Open Scholarship Perspectives among Land Grant University Faculty

Land grant universities have moved from freely sharing research technologies to models that involve commercialization via licensing, yet a survey of land grant faculty showed strong support for more open access to science.

A study recently published in Agricultural and Environmental Letters examines the attitudes of land grant university faculty toward open science and open access to science and technologies developed from university research.

The authors found strong faculty support for open scientific inquiry and sharing of knowledge as well as low levels of participation in commercialization activities. Additionally, revenue from commercialization makes up a fairly small share of research funding for land grant university faculty.

The authors conclude that land grant universities may wish to re-evaluate the model for commercialization of university-discovered technologies.