

**Resolution in Support of Open Access and Authors' Rights**

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**Whereas**, the mission of the College of Health Professions is to equip students to provide compassionate delivery of exemplary healthcare for a diverse population in a changing healthcare environment; and

**Whereas**, the ability of Pacific University graduates *and* other practitioners to provide such care is dependent on access to the best evidence in order to inform clinical decision-making; and

**Whereas**, the best evidence is largely published in journals whose costs have risen far more rapidly than inflation, thereby *limiting* access to the evidence for practitioners who lack the resources of a large health center or university, particularly those in developing nations or medically underserved areas; and

**Whereas**, the publication agreements offered by some publishers limit authors' rights to make their work openly accessible to others who may benefit from it; and

**Whereas**, this current system for the dissemination of research and scholarship is fiscally unsustainable and restricts rather than increases access to knowledge and evidence; and

**Whereas**, the Pacific University Library has established an online, freely accessible and searchable repository, *CommonKnowledge*, for the dissemination and preservation of scholarly works published by members of the University community; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that

**A.** the faculty of the College of Health Professions will demonstrate their commitment to the open availability of evidence, and to the continued advancement of healthcare knowledge and practice, by strongly encouraging faculty members to:

- deposit their own scholarly articles in *CommonKnowledge* or other open access repositories in order to provide the widest and most affordable access to their work; and
- use an Addendum to Publication Agreement (such as that provided by the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)) in order to retain their right to share their work as widely as possible; and
- investigate the pricing and authors' rights policies of journals with which they collaborate (as authors, reviewers, and editors) and advocate for improvements therein; and
- when possible, publish their work in reasonably priced journals or in peer-reviewed open access journals; and

**B.** Pacific University Library will:

- maintain and further develop *CommonKnowledge*, open access publishing opportunities and related services; and
- allocate personnel time to facilitate the deposit of faculty publications in *CommonKnowledge*, to confirm the legality of all faculty deposits and to obtain publishers' permission to deposit published works when possible; and
- serve as a resource for faculty inquiries regarding journal publishers, pricing, and authors' rights.