Open Access Publishing and Supporting a Knowledge Economy

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Abstract

Access to information and knowledge is a fundamental requirement for the development of a knowledge-based economy. From a publisher’s perspective the potential and pitfalls of open access publishing will be assessed in relation to providing a platform for a knowledge-based economy. The speaker will draw on experience gained as the Director of an open access Press in South Africa to address the issue.

Mr Garry Rosenberg is an Independent Consultant, contracted as Research Leader for the Scholarly Communication in Africa Programme of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). From 2002 to 2009 he served as Director of the HSRC Press, the publishing arm of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) of South Africa. Under his leadership the HSRC Press has come to be regarded as a highly reputable publisher, distinguished itself globally as a pioneer of scholarly Open Access publishing and has won international publishing awards. He has contributed to debates on scholarly publishing in forums such as the World Social Science Forum, local and international conferences, regional workshops and has run local capacity-building initiatives. He has worked in the publishing industry for over 15 years.