How can existing Open Access models work for humanities and social science research?

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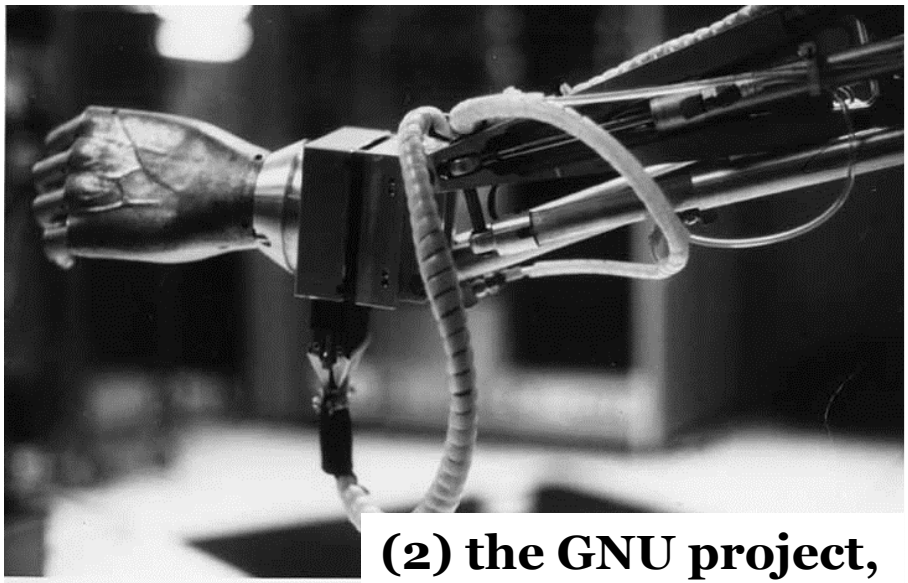
OPEN ACCESS —

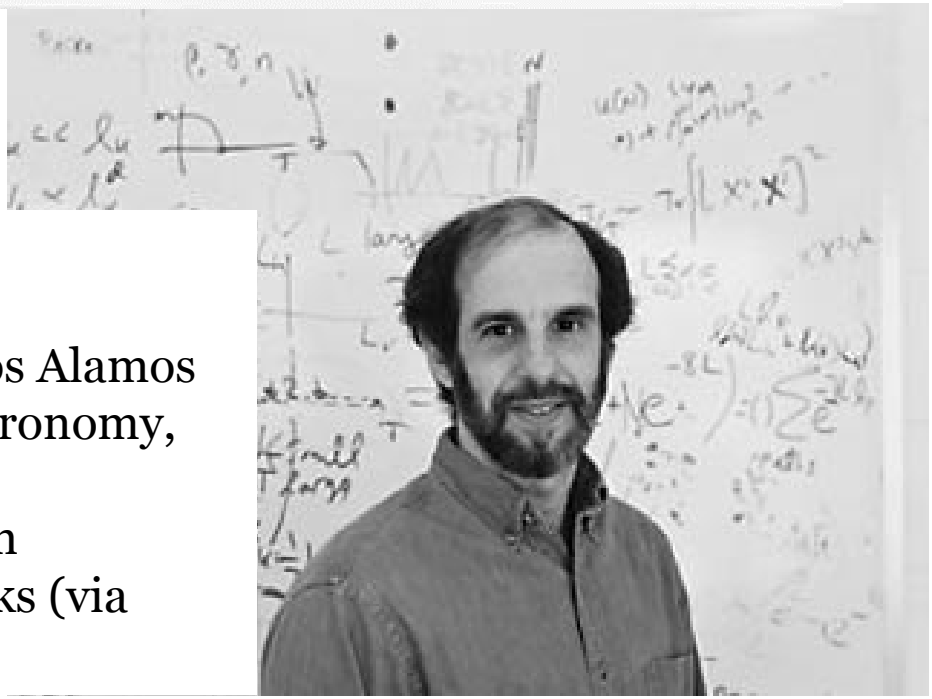
the principle that research should be accessible online, for free, immediately after publication — is improving the way scholarly information is shared.

Lessons from the Sciences

(1) Hacker culture, California, 1960s



(2) the GNU project, MIT A.I. Lab, 1980s



(3) arXiv, Cornell University Library, 1991-

- Founded by physicist Paul Ginsparg in 1991, Los Alamos
- Repository for pre-prints in maths, physics, astronomy, computer science
- Circulating scientific papers prior to publication
- Developed out of informal professional networks (via email)

Alluvium Journal:
Open access, short form articles published through WordPress

How do we fund open access?

- Open access is not free access
- Scale of open access publishing

(1) free labour & free submission

(2) advertising revenue

(3) pay on demand

(4) Article Processing Charge (APC)

(5) Library Consortia

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International Challenges

- Addressing the problem of access gaps
- OA is not universal access
- UNESCO's Global Open Access Portal (GOAP, 2011)
- International Conference of African Digital Libraries & Archives (ICADLA, 2009)
- Scarcity of expertise and resources
- Issue of OA journals not being internationally recognised

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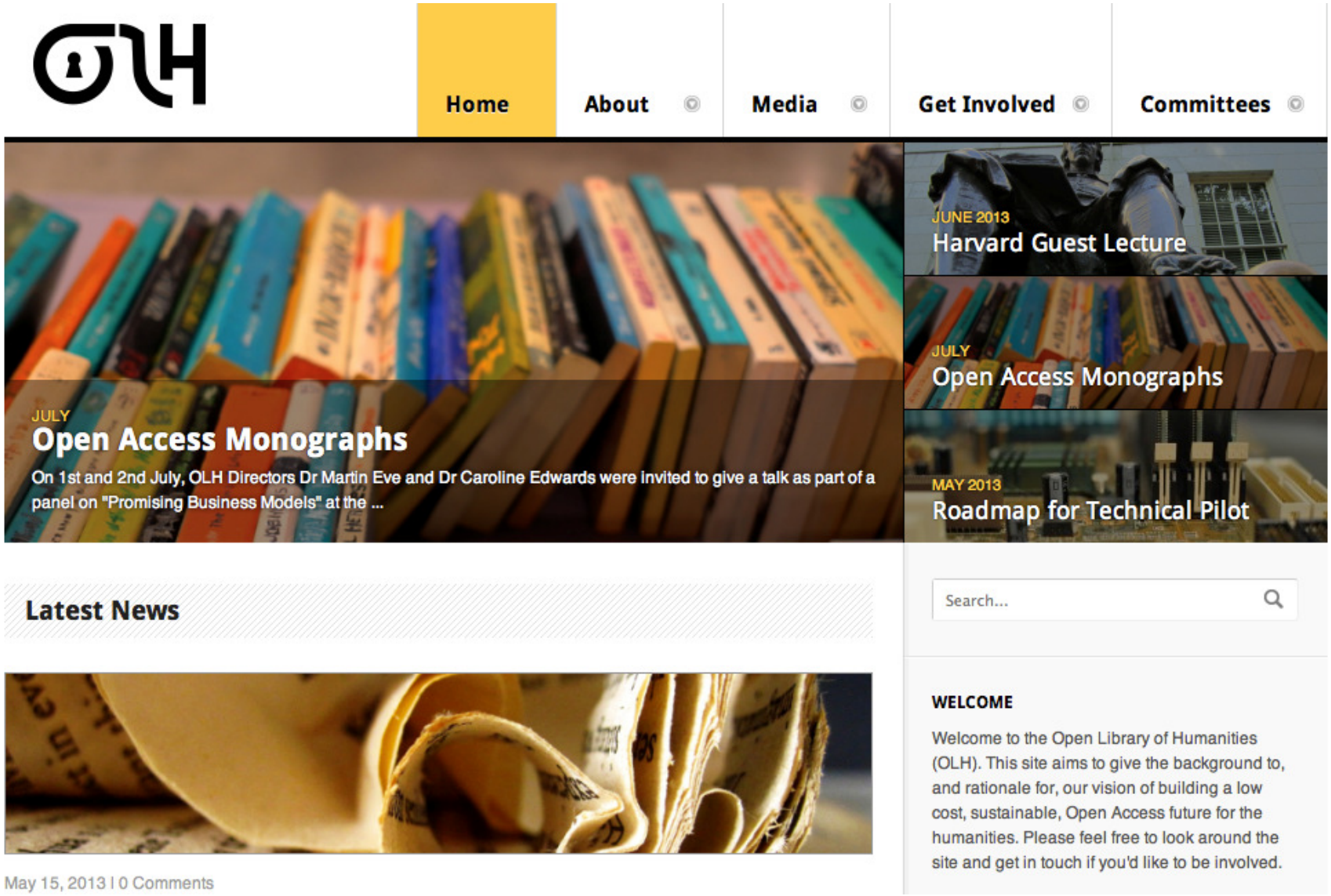
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