

**Resolution on Open Access to Scholarly Publications.
Faculty Affairs Committee Draft of 2/27/09**

WHEREAS the research mission of the University depends on both ability of faculty, staff, and students to access scholarly works and having effective means to disseminate scholarship produced at the University, and

WHEREAS the cost of scholarly journals continually rises in price faster than inflation, and

WHEREAS these cost increases are unsustainable and thus threaten the ability of the University Libraries to provide access to scholarly publications, and

WHEREAS certain publishers pressure or require authors to relinquish their copyrights and even prohibit or discourage open access to preprints or reprints of these works, and

WHEREAS much of the research at the University is publicly funded, and

WHEREAS the content disseminated by these publishers is often produced, reviewed, and edited by faculty and other researchers, usually with no compensation, and

WHEREAS several alternative models, including the National Institutes of Health PubMed Central and the Digital Repository at the University of Maryland (DRUM) archive have been shown to be effective in providing open access to scholarly publications,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- (1) The University Senate urges the President to work collectively with other universities, research institutions, and other appropriate entities to establish and advocate for nationwide open access policies, such as those recently adopted by the National Institutes of Health, that would apply to all disciplines.
- (2) The University Senate urges the Libraries to continue to inform the faculty about the pricing and open access policies of the journals in its collection and, where possible, to assist faculty in negotiating reasonable copyright and open access arrangements.
- (3) The University Senate encourages faculty, students, and other researchers, where practical and not detrimental to their careers, to (a) publish in open access journals or journals that make their contents openly accessible shortly after publication, (b) negotiate with the journals in which they publish for the right to deposit articles in an open access repository, and (c) consider the price of the journal as one factor in the decision on where to publish.
- (4) The University Senate encourages faculty, students, and other researchers to deposit all preprints and reprints of articles, when permitted, in an open access repository such as the DRUM archive or, where appropriate, in discipline-specific repositories such as PubMed Central.