

Class C Resolution: Support for UW Libraries' Bargaining Priorities in Their Negotiations with Elsevier and Other "Big Deal" Scholarly Journal Subscriptions

WHEREAS UW Libraries' ("Libraries") current subscription arrangement with Elsevier is scheduled to end on December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS subscription costs and increases, both current and projected, imperil the funding available for the Libraries' other collection-development and service needs; and

WHEREAS Elsevier charges Article Processing Charges to authors for open-access articles on top of the subscription charges paid by the Libraries; and

WHEREAS Elsevier's "Big Deal" inhibits the Libraries' freedom to adjust their subscriptions and spend to address budget needs and changes in scholarship; and

WHEREAS Elsevier is leveraging its profits (37 percent in 2018) to acquire and control key tools to enable open access scholarship and resource sharing; and

WHEREAS Elsevier uses non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) to obscure its contractual terms with universities and hinder free, transparent negotiations; and

WHEREAS Elsevier imposes limitations that hinder authors' abilities to share their articles openly with other researchers and with the public at large, contrary to our goals as a public institution: and

WHEREAS peer institutions (including UC, UVA, UNC, FSU, and the national university systems of Germany, Norway, and Sweden) have cancelled their "Big Deal" packages with Elsevier in response to Elsevier's business and negotiating practices; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the UW Faculty Senate endorses the Libraries' negotiation and licensing priorities as follows:

1. Bringing down subscription costs and increases to a sustainable level that will not imperil other collection and service needs;
2. Ending NDAs to allow the Libraries to disclose their contractual terms and permit greater market transparency;
3. Allowing interlibrary loan to facilitate resource sharing;
4. Protecting the rights of users to share articles with students and colleagues;
5. Ensuring the privacy and data security of all users;
6. Protecting the ability of students and researchers to continue to access journals and articles;
7. Supporting the University's Open Access policies by allowing re-use and embargo-free deposit rights and protecting researchers' copyright in their own research;
8. Enabling greater market flexibility and responsiveness by negotiating contracts on a 3-year basis;
9. Providing equitable service and access to information for all our library users.

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
May 6, 2019

Approved by:
Faculty Senate
May 16, 2019