

30/07/14

### Open Access Licensing – STM's Model Licences

STM welcomes review and comment on its sample licences. Constructive debate and discussion will help the industry create appropriate open access licensing which meets the needs of authors and funders. The STM licenses are intended to be complementary to Creative Commons licenses, not competitive to or to replace them. Many of the Associations' Members use CC-BY or other Creative Commons license for their own Gold OA offerings, and will continue to do so. The broad background to STM's efforts in creating standard model user license clauses is that there are a variety of publisher-bespoke user licenses of open access content, in addition to the use of various CC licenses other than CC BY. In cases where CC licenses are not used, STM wanted to encourage model licenses and user language across the industry, for ease of use and understanding by authors. STM's goal was to create clear and concise licensing language, to address different options and concerns and to reduce ambiguity. Two specific examples are commercial reuse and data- and text- mining.

Some authors, societies and publishers have concerns about commercial use of journal articles, which is one reason why CC BY is not used in all circumstances. For example, medical journals and medical societies, and many of the authors that publish with such journals, have concerns about commercial entities that might want to associate advertising or promotional efforts with freely accessible articles. This is why we have added this as a defined commercial use. CC licenses are intended to be used across the entire creative sector, and are not designed specifically for publishing, or for academic and scholarly publishing. An example of this is user licenses that expressly authorize text and data mining—the CC license language focuses on copyright exceptions, but in the international context there are no explicit exceptions for TDM except in the UK and we wanted to address TDM rights unambiguously. We believe that the STM licenses and supplementary language works well with CC and CC approaches, and that there are broad commonalities.