

Rationale, Guide and Timeline for Open Access Policy at Georgia Tech

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/May 2012: presented to ASC, Executive Board, General Faculty, held first Town Hall for feedback

Early Fall 2012: held three Town Hall(s) for additional feedback

Fall 2012: General Faculty consideration

Contacts

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