SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

Open Access (OA) Policy
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The proposed policy complies with the Chancellor’s directive to have an Open Access publishing policy in place by March 31st 2020.
Background:

**Definition of OA**

Open Access is defined as free, timely, online availability of scholarly and creative works that can be downloaded, copied, distributed, printed and searched without restrictions and without compromising the rights of ownership of the authors.

**Types of OA**

There are three basic types of OA: Green, Gold and Hybrid.

*Green* requires deposit of a version of post peer review of article/book chapter, or other scholarly output e.g. conference presentations, to a digital repository. Green OA leaves the author the right to publish in any other journal, including non-OA journals. However, the author must let the publisher know that a peer-reviewed version of the article will be placed in an OA repository. Publishers or the authors themselves may request an embargo before the article is made OA accessible.

*Gold* usually requires an Article Processing Charge (APC) which can be paid by the author, the grant or the institution. This policy does not address this model.

*Hybrid* OA licensed article in a subscription-based journal after paying APC.

In the interest of giving authors the most flexibility and choice, this policy embraces the *Green model* of open access.
The Policy

Publishing in open access journals is NOT made compulsory by for researchers at SUNY Downstate. through this policy. Rather, the policy respects and protects the ownership rights of the authors and seeks to create an environment to help them make informed decisions about how their work is shared published and disseminated. The policy supports the authors’ rights to determine the extent and type of licensing. The commitment to this OA policy will not restrict the authors’ rights to pursue publishing in subscription-based journals or other venues.

Commitment:

The faculty, staff and students of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University recognize the value and benefits of OA publishing. Among these are:

- Increased visibility and impact of research done by SUNY researchers.

- Compliance with the mandates of Federal funding agencies, e.g. NIH, NSF, and some private funding agencies, e.g. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and The Wellcome Trust.

- Global, toll-free access to research output.

- Serving the public good.
Authors’ responsibility:

Prior to publishing When looking to publish, authors can are encouraged to confer with the SUNY Downstate Library to determine the “best fit” for their research. They will be provided with applicable outlets/journals and submission guidelines that include information on embargoes, access policies, licensing limitations and article charges so they can make informed choices.

Authors or co-authors will provide a digital copy of a peer-reviewed, accepted-for-publication version to the Library for deposit into the SUNY repository. This item will be placed in the repository with any publisher access limitations, licensing or embargoes intact respected.

If the work will be freely available in another repository or OA publication (e.g. PubMed Central), the authors are expected to notify the Library and provide information about its accessibility.

Authors or co-authors can elect to publish their scholarly works in any subscription-based publisher or other venue of their choice. A digital copy of the final article will still be provided to the Library to store in accord with any publisher licensing.

Authors and co-authors grant the University permission to make a peer-reviewed, accepted-for-publication version of their scholarly work available in an OA Access repository. Authors may choose the terms of this licensing in collaboration with the library and in alignment with the publisher’s conditions.

This policy is waived if:

• the publisher does not allow any version of the material to be made available in any other formats.
• The SUNY Downstate contributor author is a co-author and the finished product will go in a repository other than SUNY’s.
• Do we need to include info on a ‘waiver’? Let’s talk about this.
It is recommended that authors should notify potential publishers of their campus policy to have a peer-reviewed, accepted-for-publication version of their work placed in their institutional repository.

Participation in the OA policy is highly recommended, even if not mandatory. This is an opt-in policy.

The policy will apply to works authored or co-authored while the author/co-author is a faculty, staff or student of SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University. Works created at the direction of SUNY are subject to the SUNY Board of Trustees *Patents, Inventions and Copyright Policy*.

**Library’s responsibility:**

The Library will confer with authors on determining potential publishers for their work, taking into account subject matter, relevance, restrictions, embargoes and licenses to enable the author to make an informed decision. The Library can also provide supporting submission forms and documentation for authors to submit to the publisher for retention of their rights over their work.

Once the work is published, the Library will advise what licenses, formats and versions of the author’s scholarly work are eligible to be stored in the SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University repository per the publisher’s guidelines and author wishes.

The Library will collaborate with the author on the format, subject headings, access points (e.g. DOI, PMID, Handle) and search terms of the work to ensure that it is discoverable.

The documents will be housed on the SUNY digital repository and will be accessible via the repository interface, the SUNY Libraries discovery system, Primo, as well as a general web search – as allowed by licensing and publisher limitations.
Observations:

This policy will develop and change as the publishing environment continues to evolve. Any proposed changes will be sent to the Faculty Senate for approval before they are implemented.

The SUNY OA repository is currently being developed by the SUNY Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS).