



HE Reform Conference  
Mexico 11-13 September 2019

Plenary Panel  
Digitalization- A Doubled Edged Sword?  
Maria Slowey  
Higher Education Research Centre



Open access....(re)defined?

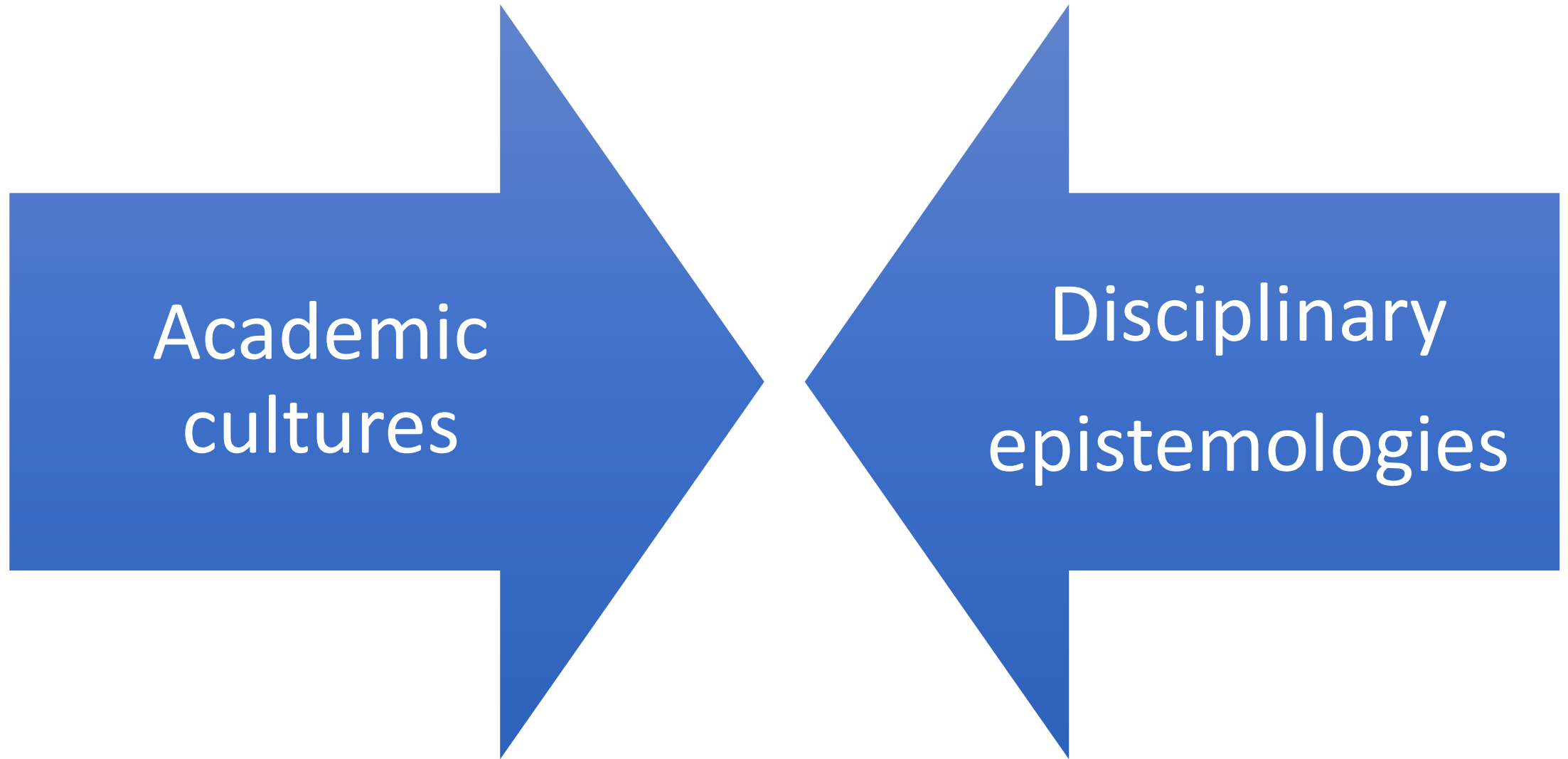
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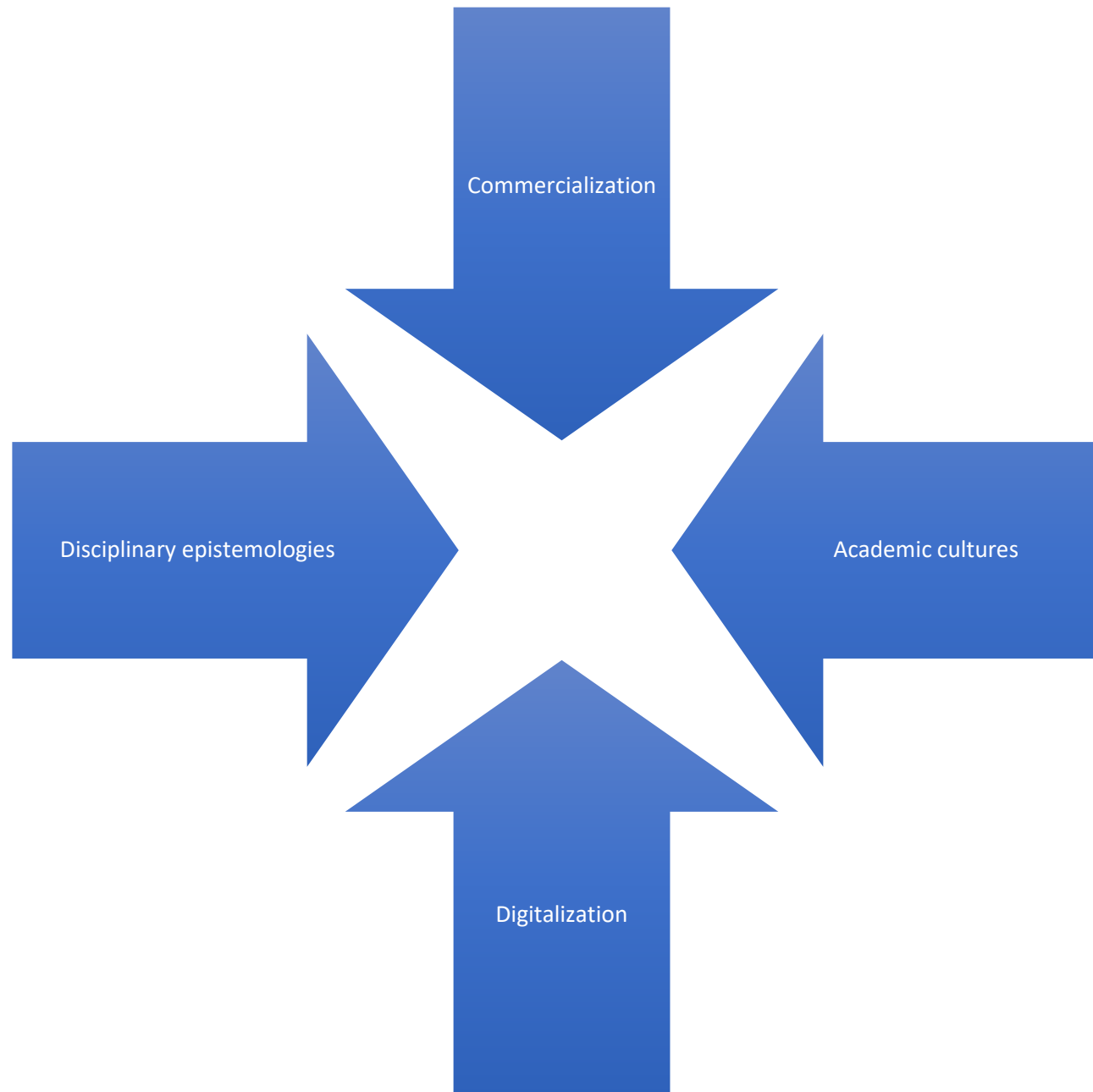
'Gold'- access

'Green'- access

# Academic Tribes and Territories

Beecher and Trowler (2001)





Who are the most ruthless capitalists in the western world?

Whose monopolistic practices make Walmart look like a corner shop and Rupert Murdoch a socialist?

While there are plenty of candidates, my vote goes not to the banks, the oil companies or the health insurers, but – wait for it – to academic publishers.

Theirs might sound like a fusty and insignificant sector. It is anything but. Of all corporate scams, the racket they run is most urgently in need of referral to the competition authorities.

George Monbiot, The Guardian (2015)

# Some (unsupported) assumptions Darley et al. (2014)

- that most high quality research is funded at a level to include article publication costs.
- that if cOAlition S enlists enough support it will have the financial leverage to ensure the transformational shift it desires
- that changing from a 'pay to read' to a 'pay to publish' model won't have behavioural effects.
- that article processing charges will be more transparent.
- that there will not be undesirable distributional effects on publication rates of researchers in less developed countries.
- that a single model will work for all disciplines. [LSEP]
- that other undesirable effects – on Learned Societies for example – are either unimportant, or can be met by other funding models. [LSEP]

# FOR DISCUSSION? THREE PERSPECTIVES ON THESE DEVELOPMENTS

- Ethical
- Financial
- Practical



	STUDIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION		HIGHER EDUCATION		HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	
Contributions by country top 10	UK	108	USA	67	Australia	155
	Australia	67	England	46	New Zealand	58
	USA	51	Australia	37	England	42
	Scotland	22	China	36	South Africa	19
	China	20	Germany	26	Canada	16
	Germany	17	South Africa	16	USA	15
	South Africa	16	Canada	15	Spain	10
	Netherlands	13	Spain	14	Scotland	8
	New Zealand	13	Denmark	13	Sweden	8
	Spain	12	Norway	13	China	7+