

JACS Au and International Open Access Week 2022

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As *JACS Au* approaches the 2 year anniversary of our first issue of volume one, we commemorate International Open Access Week—October 24–30, 2022—and reflect on how the journal has continued to make its mark on open access publishing.

In our editorial for International Open Access week last year¹ we talked about how the journal was meeting the needs of the chemical science community by making high quality content open and free to read for anyone with Internet access, thus helping to build structural equity, which was the focus of International Open Access Week in 2021. This year, the theme for International Open Access Week is “Open for Climate Justice.” The idea behind this theme is that open access can make it markedly easier for knowledge to be shared in a more equitable manner, thus acting as a vehicle towards tackling and mitigating the effects of climate change.² According to the University of California Center for Climate Justice, climate justice seeks to address the root causes of climate change while offering lasting, sustainable solutions, and one of the core pillars of this movement is the transition away from fossil fuel-based systems to more renewable-based systems.³

Indeed, as an open access journal, *JACS Au* is at the forefront of this effort. Some of the most read and cited papers in the journal over the last 18 months relate to the conversion of plastic to fuels at relatively low temperatures.^{4,5} Other popular topics published in the journal over the same period include CO₂ capture and conversion^{6–9} and solar cells,^{10–12} all demonstrating *JACS Au's* role in advancing topics that are geared towards combating the negative effects of climate change.

When *JACS Au* launched last year, its goal was to publish high quality content in all areas of the chemical sciences at the level that has come to be expected of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society (JACS)*, all while being accessible to entities who cannot afford to pay for a subscription.¹³ Today, 22 issues and over 400 articles later, it is safe to say that we are well on our way to achieving this goal, and yet, we feel that this is still just the beginning.

The recent policy announcement by the United States government making federally funded research openly available by 2026¹⁴ is a clear indication of the continued shift in the direction of open access publishing, and *JACS Au* is well positioned to be a major player in this evolution.

We thank you, our authors and readers, for joining us as we continue to make important and excellent research available to all.

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<https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/jacsau.2c00549>

Notes

Views expressed in this editorial are those of the author and not necessarily the views of the ACS.

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