1-12-2023

DigitalCommons@URI and the Open Access Policy

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January 12, 2022

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What is an Institutional Repository (IR)?

- Online platform containing unique materials from the URI community
- Long-term preservation
- Open access
- Scholarship, research, archival materials, URI records, events, original journals, student work . . .
- Either 'hosted' or 'homegrown' software, or a combination (ours is hosted)

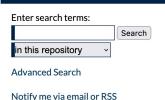https://digitalcommons.uri.edu

DigitalCommons@URI Statistics

- Established 2005
- 32,375 works
- 9.2 million downloads
- Traffic comes mainly from Google to specific items

DigitalCommons@URI content types

- Faculty scholarship

- Class projects

- Course materials

- Campus events

- Pre-published/unpublished papers

- Reports and newsletters

- Special projects and [exhibits](#) (New!)

- Senior Honors Projects; Electronic Theses and Dissertations

- Open Access Journals

URI Open Access Policy - Background

- Faculty led policy that applies to scholarly articles, with the goal of increasing faculty rights and broaden access to URI scholarship

- Passed in March 2013 by the Faculty Senate

- Falls under Faculty Senate oversight

- Modeled after a 'rights retention' policy originally designed by Harvard (2008), and since adopted by ~90 total institutions

https://uri.libguides.com/oapolicy

"Each faculty member grants to the University of Rhode Island permission to make available his or her scholarly articles and to exercise the copyright in those articles. More specifically, each Faculty member grants to the University of Rhode Island 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 to authorize others to do the same."

URI Open Access Policy Text

How the OA Policy Works

- Typically, authors sign over copyright to a publisher/journal as a condition of publication

- The OA Policy grants a non-exclusive copyright license to the University; this license survives the transfer of copyright to a publisher

- As a result, the University – and therefore you, still have a license to use your articles

- Faculty can post the article to DigitalCommons@URI and exercise any other rights under copyright

- "Shifts the default" to Open access

- Policy is considered a "mandate" but in practice is optional

Why the Accepted Author Manuscript?

The Open Access Policy targets the *Accepted Author Manuscript* version of the article for posting in DigitalCommons@URI.

This is the final submitted version after peer review and content edits, prior to copyediting, typesetting, and publisher formatting.

- Staying on good terms with publishers

- Serves as "advertisement" for the published article

- We include a citation and link to the published version

- Guide to locating AAM version:
  https://openaccessbutton.org/direct2aam

How to Submit an Article

- Email your article to oapolicy@etal.uri.edu
  - This email is monitored by Erin Mullen Parker and myself

- New option: Use the self-submission form by going to your departmental faculty publications section, and clicking on "Submit Research"
  - Your submission will reviewed and we will get in touch with questions, and post it

Current submissions: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/oa_facpubs/

Waivers

- Any faculty member may obtain a waiver at any time, for any reason, formally exempting an article from the OA Policy

- Typically occurs at publisher's request

- Email oapolicy@etal.uri.edu with article details to request

- You'll receive back a waiver statement as a PDF stating the article is exempt from the OA Policy

Faculty Publications in the IR

- All articles published since March 2013 while employed at URI are covered by OA Policy – **author manuscript version**

- Articles published in fully OA journals can use published version

- Articles not covered by OA Policy can be posted depending on the publisher policies

- Occasionally, faculty members prefer to follow the publisher policies rather than OA Policy (e.g. using an embargo) and we can still do that.

- Check Sherpa/Romeo for publisher policy information

Questions?

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https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/

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