



Open Access

Context and Perspectives

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Key Issues

- Why is Access to Scientific Knowledge Important?
- What Barriers Limit Access?
- What is Open Access?
- Initiatives that Call for Open Access
- Open Access Implementation
- Standards that Enable Open Access

Access to Scientific Knowledge

- Promotes the free exchange of ideas
- Enables future research and development
- Supports teaching and learning
- Improves the human condition

Barriers Limiting Access

- High cost of journals
- Technical infrastructure
 - Connectivity
 - Interoperability
- Legislative and legal issues (e.g. US DMCA, CETA, database)

Open Access

- A cost-effective way to disseminate and use information
- Is concern with scientific and research texts and data
- Works that are created with no expectation of direct monetary return

...Open Access

- Is intended to be free for readers, not free for producers
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- Does not mean that quality control is bypassed
- Operates within the current legal framework of copyright law.

Open Access Initiatives

- Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI)
- SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition)
- Public Library of Science (PLoS)
- Berlin Declaration, Wellcome Trust,

BOAI

- A statement of principle, strategy, and commitment to making research articles in all academic fields publicly available on the Internet
- Recommends two complementary strategies:
 - self-archiving in institutional/disciplinary repositories
 - open access journals.

Open Access Implementation: Examples

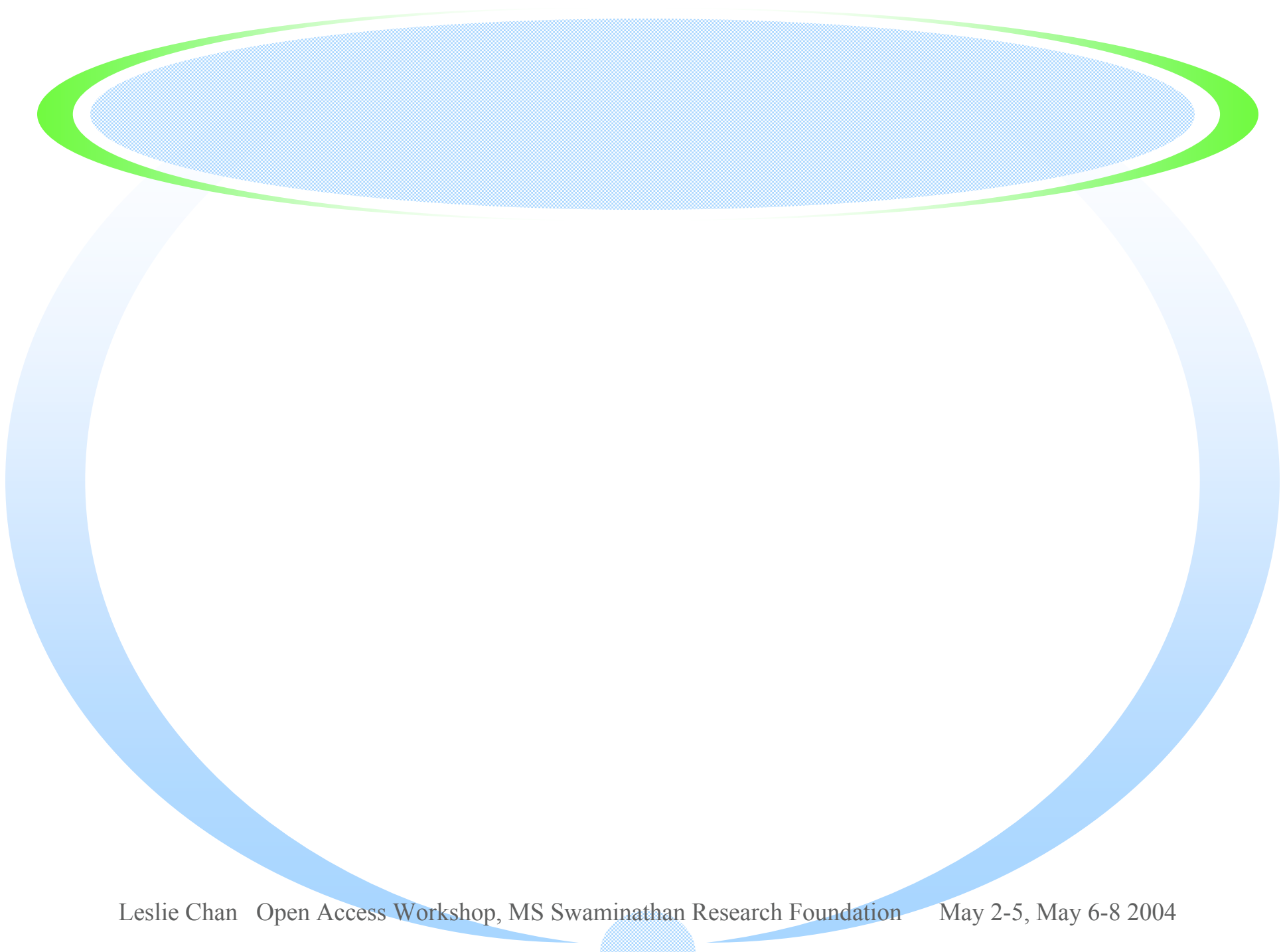
- Bioline International - journals and eprint archive
- MedKnow Publication
- PubMed Central
- BioMedCetral
- Institutional and Disciplinary Repositories

Standards that Enable OA

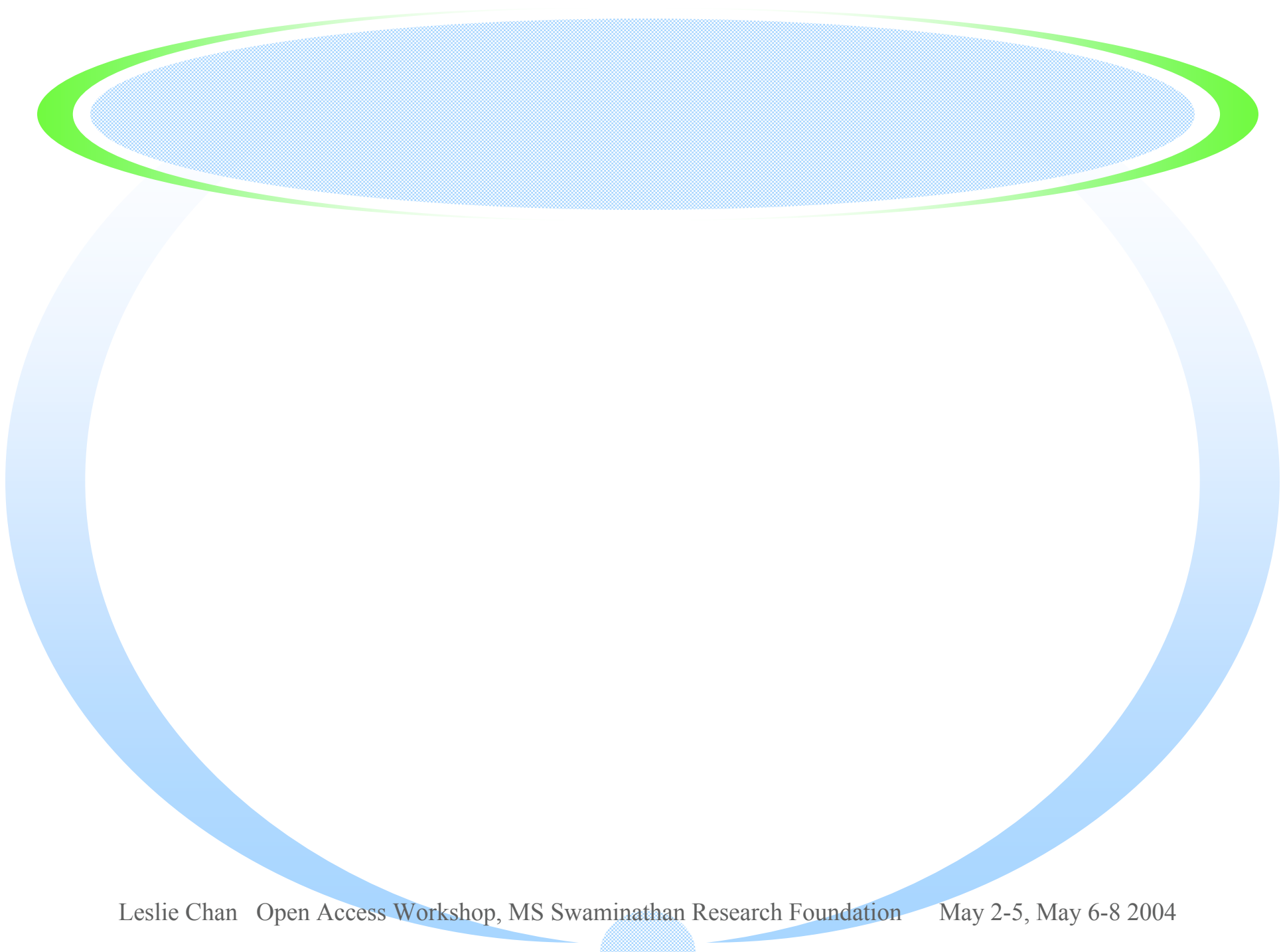
- The Web and its associated open technology
- Open Archive Initiatives Protocol and Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH)

Ultimate goal of Open Access

- Towards a truly global knowledge commons



Leslie Chan Open Access Workshop, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation May 2-5, May 6-8 2004



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