



## Have you heard?

***SLAS Technology* and *SLAS Discovery* will be moving to an open access (OA) publishing model with Elsevier as of January 2022!**

We are excited about this change because:

- All articles published open access are immediately and permanently free for everyone to read, download, use and distribute.
- Readers do not require a subscription to access the articles.
- Open Access (OA) publishing accelerates the pace of research and encourages sharing and collaboration across disciplines.
- It accommodates many global research funders' requirements and other mandates such as Plan S.
- Our journal research will become more discoverable online and that means more citations.

## Why did SLAS convert to Open Access?

### Values

SLAS is committed to advancing scientific innovation by providing members with professional collaboration, conferences and symposia, continuing education and more. Open Access publishing accelerates the pace of research, encourages sharing and collaboration, and unites researchers across disciplines. In short, conversion to Open Access publishing aligns with our core values as a scientific community. We are excited to be transitioning to this publishing model and know that our members will benefit from a stronger scientific community fostered by free and immediate access to our high-quality research.

### Strategic choice for growth

An increasing number of research [funders around the world](#) are requiring researchers to publish their work Open Access. The flip to Gold Open Access (free and immediate, with no embargo period) aligns with our goals for growth, and positions the SLAS journals ahead of the field in compliance with mandates such as Plan S.

### Impact

Research published Open Access is inherently more discoverable – no paywall means that anyone in the world can download and read the work. [Study](#) after [study](#) has connected open access to higher citations, which is, of course, highly valued by researchers! Removing barriers is in the best interest of all members of the scientific community, and we are excited to make the flip.



## Why Should I Publish My Research Open Access?

Open Access gives the scientific community access to the most cutting-edge science without introducing price barriers to readers. Free, immediate, unrestricted access to research increases visibility (and yes, impact!), as readers do not require a subscription to access your work. Open Access speaks to the core values of science: providing an equitable system of knowledge sharing to serve the community.

## Is SLAS using a different publisher than before?

The SLAS publishing contract with SAGE expires at the end of 2021. After reviewing proposals from multiple publishing partners, SLAS chose to pursue a publishing agreement with Elsevier on the basis of its [Open Access experience](#) and wealth of resources available to ease the transition. We are confident that this partnership will best serve SLAS and its members, and enable us to continue providing high quality, peer reviewed research to the life sciences community.

## How does this impact my paper?

When your manuscript is published Open Access, anyone in the world will be able to read and share your work immediately. This increases the discoverability of your research, evidenced by higher [download and citation rates](#). Researchers across fields, students all over the world, and even funders and policymakers can benefit from open access research.

Finally, your research will be freely available for anyone to access and read on the ScienceDirect and PubMed Central journal websites.

## Will my research be Plan S compliant?

Yes! Funding agencies around the world have begun implementing standards to ensure that research developed using their resources is published open access. All articles published in *SLAS Discovery* and *SLAS Technology* after January 1, 2022, will be compliant with Plan S, Projekt Deal, RCUK, NIH, Wellcome Trust and other major funding agency policies.

## What is an Article Processing Charge (APC) and how can I afford this?

Authors (or funders on their behalf) pay an Article Publishing Charge (APC) to enable the article to be made publicly available immediately on publication. The cost to publish an article Open Access is covered by authors or their research institutions via an Article Processing Charge (APC). Many institutions have reached [agreements](#) to cover these charges, meaning the authors are not responsible for covering the APC. Authors from countries with [Research4Life](#) designations are also eligible for APC waivers or discounts.

## How much will the SLAS Technology and SLAS Discovery APC cost?

An article processing charge (APC) is the fee assessed to authors or funders to support the editorial staff and operational expenses of the journal. The SLAS journal APC is \$1,440 USD per article for SLAS members and \$1,800 for non-members.



### **Will the journal names change?**

No, the journals will continue to publish under *SLAS Discovery* and *SLAS Technology*.

### **When do the journals become Open Access?**

All articles published in *SLAS Discovery* and *SLAS Technology* after January 1, 2022, will be open access – free to read online anywhere in the world with no embargo period.

### **Will the submission process change?**

Starting in the third or fourth quarter of 2021, we will migrate our new manuscript submissions to the Editorial Manager platform. The submission process will largely remain the same, except you will be able to use your institution affiliations.

### **Will SLAS maintain editorial control of its journals?**

Yes. SLAS will retain full ownership of the journals and is committed to leading the pursuit of research excellence in laboratory automation in the life sciences. The editors of our journals will continue to uphold our high standards of rigorous, fast and fair peer review.

### **References**

<https://www.elsevier.com/open-access/funding-arrangements>

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0013636>

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/39994327\\_Ten-Year\\_Cross-Disciplinary\\_Comparison\\_of\\_the\\_Growth\\_of\\_OpenAccess\\_and\\_How\\_it\\_Increases\\_Research\\_Citation\\_Impact](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/39994327_Ten-Year_Cross-Disciplinary_Comparison_of_the_Growth_of_OpenAccess_and_How_it_Increases_Research_Citation_Impact)

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/273759022\\_The\\_Open\\_Access\\_Advantage\\_Considering\\_Citation\\_Article\\_Usage\\_and\\_Social\\_Media\\_Attention](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/273759022_The_Open_Access_Advantage_Considering_Citation_Article_Usage_and_Social_Media_Attention)

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