

Open Access to Research Policy Green Mountain College

Policy Goal

The goal of Green Mountain College's Open Access to Research Policy is to encourage the broad dissemination of faculty produced research to foster the ideals identified in Green Mountain College's mission: environmental and personal responsibility, civic engagement, entrepreneurial spirit, and global understanding. Additionally, the Open Access to Research Policy creates a system to better represent the diversity of research conducted by members of the Green Mountain College community.

Definitions

Open Access

As defined by the Budapest Open Access Initiative, open access peer- reviewed research literature allows for:

“its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.”

(Budapest Open Access Initiative, <http://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/read>, retrieved on November 26, 2017)

Publisher Embargo

A time period defined by the publisher starting at the original published date where scholarly articles are not allowed to be made openly available on the web. Publisher embargoes are also referred to as delayed open access.

Published Scholarly Articles

Published scholarly articles are peer-reviewed articles covering the fruits of research, e.g., as presented in scholarly journals and conference proceedings. This definition matches AASHE's Sustainability Reporting and Reporting System (STARS) credit on supporting Open Access Research.

(From the AASHE STARS Technical Manual, 2.1, page 74, <http://www.aashe.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/STARS-2.1-Technical-Manual-Administrative-Update-Three.pdf> retrieved on November 26, 2017)

Introduction

Green Mountain College and its faculty are committed to activities to build knowledge and increase access to research that contributes to a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. This Open Access Policy establishes the terms under which faculty members permit distribution of their scholarly articles via open access resources.

At the time of this policy's introduction, there are many barriers to fully realizing the overall goal of this policy. The waiver process to opt-out of open access is intentional to allow for the financial implications related to open access publishing in the current higher education publishing landscape. This policy provides Green Mountain College both a framework where open access is the default and an aspirational vision for our institution. At a time when higher education publishing is in transition, this policy makes

clear Green Mountain College's support for a wider dissemination of knowledge produced at higher education institutions.

Policy Guidelines

Green Mountain College faculty grant Green Mountain College permission to make published scholarly articles created by Green Mountain College faculty freely available via open access systems managed by Green Mountain College's Griswold Library and open access repositories maintained by the College. This permission is granted so long as the articles are not sold for profit and the author's work is appropriately cited.

The granting of this permission Green Mountain College will have no effect on the copyright ownership of the authors' articles, which remains with the authors unless they assign them to another party. Faculty are encouraged to publish scholarly articles via journals and other means that allow for and support open access publishing of academic research.

Scope of Policy

This policy applies to all published scholarly articles authored by Green Mountain College faculty. It does not apply to articles completed before the adoption of this policy or to articles already under an incompatible licensing or assignment agreement at the time this policy was adopted.

Faculty are not required to submit scholarly material beyond published scholarly articles but may choose to do so to further advance the goals of supporting a just, equitable, and sustainable world through the dissemination of research. Examples of other scholarly material that may be submitted to Griswold Library for inclusion in open access systems maintained by Green Mountain College include:

- Book chapters
- Federal, state, and local governmental publications
- Newspaper articles
- Datasets
- Other non-peer reviewed publications

Staff, students, and adjunct faculty are encouraged to submit published scholarly articles and additional scholarly materials, but are not required to do so as part of the Open Access to Research Policy.

A faculty member's involvement with other academic scholarly media sites(i.e., ResearchGate) is allowed and remains a personal decision of the faculty member.

Exemptions and Waivers

In some cases a faculty member or the publisher will object to making published work available in an open source repository. Although this policy creates the default option of open access of scholarly articles, through exemptions and waiver process defined below, faculty have control over which of their works appear in the repository.

Automatically exempted from the granting of this license are articles for which authors are subject to publisher embargoes. No waiver must be submitted for this exception.

Additionally, an author may request and will receive a waiver for individual articles at any time, prior to or post-publication, and for any reason, by submitting a request to the Dean of the Faculty.

Examples of possible reasons may include:

- Copyright agreements heavily laden with legalese, especially those that outline financial restrictions and penalties.
- Publications that containing research(i.e, book chapters, conference presentations, and journal articles) when the author has immediate plans to publish the content in a different format.

If directed by a faculty member, the Dean of the Faculty's Office will waive application of the license for particular articles or delay access for a specified period of time. In cases where the publisher embargoes the release of an article for publication, the Green Mountain College will make the article available after expiration of the embargo.

A decision to obtain a waiver for any reason will have no bearing in annual or other reviews of individuals.

Submissions

Faculty members are to provide the Griswold Library with an electronic copy of the author's article for inclusion in the digital repository via a digital submission form. Submissions of the scholarly article or a waiver should be completed within the academic year the article is accepted for publication or within 3 months of after acceptance for publication depending on whichever timeframe is longer.

Articles should be provided in the format(s) designated by the Griswold Library staff. Authors recognize that articles may need to be re-formatted by Griswold Library Staff to allow for the material to be included in the open access repository or catalog. Research provided will be made available through Green Mountain College's server and be accessible through the Griswold Library catalogue search and the graduate program's on-line digital research repository.

Submissions of published scholarly articles for inclusion in open access systems will be accepted by Green Mountain College with the understanding the author has permission to make the article available via an open access system. If the author is unclear of this permission, the author may also submit a copy of a contract or publisher agreement along with the article for review by Griswold Library staff and additional Green Mountain College representatives prior to the article being made available via an open access system.

Policy Review and Updates

The Open Access to Research Policy is a temporary policy for twelve month after the policy is approved. Upon completion of a twelve month probationary period, the policy will be reviewed by the Faculty Board Executive Council or their designees, in consultation with the Sustainability office and Dean of Faculty, to recommend a continuation of the policy and policy updates. After the policy's initial twelve month time period, the policy will be subject to similar review, updating, and recommendation for continuation every three years.