

# **Assessing Open Access Scholarly Communication Practices of Early and Mid-Career Researchers in Canada**

Philips Ayeni<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>McGill University, CA

philips.ayeni@mail.mcgill.ca

## **ABSTRACT**

Open access (OA) to research outputs is fundamental to promoting equity of access to scientific information and knowledge. Despite the proven advantages of OA such as wider readership, increased citation, and research impact, the uptake in OA communication of research outputs in some disciplines has remained low. This may be a result of enduring opposition to OA publishing, lack of awareness, disciplinary norms or limited funding opportunities. In particular, research has shown that OA publishing in the Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) disciplines is beset with misconceptions and limited funding opportunities. However, studies that investigate factors that influence OA publishing of researchers in Canada is sparse. With theoretical underpinnings from Social Exchange and Social Capital theories, I employed a sequential explanatory mixed-methods design. This aimed at providing a better understanding of the factors that influence OA scholarly communication practices of early and mid-career researchers in Canada. Data collection was in two phases. In phase one, I collected 228 web-based survey data and employed correlation and multiple regression analyses to test research hypotheses. In phase two, I conducted semi-structured interviews with 20 professors. The interview data will be analyzed using inductive Thematic Analysis approach. Findings from this study might help provide strategic ways to achieving the ideals of OA in Canada and elsewhere, particularly in the HSS disciplines.

## **ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS**

Scholarly communications

## **AUTHOR KEYWORDS**

Scholarly communication; open access; publishing practices; researchers; Canada.