Talking Points and Questions to ask Publishers about Digital Preservation:

This information should be helpful for librarians when they subscribe or renew access to publications. Publishers should include information on preservation services in their licenses, but please check with them if language is absent or unclear.

● Are you familiar with digital preservation? If no, please consult our Digital Preservation 101. If yes, does your organization have a specific contact person for any digital preservation concerns?

● Which digital preservation services do you use? This includes reference to CLOCKSS, LOCKSS, Portico, and the various national library projects such as the KB, the German National Library, and the Library of Congress.

● How frequently do you deposit content with these services?

● Do your journal contracts (and contracts to publish journals on behalf of societies or other third parties) include clauses that allow you to deposit the content for digital preservation purposes? If no, would you be willing to add language to contracts that enables this?

● Do you have a preservation policy?

● Do you deposit ebooks as well as journals? What other types of content do you deposit? If you have content that you do not currently deposit, have you had discussions about how that content might be preserved?

● Have you deposited digital backfiles with these services? If no, when did you first start depositing content for frontlist titles?

● Are errata and corrected versions of record preserved?

● Do your deposits include supplementary materials including datasets and any code needed to support reproducibility?
  - Have you heard of Code Ocean? Preserving reproducible code with CLOCKSS.
  - Dryad – Preservation Policy

● Have you checked the Keepers Registry to see what percentage of your content is covered by digital preservation entities? Here is a link to our Guide to the Keeper’s Registry.

● Are you active in industry groups that explore how digital preservation might evolve to best meet library needs? (For example, the ALA ALCTS Digital Preservation Interest Group.)

● Are you familiar with the term “trigger event” as it is used in the digital preservation context? Are you aware of the circumstances that might result in a trigger event for specific content?
  - Portico: Trigger Events
  - CLOCKSS: Trigger Events

Further Information:

● Digital Preservation 101
● Guide to the Keeper’s Registry

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