The Institutional Repository (IR) is obsolete. Its flawed foundation cannot be repaired. The IR must be phased out and replaced with viable alternatives… After twenty years of promoting IRs, there is no grassroots support. Scholars submit papers to an IR because they have to, not because they want to… I was convinced IRs would disrupt scholarly communication. I was wrong… Green OA must pivot towards alternatives that have viable paths forward: personal repositories, disciplinary repositories, social networks, and innovative combinations of all three.
I argued that green OA has “failed as a strategy”. And I do believe this. I gave some of the reasons why I do… the most obvious of which is that green OA advocates assumed that once IRs were created they would quickly be filled by researchers self-archiving their work. Yet seventeen years after the Santa Fe meeting, and 22 years after Stevan Harnad began his long campaign to persuade researchers to self-archive, it is clear there remains little or no appetite for doing so, even though researchers are more than happy to post their papers on commercial sites like Academia.edu and ResearchGate.
Clifford Lynch (2017)

The linkage between journal article open access and institutional repository agendas has been a mistake… I believe [IRs] must be disconnected from the OA agenda for journal articles…
Stevan Harnad (2016)

...I fought the fight and lost and now I've left the #OA arena
Gold progress / initiatives

- SCOAP3 (2012-)
- Open Library of Humanities (2015-)
- OA2020 - Europe and U.S.
- University of Kansas International Symposium, “Envisioning a World Beyond APCs/BPCs” (2016)
- Funder initiatives (e.g. Wellcome Open Research, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Gates Foundation)
What can libraries do?

Scenarios from the Harvard report “Converting Scholarly Journals to Open Access: A Review of Approaches and Experiences”:

- Low-cost infrastructure and volunteer effort (hosting journals / library publishing)
- Bundling APCs with subscription licenses
- Joining consortium or library partnership subsidy (e.g. SCOAP3, Open Library of Humanities)

Plus (not in report):

- Paying APCs through institutional Open Access funds