The Faculty of Georgia Tech is committed to disseminating the fruits of its research and scholarship as widely as possible. In addition to the public benefit of such dissemination, this policy is intended to serve faculty interests by promoting greater reach and impact for articles, simplifying author retention of distribution rights, and aiding in electronic preservation. In keeping with these commitments, the Faculty adopts the following policy:

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To assist in distributing the scholarly articles, each Faculty member will make available an electronic copy of his or her final version of the article at no charge to a designated representative of the Provost's Office in appropriate formats (such as PDF) specified by the Provost's Office, no later than the date of publication. The Provost's Office will make the scholarly article available to the public in an open-access institutional repository.

In lieu of submission to a Georgia Tech institutional repository, an author may satisfy the terms of this policy by making such work available through an alternative repository of the author's choosing, with notification to the Provost or Provost's designate, provided that such repository makes the work accessible in full-text to the public, without costs imposed on any individual user, and that it offers to preserve and maintain access to the work indefinitely.

An Open Access Policy and Implementation Committee will be charged with policy interpretation and with developing a plan that renders compliance with the policy as convenient for the faculty as possible. The OA Policy and Implementation Committee comprises two members of the Library/Faculty Advisory Board, one member of the General Faculty Academic Services Committee, one member of the library staff, and one representative of GTRC.

The policy and service model will be reviewed after three years and a report presented to the Faculty. Thereinafter, the policy will be reviewed every five years.
**Motivation**
"Georgia Tech will define the technological research university of the 21st century. As a result, we will be leaders in influencing major technological, social, and policy decisions that address critical global challenges."

... GT Strategic Plan Vision Statement

The results of our research need to be broadly accessible to the citizens of Georgia, the US, and the Global community. Already required by a growing number of funding agencies, Open Access at GT will enable authors to retain some rights to their scholarly articles so that work can be placed and archived in library-administered open access repositories in addition to being published in refereed journals and conferences. When retaining rights conflict with journal copyright requirements or with individual faculty interests, a streamlined opt-out provision is available. Creating an Institute policy on Open Access provides Georgia Tech with an opportunity to help frame the Open Access debate both within Georgia and within the larger research community by weighing in on a timely, complex issue at the intersection of technology, society, and policy. Establishing an open access repository provides authors a competitive advantage in the wider dissemination of their work, regardless of others’ available resources.

**Quick Guide to the Open Access Policy**
Paragraph 1: The “why” is this important for Georgia Tech
Paragraph 2: The “what” does the policy really do/mean
Paragraph 3: The “applicability and opt out” of who/what is covered by this policy
Paragraph 4: The “how will it work” functional component of the policy
Paragraph 5: The “alternative repository” options explained
Paragraphs 6 and 7: The “governance and policy review” sections to allow for future improvement

**Timeline & Committee Process**
December 2011: established a chartered, ad-hoc Academic Services subcommittee
January - March 2012: created a draft policy
April 2012:
- present to Academic Services Committee (in process)
- bring to the Statutes Committee for prep for Faculty Handbook (done for current draft)
- first Town Hall for feedback
April 24, 2012: presentation to General Faculty
Summer 2012: hold Town Hall(s) for feedback
Fall 2012: General Faculty consideration

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