Nobel prize winners join calls to open research to all

More than 12,000 academics including two Nobel laureates have signed a petition urging the European commission to make publicly funded academic research available for free on the internet. ...

A year ago the EC published an independent report showing the price of scientific journals rose 200-300% beyond inflation between 1975 and 1995. The market, the study said, was worth up to $1.1bn (£5.6bn) a year.

The report recommended that the European Union should follow the lead of many research funders, both public and charitable, who publish articles in scholarly journals that are free to be read by anyone shortly after publication.

Russell, head of the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers, says: "Even open access lobbyists agree that author archiving will cause subscription cancellations and journals to go out of business.

There are some things which are so self-evidently right and good that it's hard to imagine how anyone could disagree with you. The "open access" academic journal movement is one of those things. It is a no-brainer.

What is going on?

SHERPA Seminar: Open Access, Journals, Archiving, Mandates and what it all means to you!