PURDUE STUDENT SENATE
RECOMMENDATION 11-7

"Recommending that Purdue University Senate adopt a policy supporting open access to scholarly articles published by members of the Purdue faculty"

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Agenda Date: January 11, 2012
Action: PASSED 19-0
President Pro Tempore: Matt Swiontek
Student Senate President: Monica Harvey
Student Body President: Brett Highley

WHEREAS, Purdue University is a Land Grant Institution with a mission to “serve the citizens of Indiana, the United States, and the world through discovery that expands the realm of knowledge, learning through dissemination and preservation of knowledge, and engagement through exchange of knowledge,”1 and is a leader in the publication of scholarly articles by faculty members in the sciences and humanities, and

WHEREAS, commercial publishers have long held a monopoly on the publication of scholarly articles, allowing them to control access to published articles and raise costs year after year at rates well exceeding the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and

WHEREAS, the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities2 was drafted by representatives of academic, scientific, and cultural institutions gathered in Berlin in 2003 to make scholarly research publicly accessible through digital, online databases, and

WHEREAS, Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, MIT, and the University of Pennsylvania have adopted Open Access policies which encourage faculty to deposit their publications into digital repositories maintained by the university, and

WHEREAS, university-based Open Access policies increase the application of research findings by actors outside traditional academic disciplines, especially internationally, and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), a consortium of 12 world-class American research universities including Purdue University, unanimously endorsed a publication agreement establishing the rights of authors to deposit publishing articles into digital depositories3, and

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1 http://www.purdue.edu/sats/success_guide/all_about_purdue/university_mission.html
2 http://www.berlin9.org/about/index.shtml
3 http://www.cic.net/Libraries/Library/authorsrights.shtml
WHEREAS, in 2009, the University of Kansas became the first American public university to adopt an Open Access Policy and remains the only public university to have such a policy, and

WHEREAS, the University Libraries Committees and the University Resources Policy Committee have introduced a resolution to the University Senate adopting a university-wide Open Access Policy at Purdue University and this resolution will be considered at the University Senate’s January 23rd meeting, and

WHEREAS, Purdue Libraries already maintain Purdue e-Pubs, a digital repository housing more than 24,000 scholarly articles and capable of housing many thousands more, and

WHEREAS, an Open Access Policy will keep Purdue University at the forefront of research and innovation by increasing the global visibility of Purdue research and supporting the university’s strategic objective of “promoting discovery with delivery”;

THEREFORE, be it RECOMMENDED by the Purdue Student Senate that the Purdue University Senate adopt a policy that supports the deposit of all scholarly articles published by Purdue faculty to the Purdue e-Pubs digital repository.

[Signatures]

Student Body President

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