Open Access Task Force

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Faculty Council
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The objectives

- To allow the fruits of faculty research and scholarship to be disseminated as widely as possible
- To protect the intellectual property rights of faculty
- While respecting the diversity of scholarly communication practices across the university
- Achieved with a (narrow) rights-retention policy
Resolution 2015-9 (in 4 parts)

1.1 The Faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to disseminating the fruits of its research and scholarship as widely as possible.

1.2 In keeping with that commitment, the Faculty Council endorses the following University policy applicable to all scholarly articles authored or coauthored by persons while a member of the Faculty and whose copyright is held by the Faculty member under University policy.

1.3 This policy shall not apply to any articles completed before the adoption of this policy or to any articles for which the Faculty member entered into an incompatible licensing or assignment agreement before the adoption of this policy.
2.1 Each Faculty member grants to the University a nonexclusive, noncommercial, irrevocable, worldwide license to exercise, and to authorize others to exercise, any and all rights under copyright relating to each of his or her scholarly articles, in any medium, for the purpose of making their articles freely and widely available in an open access repository.

2.2 The Provost or Provost’s designate will waive application of the license for a particular article or delay access for a specified period of time upon express direction by a Faculty member.
Resolution 2015-9 cont’d

- 3.1 Each Faculty member will provide an electronic copy of each article so licensed, ordinarily the author’s final edited version, at no charge, as directed by the Provost’s Office, to be made available to the public in an open-access repository.

- 3.2 The Scholarly Communications Office of the University Library or other office designated by the Provost will be responsible for interpreting this policy, resolving disputes concerning its interpretation and application, and recommending changes from time to time.

- 3.3. The Chair of the Faculty will appoint a committee to review this policy no later than three years after its adoption and present a report to the Faculty.
Resolution 2015-9 cont’d

- 4.1. The Faculty Council is hopeful that the foregoing policy will be adopted and implemented by the University by January 1, 2016.
Task Force outcomes

- The resolution is a recommendation from Faculty Council to the Provost for the University to adopt and implement this policy
  - Informational session today
  - Vote scheduled for April 24 Faculty Council meeting
- See the Task Force Report for more background, FAQ, etc.
  - [http://faccoun.unc.edu/committees-2/ad-hoc-committees/open-access-task-force/](http://faccoun.unc.edu/committees-2/ad-hoc-committees/open-access-task-force/)
If the Faculty Council approves the resolution

- And the Provost accepts the recommendation
- UNC can provide free, non-commercial access to scholarly articles authored by faculty irrespective of later copyright transfers
- Takes advantage of existing infrastructure: the Carolina Digital Repository (CDR)
What institutions have similar policies?

- Dartmouth
- Duke
- Harvard
- MIT
- Princeton
- University of California
- University of Kansas
- And dozens of other universities in the U.S.
How the TF came to its conclusions

- **Charge**
  - *To investigate how a university-wide open access policy would affect different disciplines at Carolina, and then make a recommendation on an institutional policy*

- **35 members**
  - 12 depts in the College
  - 11 other Schools
  - The Libraries, UNC Press, 2 grad students
  - liaisons to Offices of FG, Counsel, Provost
  - Facilitation from Center for Faculty Excellence
Who does not have access?

- You, to your own works, if you transfer copyright, except via fair use or publisher largesse
- UNC, to preserve and showcase the work of its faculty
- Our sometimes invisible readership
  - Less wealthy institutions (here and abroad)
  - K-12 teachers and students
  - UNC alumni and donors
  - Independent scholars, writers and journalists
  - Legal and health professionals
  - Researchers in private industry
  - Policy makers, *etc.*
Testimonials from Harvard’s DASH repository

- “I am a practicing economist from Canada, recently relocated to Mexico. I enjoy having access to your full text articles so that I can keep up to date with the latest thinking/research in economics. A huge thanks to Harvard for its open access!!”

- “I am seeking a second bachelor's degree and often need journal articles to assist with writing my papers. As a member of the military, my education is covered through my GI Bill but extras, such as paying for the use of journal articles, is not. I appreciate this article being offered for use at no cost to the user.”

- “It is always a major challenge to find journal articles and other credible sources to use as classroom materials in my high school English class. My school is very small and doesn't have any subscriptions or access to databases, and it is often impossible to get to the library (lesson planning can happen at very odd hours). This article is great preparation for a unit on literature and social movements! It is also excellent to have access to these articles during research paper season!

- 100s of others at [https://osc.hul.harvard.edu/dash/stories](https://osc.hul.harvard.edu/dash/stories)
Questions and concerns (addressed in FAQs)

- Definition of a scholarly article
- Version to submit and timing of submission
- Burden
- Opt out provision
- Preserving journal choice
- Tenure, promotion, enforcement
- Impact on society journals
- Coauthorship, and students/postdocs/staff
- Use of other outlets (repository or OA journal)
“Digital and Open Futures in the Humanities”

- Special seminar by Dr. Martin Paul Eve (Open Library of Humanities)
  - Tues, March 24, 12-1:30pm
  - Davis Library Rm 214
- Jointly sponsored by
  - UNC Press
  - Scholarly Comm. Working Group
  - Open Access Task Force