

October 3, 2013

University Libraries Faculty Assembly

Support of Open Access Dissemination of Research Resolution

WHEREAS, the primary vision of University Libraries of Georgia Regents University is to lead transformations affecting research and scholarly communication, teaching and learning, and clinical care; and

WHEREAS, the products of faculty scholarship are generated for the public benefit, are supported in part by nonprofit or public agencies, and are created, peer reviewed, and edited by faculty; and

WHEREAS, the costs to academic libraries of journals published by commercial publishers have risen far more rapidly than inflation, thereby limiting free and open exchange of scholarly information; and

WHEREAS, the publication agreements offered by some publishers limit authors' rights to use their own work in their teaching and research and/or to archive their work in an openly accessible repository; and

WHEREAS, the University Libraries hosts an online, freely accessible, and searchable repository, *Scholarly Commons*, for the dissemination and preservation of scholarly works published by members of the University Libraries Faculty Assembly; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the University Libraries commit:

1. To disseminate our scholarship as broadly as possible in accordance with open access principles and whenever possible, make our scholarship available in digital format, online, and free of charge.
2. To deposit a final version of scholarly works in the University's digital repository, as soon as possible, recognizing that some publishers may impose an embargo period. Materials deposited in the digital repository are granted a Creative Commons "Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 United States" license.
3. To engage in good faith negotiations with publishers when policies do not allow authors to make their works freely available online, including the use of an addendum to publication agreement that allows the deposit of a pre- or post-print version of scholarly works in a digital repository.
4. To promote open access on campus and assist scholars in making their research openly available.



Background and Rationale

Georgia Regents University is recognized as one of only four public comprehensive research institutions in the state of Georgia and strives to be a top-tier university that is a destination of choice for education, health care, discovery, creativity, and innovation.

The resolution seeks to promote University Libraries faculty members' awareness of open access initiatives and authors' rights, such as adding an addendum to publication agreements, in support of making publications available in a digital format, online, and free of charge.

The Libraries strive to become a center of scholarly communication for the enterprise, and in support of this goal, this resolution calls upon the Libraries to participate in open access activities and to communicate the use of open access dissemination of research in a changing scholarly environment.

The Libraries support open access initiatives in numerous ways, including:

Hosting *Scholarly Commons*, the University's open access digital repository.

Participating in the internationally recognized Open Access Week, a week of planned activities, including educational opportunities and presentations, to give the enterprise an opportunity to learn about the potential benefits of open access, and to help inspire wider participation in helping to make open access a new norm in scholarship and research.

Implementing an Open Access Plan, which outlines background information of the history of open access, further development of *Scholarly Commons*, an open access communication strategy, and enterprise wide educational opportunities.

The University Libraries requests that the University Senate consider adopting a similar resolution in support of open access and scholarly publishing alternatives.