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November 24, 2008

TO: Dr. Daniel Falvey  
Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee

FROM: Kenneth G. Holum   
Chair, University Senate

SUBJECT: Resolution on Open Access, Online Journals, and the Crisis in Peer  
Reviewed Publications (Senate Document Number 08-09-14)

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requests that the Faculty Affairs Committee work to create a Senate resolution regarding peer reviewed publications, online journals, and open access. The general publications issue was considered within the Faculty Affairs Committee in 2005. These deliberations resulted in a report entitled, "A Resolution Addressing the Crisis Facing Peer Reviewed Publications," but this report was never discussed by the SEC or the full Senate. The Library Faculty have also been considering open access and online publication at length. Their work led to a "Resolution on Open Access and Author Fees" in April 2008. These two items together might form a strong foundation on how to deal with the issues.

The SEC would like the Faculty Affairs Committee to work with the Library Faculty to create a resolution that encompasses the ideas of both the Faculty Affairs report and the Library's resolution. This could be aided by the creation of a Faculty Affairs working group that includes members of the Library faculty.

The SEC believes that a strong statement can be made by a Senate resolution about these issues. It is our hope that this resolution will assist President Mote and the University community in seeking the best interests of the University with regard to publications issues.

Please find attached, copies of the reports from the 2005 Faculty Affairs Committee, the Library Faculty resolution, as well as other supporting documentation. We ask that you submit your report and recommendations to the Senate Office no later than April 6, 2009. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Reka Montfort in the Senate Office, extension 5-5804.

Attachments

KGH/rm