

Open Access Policy for Butler University

The Faculty of Butler University is committed to disseminating the fruits of its research and scholarship as widely as possible. In keeping with that commitment, and recognizing the importance of letting faculty members choose appropriate venues of publications for their scholarly work, the Faculty adopts the following policy:

The current Butler University Intellectual Property policy governing faculty publications will be followed, with the additional provision that Butler University will make published articles written by faculty members available for open dissemination. More specifically, each Faculty member retains copyright, and for the purpose of making their articles widely and freely available in an open access repository, grants to the Trustees of Butler University a nonexclusive, irrevocable, worldwide license to exercise any and all rights under copyright relating to each of his or her scholarly articles, in any medium, provided that the articles are not sold, and appropriate attribution is given to authors, authorizing others to do the same. The policy will apply to all scholarly articles written while the person is a faculty member, except for publications completed before the adoption of this policy. The Office of the Provost will waive application of the policy for a particular scholarly publication or delay access for a specified period of time upon written notification by the author, who informs Butler of the reason. Faculty members are further encouraged to make all of their publications, not just articles, available for open dissemination as appropriate.

To assist Butler in distributing the scholarly articles, as of the date of publication, each faculty member will make available an electronic copy of his or her final version of the publication at no charge to a designated representative of the Provost's Office in one of the appropriate formats specified by the Provost's Office. The Libraries, acting on behalf of the Provost's Office, will make the articles available to the public in an open-access repository, the Digital Commons @ Butler University. Upon special request, an article will not be made available to the public via Digital Commons for an agreed-upon embargo period. The Office of the Provost, in consultation with the Vice Provost and University Libraries, will be responsible for interpreting this policy, resolving disputes concerning its interpretation and application, and recommending changes to the Faculty. The Libraries' Collections and Digital Services department will provide ongoing faculty oversight, advising and reporting annually to the Office of the Provost.

The policy is to take effect immediately; it will be reviewed after three years, with a report presented to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate calls upon the Vice Provost and University Libraries to develop and monitor a plan for a service or mechanism that would render compliance with the policy as convenient for the Faculty as possible.

This policy is based on a model open access policy developed by Stuart Shieber of the Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication. It includes a freely waivable rights-retaining license and a deposit requirement. This language is based on and informed by the policies voted by faculties at Harvard, MIT, Stanford University School of Education, Duke University, the University of California, and others. Information explaining the motivation for and implementation of open access policies, including an annotated model policy, is available at the web site of Harvard's Office for Scholarly Communication (http://osc.hul.harvard.edu/). Extensive information about good practices for university open access policies is provided in a widely endorsed guide from the Harvard Open Access Project (http://bit.ly/goodoa).