

# Cornell University Assembly

## UA Resolution # 10 Investigating an Open Access Policy for Cornell

1 **Sponsored by: David Bunck, Executive Vice Chair - University Assembly**  
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3 **Whereas**, it is in the mission of Cornell to “preserve and disseminate knowledge,” [i]  
4 and the widest dissemination of knowledge benefits not only individual scholars and  
5 their discipline, but more importantly, the people of New York and the world,  
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7 **Whereas**, the Faculty Senate has passed resolutions urging “faculty to deposit preprint  
8 or postprint copies of articles in an open access repository” [ii] and supporting  
9 “alternatives to commercial venues for scholarly communication” [iii],  
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11 **Whereas**, the University Library is actively engaged in advancing open access to  
12 scholarly work including the Library’s open-source publishing platform [iv] and a pilot  
13 fund [v] designated by the Library and the Office of the Provost to pay the fees to  
14 publish in open-access journals in the absence of other funding sources,  
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16 **Whereas**, the Library has established eCommons [vi] as a repository for the  
17 University’s digital works and owns and operates arXiv.org [vii], home to over 900,000  
18 electronic pre-prints in physics, mathematics, computer science, quantitative biology,  
19 quantitative finance and statistics,  
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21 **Whereas**, many universities [viii], states [ix], and non-profit [x] and federal funding  
22 agencies [xi] have adopted open access publishing policies,  
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24 **Whereas**, the University Library Board as well as administrators of eCommons are in  
25 support of broadening the scope of Cornell’s open access repositories  
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27 **Be it therefore resolved**, a committee will be established to investigate the feasibility  
28 of and campus support for implementing an open access policy (included in the  
29 resolution’s appendix) wherein each faculty member grants to Cornell permission to  
30 make available her or his scholarly articles and to exercise the copyright in those  
31 articles,  
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33 **Resolved**, that this committee will at a minimum consist of one representative from  
34 each of the following: the University Assembly, the Graduate and Professional Student  
35 Assembly, the University Faculty Library Board, the University Library, the Office of the  
36 Vice Provost for Research, and the Faculty Senate. Any other member of the Cornell  
37 campus community (student, staff, faculty) may also be part of this committee,  
38

39 **Resolved**, that this committee will consider items such as but not limited to: how an  
40 open access policy would benefit the Cornell community including its students, alumni,  
41 faculty/staff, and different departments, colleges, and disciplines; how an open access  
42 publishing policy can be interfaced with data sharing plans (mandated for National

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43 Science Foundation funded work) [xii] for greater functionality of both the published  
44 work and the corresponding data, uniquely positioning Cornell as a leader in  
45 information access; how as the land grant institution of New York, such a policy could  
46 allow Cornell to contribute to the implementation of open access policies proposed [ix]  
47 for research funded by New York State; how the Cornell community would benefit from  
48 such a policy in light of proposed open access policies from federal funding agencies; the  
49 short and long term savings and costs associated with implementing an open access  
50 policy (e.g., personnel, hardware, journal subscription fees); how to streamline the  
51 deposition of works into an open access repository owned and operated by Cornell; how  
52 to implement such a policy such as by a phased rollout by college or department; and  
53 how to streamline opt-out waivers from such a policy; and how to inform publishers of  
54 such a policy,  
55

56 **Resolved**, that is task force will report its findings to the University Assembly no later  
57 than nine months from the date of this resolution.  
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## 59 **Respectfully Submitted,**

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61 David Bunck  
62 Executive Vice Chair  
63 University Assembly  
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## 65 **References:**

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69 [ii] “Resolution from the University Faculty Library Board Concerning Scholarly  
70 Publishing,” Cornell Faculty Senate, May 11, 2005,  
71 [http://www.theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/meetings/agendas\\_minutes/04\\_05/051105/LibCommResol511.pdf](http://www.theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/meetings/agendas_minutes/04_05/051105/LibCommResol511.pdf)  
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74 [iii] “Resolution regarding the University Library’s Policies on Serials Acquisitions, with  
75 Special Reference to Negotiations with Elsevier,” Cornell Faculty Senate, Dec. 17, 2003,  
76 [http://www.theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/meetings/agendas\\_minutes/03\\_04/121703/LibraryResolution1217.pdf](http://www.theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/meetings/agendas_minutes/03_04/121703/LibraryResolution1217.pdf)  
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79 [iv] DPubS (Digital Publishing System), <http://dpubs.org/about.html>  
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81 [v] Cornell Open-Access Publication (COAP) Fund,  
82 <http://www.library.cornell.edu/compact/coap.html>  
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84 [vi] eCommons@Cornell, <http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/about.html>  
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86 [vii] arXiv.org, <http://arXiv.org>  
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- 88 [viii] “Open Access Policies at Other Universities,”  
89 <http://libraries.mit.edu/scholarly/mit-open-access/open-access-at-mit/mit-open-access-policy/mit-faculty-open-access-policy-faq/other-university-policies/>  
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- 92 [ix] California bill AB 609: <http://sparc.arl.org/advocacy/state/ab609>  
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- 95 [x] “Howard Hughes Medical Institute Public Access,”  
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97 Policy,” <http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Policy/Spotlight-issues/Open-access/Policy/index.htm>  
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- 100 [xi] “NIH Public Access Policy Details,” <http://publicaccess.nih.gov/policy.htm>  
101 “Research Councils UK Policy on Open Access,”  
102 <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/outputs/>  
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- 104 [xii] “NSF Data Sharing Policy,” <https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp>  
105 “[Cornell] Research Data Management Services Group FAQs,”  
106 <https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/rdmsgweb/nsf-data-management-plan-faq>