



Class C Bulletin

Resolution Concerning the UW Open Access Repository & Request for Advice on an Open Access Policy
April 30, 2015

Class C Resolution adopted at the April 23, 2015, Faculty Senate Meeting

WHEREAS, the primary mission of the University of Washington is the advancement, dissemination and preservation of knowledge; and

WHEREAS, dissemination of academic research by deposit of authors' copies of published articles in Open Access repositories (that enable anyone with internet access to read the articles without financial, legal, or technical barriers) is associated with increases in the impact, visibility and use of that research [[view a bibliography of relevant studies](#)]; and

WHEREAS, the University of Washington Libraries has established an online, freely accessible and searchable Open Access repository, *ResearchWorks at the University of Washington (ResearchWorks)*, for the dissemination and preservation of scholarly works published by members of the University community [[view ResearchWorks](#)]; and

WHEREAS, use of *ResearchWorks* by University of Washington researchers to disseminate their research is currently obstructed by the limited functionality of the repository, and by the absence of a University-wide Open Access policy, and

WHEREAS, University of Washington Faculty, Students and Staff have a long-standing interest in enabling Open Access to scholarly articles produced by University Faculty, for example

- 2007: The University of Washington Office of Research issued a Statement of Position encouraging faculty to work towards rapid, free, voluntary dissemination of scholarly works to their peers and the public-at-large through open-access publications [[view the Statement of Position](#)];
- 2009: The University of Washington Faculty Senate approved Class C Bulletin No 481 recommending that the University of Washington (1) prepare for a future in which academic publications are increasingly available by open access (2) maintain and further develop *ResearchWorks* and related services to enable faculty to disseminate their scholarly work without financial or copyright barriers [[view the Class C Bulletin](#)];
- 2015 : The Graduate and Professional Student Senate resolved to encourage faculty to adopt an open access publications policy that facilitates free and public access to the scholarly peer reviewed articles produced by University of Washington students, staff, and faculty [[view the resolution](#)]; and

WHEREAS, there is scope for enhancing *ResearchWorks* to provide a world-class Open Access repository to support the dissemination of University of Washington research, and raise the impact and visibility of the University's research; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a University-wide policy to enable the University to work with publishers and other universities to simplify procedures to enable deposit of scholarly articles in an Open Access repository; and

WHEREAS, among University of Washington Faculty and Staff there is substantial scholarly expertise of international renown on Open Access issues, including economics, bibliometrics, recommendation systems, and legal analysis; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate requests the following:

That the Provost direct the Vice Provost of Digital Initiatives, Dean of the University Libraries to develop an open access publication policy for recommendation to the University. In doing so, the following shall be among the issues considered:

1. The University of Washington Libraries and UW IT conduct a needs and integration assessment to determine what resources are necessary to enhance *ResearchWorks* to the level of a world-class Open Access repository.
2. The Provost's Office provide resources to the University of Washington Libraries to support this needs and integration assessment, and when the assessment is complete, further support the expeditious implementation of the recommendations.
3. The Intellectual Property Management Advisory Committee and the Senate's Special Committee on Intellectual Property promptly investigate and report to the Faculty Senate on options for implementing a robust and sustainable Open Access policy that is both sensitive to Faculty needs and concerns, and consistent with existing University policies and state and federal legislation.
4. Faculty and staff with expertise in Open Access economics, human-centered design, bibliometrics, recommendation systems, legal expertise and other specializations relevant to building a world-class Open Access repository and implementing an Open Access policy contribute to the enhancement of *ResearchWorks* and contribute to the implementation of a policy via the relevant University committees.

Submitted by:
Faculty Council on Research
April 6, 2015

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
April 6, 2015

Approved by:
Faculty Senate
April 23, 2015