



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**Resolution of the University Senate in Support of Open Access Publishing for  
Faculty Publications**

**WHEREAS:** Open access publishing and archiving is central to the long-term viability of the dissemination of scholarship; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access publishing is compatible with rigorous peer-review and scholarly evaluation, and there are a range of metrics available to demonstrate the impact of open access journals; and

**WHEREAS:** Freely accessible scholarship benefits the academy and society at large; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access fulfills federal grant mandates for research dissemination; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access showcases SDSU scholarship and thus enhances the university's scholarly and scientific research impact; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access contributes to global information sharing by making materials available to scholars outside of the United States who do not have access to expensive databases; and

**WHEREAS:** SDSU has established a strategic commitment to promoting transborder scholarship and research partnerships with higher education institutions in Latin America; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access increases access to publications for the SDSU community, given sharply rising costs for online journals and databases; and

**WHEREAS:** Open access publishing by faculty assists the affordable course materials goals laid out in the 2016 University Senate Resolution in support of Open Educational Resources as a means to reduce textbook costs; and

**WHEREAS:** A campus-wide open access initiative would provide SDSU faculty with leverage to negotiate more favorable copyright terms with publishers;

**Therefore, be it resolved that members of the San Diego State University Senate:**

1. Encourage faculty to publish in peer-reviewed journals meeting college and department retention, tenure, and promotion criteria that allow open access archiving of pre or post print versions or peer-reviewed journals that are entirely open access; and
2. Affirm the rights of faculty to publish in the publications of their choice; and
3. Acknowledge the value of peer-reviewed open access publications that meet college and department criteria in tenure and promotion standards; and
4. Support models for scholarly publishing that promote open access and are consistent with standards for peer review and scholarly excellence; and
5. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT** that the University Senate Faculty Affairs Committee work in collaboration with the University Library to develop an SDSU Open Access Policy.

**RATIONALE:** San Diego State University supports the Mission of the California State University, which includes advancing and extending knowledge, learning, and culture, especially throughout California. Economic and legal barriers continue to limit access to knowledge, and the rising cost of subscriptions coupled with flat or diminished collections budgets has a negative impact on SDSU community access to publications. COVID-19 and the global pandemic response have highlighted access inequities as well as illustrated the benefits to society of open access during the global effort to preserve life and produce a vaccine.

Open access refers to free, online public access to scholarly works available in journals, university repositories, and discipline repositories, including data sets and all forms of scholarly communication. The benefits of open access include: contributing to the economic long-term viability of the dissemination of scholarship, increasing access to scholarship for society at large, fulfilling federal grant mandates, increasing citation discoverability for researchers, and contributing to global scholarship for researchers who may not have access to expensive subscriptions and databases, particularly for scholars residing in countries with the fewest economic resources. Locally, Open Access materials support CSU and SDSU affordable learning

materials initiatives and goals laid out in the 2016 University Senate Resolution in support of Open Educational Resources as a means to reduce textbook costs.

The principle of open access is actively being adopted by American and international universities, professional organizations and federal agencies.<sup>1</sup> Looking to the future, emerging forms of scholarly work do not depend on traditional publishing formats with restrictive copyright licenses. At the campus level, open access contributes to educational equity by making publications assigned in classes more accessible and affordable for students.

Submitted by:

Endorsed by:

The SDSU Library Faculty

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://roarmap.eprints.org/>