

February 7, 2019

## **Response to Plan S request for feedback**

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Recognizing and encouraging preprint posting as a path to universal access to research and Plan S compliance could be a forward-thinking strategy as publishing evolves. Open-access overlay journals and other new forms of peer review built around preprint servers will challenge traditional subscription-based publications. Studies of bioRxiv and arXiv (the physics and math preprint server) show that a significant minority of preprints are never formally published despite containing important findings. Works like these are not currently accommodated in Plan S and specifying preprint deposition as a compliance solution would ensure they are safely archived and indexed.

Finally, we note that the approach we advocate will encourage experiments in publishing that are more cost effective because hosting and tagging costs are already covered by the upstream preprint server. This is more fully articulated in a document at [PlanU.org](https://planu.org) co-authored by Richard Sever (bioRxiv Co-Founder), Michael Eisen (PLOS Co-Founder), and John Inglis bioRxiv Co-Founder).

Richard Sever and John Inglis (Co-Founders, bioRxiv)