

A message to Conference organizers

If you are planning a conference for this year or beyond, the possibility of publication of papers in *Information Research* can act as a stimulus to participation, so [contact me](#) as soon as possible.

The benefits to the authors of journal publication are well known: journals generally have wider circulation than conference proceedings, and there is a greater probability of resulting citations. We also know that papers that are openly available on the Web are more likely to be used than those that are published in what Harnad has called 'toll access' journals. *Information Research* marries open access and journal publication and the papers published here are likely to be highly used. There is some evidence, also, that older papers that are openly available are more likely to be cited than those published in subscription journals. For example, [one paper in the first issue](#) of *Information Research* (in 1995, before it was peer-reviewed) has had more than 8,000 hits since 12 December 2003, when the counter was attached to the page.

Conferences often establish Web sites that are home to the papers presented, but these do not have a guaranteed life and frequently disappear when the organizer moves from the institution hosting the site, and the quality of papers presented can be variable.

An open access journal is the best way for authors to reach their intended audiences - as a Conference organizer, you also get maximum publicity, world wide, for your Conference.

Professor Tom Wilson
Editor in Chief

[Contents](#) [Home](#)
