%2Fpresse%2Fcommuniqu%2Ffrads_241014.pdf&ei=DPSOVMPLAsLMOt24gfAG&usg=AFQjCNH9HSd9oIU8E1jm88YSS0AHaVkhg&sig2=DB8KIXvLrKOXaqFDAXT1dQ&bvm=bv.81828268,d.ZWU)