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Coates Library: Support for Open Access Scholarly Publishing

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COATES LIBRARY
SUPPORT FOR OPEN ACCESS SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

"Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions."[1]

Coates Library supports open access (OA) scholarly publishing by

- Educating faculty, students, and administrators about the economics of scholarly publishing and its impact on institutional budgets and global access to knowledge.
- Advocating for faculty to 1) retain their non-commercial copyrights when submitting to a commercial publisher or to 2) submit their work to an OA publication.
- Providing faculty with the means to negotiate their non-commercial rights with the publisher. To this end, we maintain an informational LibGuide, "Trinity University's Open Access Policy for Faculty: More about Open Access."
- Investigating copyright and publisher permissions on behalf of authors so that it is as easy as possible for them to contribute to an institutional repository.
- Providing an institutional repository, the Digital Commons, where faculty and student scholarship is openly accessible and readily discoverable.
- Contributing collections funds in support of OA initiatives such as Open Library of Humanities, Lever Press, Open Book Publishers, Open Access Network, PeerJ, BioMed Central, the Directory of Open Access Journals, SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition), and Knowledge Unlatched. (To date, Knowledge Unlatched includes the works of three Trinity University faculty authors.) Monetary support amounts to 2 ¼ % of the acquisitions budget in FY2016 (includes cost of Bepress Digital Commons).
- Subscribing to publications of not-for-profit publishers when those publishers are trying to move toward OA publishing (e.g., the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, SCOAP3, etc.).
- Working with department chairs, faculty members of the Library Activities Committee, and administrators to encourage the adoption of open textbooks and other open educational resources, as well as supporting students in their grassroots advocacy for open textbooks.
- Working behind the scenes to improve discovery systems so that OA content is as readily discoverable as paid content.
- Supporting the development of technical standards that remove barriers to discovery and retrieval of content by maintaining membership to the National Information Standards Organization (NISO).
- Investing in technology engaged in discoverability and management of OA content, such as oaFindr (1Science).
- Monitoring developments in OA.

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[1] Suber, Peter, "A Very Brief Introduction to Open Access," last accessed October 7, 2016, http://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/brief.htm.

Trinity University further supports OA publishing by

- Having adopted a campus-wide [OA policy](#) in October 2009. Trinity was the first small liberal arts college to do so.
- Providing a small fund to cover article processing charges (APCs) for non-commercial journal publishers.

Criteria against which OA initiatives are assessed for support:

- Type of funding (institutional support, grant funding, article processing charges, other)
- Business plan for long-term sustainability
- Relevance of content to the liberal arts curriculum
- Cost of participation
- Availability of usage statistics
- Ability to participate in governance
- Integration of workflows with distribution outlets
- Inclusion of metadata in discovery systems

Approved by library faculty members October 17, 2016.