

Demystifying NIH Public Access Policy: Oceans of Opportunity for the Library

Public Access Policy

As of April 7, 2008, all grantees who receive funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are required to deposit all peer-reviewed articles arising from grant funding in PubMed Central (PMC). In January 2013, NIH announced that they would begin delaying renewal funding to researchers who are not in compliance with the Public Access Policy. However, many researchers are unaware of the Policy or do not realize they are not in compliance.

Common Misconceptions

The following are common misconceptions that lead to non-compliance:

Myth

- Journals automatically take care of PMC deposit and the author need not take any additional steps.
- PIs are only responsible for articles if they are an author or co-author.
- If a journal asks for an embargo period, the author must wait until that period has passed before submitting to PMC.

Fact

- Some journals deposit to PMC automatically, some upon request. Often authors must manage the whole process.
- PIs are responsible for *all* articles citing their grants, even if they're not an author.
- Articles are non-compliant if they don't have a PMCID 3 months after publication. Authors must submit upon acceptance and may specify the embargo period.

Impact of Library Services

Between January and June 2013, the UCLA Library offered instructional sessions to over 200 individuals and provided approximately 30 in-person and email consultations. The Library also maintains a LibGuide for the policy, which had 782 page views between January 1 and June 28, 2013. Overall compliance for all UCLA articles from April 7, 2008 to present increased from 77% on January 1, 2013 to 80% by July 1, 2013. Starting in March 2013, the number of non-compliant papers has decreased rather than increased each month for the first time since the policy's inception.

Unexpected Benefits

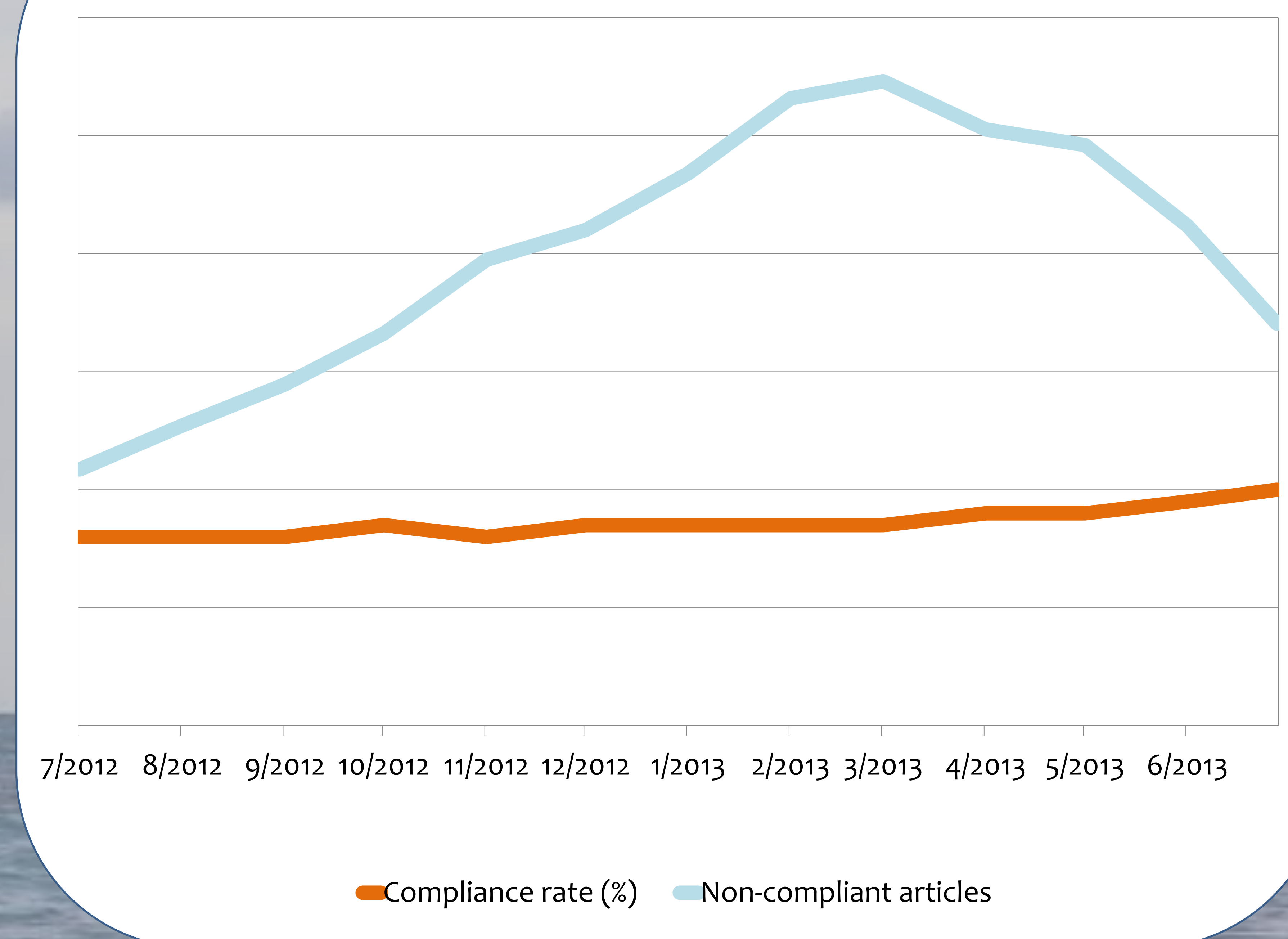
Conducting extensive outreach on the NIH Public Access Policy has led to some unexpected beneficial outcomes for the Library. Librarians have formed new relationships with staff in key campus offices, including the Office of Contract and Grant Administration and the Clinical and Translational Science Institute. In general, conducting outreach has increased awareness and visibility of library services.

Essential Tools

To help researchers manage compliance, librarians should familiarize themselves with the following tools (most of which include tutorials and help text):

- **MyNCBI Bibliography**
helps researchers manage compliance by showing compliance status for each article. Green, yellow, and red dots indicate articles that are compliant, in-process, and non-compliant.
- **NIH Manuscript Submission System (NIHMS)**
authors use their NIH login to upload manuscripts and approve PDF/HTML versions of the manuscript generated for PMC
- **NIH Public Access Compliance Monitor (PACM)**
displays a list of compliant, non-compliant, and in-process articles for an institution. Librarians should ask their local eRA administrator to issue them an eRA Commons login with the PACR role assigned

UCLA Compliance Trends, 7/2012 - 6/2013



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For links and more information, see <http://www.lisafederer.net/nih>