

Subject: re research works act

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I was publications editor for the peer-reviewed Journal of Paleontology while the University of Oklahoma handled the publication and for half a year thereafter. When we took over, the time lag between acceptance and publication was 18 months. We worked it down five months, four and a half of those being the publication process itself. The journal used and still uses Allen Press (Lawrence KS).

My point here is that Allen Press had no direct influence on the path our journal took. They had absolutely no say in what was published. They did the physical publication work. Period. To suggest that Elsevier or anyone else wields any power over content, and therefore should say where and how that content may be disseminated, is ludicrous.

PLEASE scrub the Research Works Act; it is egregiously misguided and detrimental to the free and necessary exchange of research information upon which we all depend. I do not want access to my published work curtailed in any manner and I do not want barriers to learning of others' work.

Your respectfully,

Dr Sandy Dengler

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Paleontologist at large