

June 5, 2020

Elizabeth Skowron, PhD
UO Senate President

Elliot Berkman, PhD
UO Senate President-Elect

Dear Elizabeth and Elliot,

On behalf of Margaret Sereno (Chair of the University Library Committee), Mark Watson (Interim Dean of Libraries), and the full membership of the Senate Subcommittee on Open Access, I am pleased to submit documentation that is intended to fulfill the responsibilities of our charge from December 3, 2019.

As you may recall, the charge requested delivery of:

- an overview of the current landscape of open access trends and practices in the area of scholarly communication and publishing;
- an analysis of the role that open access plays in research and the dissemination of scholarly resources and works at the UO;
- an overview of options for renegotiating the library's contract with Elsevier; and
- recommended next steps to further the discussion and adoption of open access at the University of Oregon.

The SSOA has addressed these requests by providing the UO community with a White Paper on Open Access. Drafts of this work have already been distributed for feedback among members of the community, including members of the Faculty Senate. Distribution has largely occurred through the SSOA website, which also serves as an archive of our work, notes, and minutes. I am proud to relay that the volume of traffic to this site has been noticeably higher than expected for a site of this nature, suggesting that our work is having the desired effect -- to increase awareness about Open Access concerns on campus and beyond.

At this time, we are submitting final versions of our work in two formats attached to this message: the full 44-page White Paper and a shorter Executive Summary. Both versions include a section entitled "Possibilities for Local Action" that is intended to address the recommended next steps (the last requested deliverable listed above). In my opinion, the items in this list suggest an ambitious and exciting agenda for further work by the SSOA in the coming academic year.

Related to these deliverables, we are also submitting the final draft of our proposed resolution for consideration by the Senate on June 10, 2020. We are very grateful for your suggestions and attention to this resolution, and we're optimistic that it will be supported.



As a final note, I would like to emphasize how impressed I have been by the enthusiasm and professionalism of everyone who has been involved in this effort. We've had fun, even during a stretch when fun has been in short supply. Perhaps even more than the work we have completed, I view that as a testament to the success of this group.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Condon".

David M. Condon

Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology
College of Arts & Sciences
University of Oregon