CSUN Faculty Senate Library Committee

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OPEN ACCESS FOR FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Note: Open access refers to free, online public access to scholarly and scientific works in open access journals and university repositories. CSUN ScholarWorks is our open access institutional repository. Open access resolutions and policies for faculty are currently in place at more than 175 American universities, including a recently approved mandatory (opt-out) policy for the entire UC system. The draft resolution below reflects a voluntary (opt-in) approach: no faculty member would be required to submit their work to CSUN ScholarWorks.

WHEREAS:

1. Open access publishing and archiving is central to the long-term viability of the dissemination of scholarship; and
2. Freely accessible scholarship benefits the academy and society at large; and
3. Open access increases networking among scholars and the likelihood of CSUN faculty research being easily discoverable and cited by others; and
4. Open access increases access to publications for the CSUN community, given sharply rising costs for online journals and databases; and
5. Open access fulfills federal grant mandates for research dissemination; and
6. Open access contributes to global information sharing, including for scholars in developing countries who do not have access to expensive databases; and
7. A campus-wide open access initiative would provide CSUN faculty with leverage to negotiate more favorable copyright terms with publishers;
8. CSUN Library staff are prepared to negotiate with publishers and facilitate deposit of faculty publications in the ScholarWorks open access repository, with minimal time investment by faculty; and
9. Open access showcases CSUN scholarship and thus enhances the university’s reputation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate strongly encourage CSUN faculty members to:

1. publish in journals that are open access or allow open access archiving;
2. submit journal articles to ScholarWorks as soon as possible after acceptance for publication;
3. grant CSUN a non-exclusive license to archive selected previously published journal articles in ScholarWorks; and
4. grant CSUN the right to migrate selected faculty publications to updated media or formats for digital preservation purposes.

Approved by Faculty Senate Library Committee 10-2-13