August 29, 2013

John Holdren, Director
White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20504

Dear Dr. Holdren:

We are writing on behalf of an international alliance of academic and research libraries, advocacy organizations, students, and publishers dedicated to promoting the expanded sharing of research, to respectfully request a copy of each agency’s draft public access plan pursuant to the February 22, 2013 White House Memorandum from the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) on “Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Scientific Research.”

As you may know, this Memorandum directed each federal agency, funding more than $100 million in research, to establish a policy to ensure that the results of taxpayer-funded scientific research are available for the public to freely access and fully use and to submit a draft plan of that policy to the OSTP by August 22, 2013.

We strongly support both the goals and objectives of the Memorandum, and just as importantly, the Memorandum’s express requirement that “in devising its final plan, each agency should use a transparent process for soliciting views from stakeholders.” In fact, we believe that transparency is a necessary component to meeting the objectives detailed in the Memorandum. To this end, we ask that you provide access to the draft plans as soon as possible to ensure all stakeholders have the opportunity to adequately evaluate the plans before they become final.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We look forward to working with you to develop a robust public access plan that ensures ready access to and full use of articles, as well as digital data, reporting on publicly funded research, in order to accelerate discovery, improve education, and fuel the translation of this research into innovative new products and services.

Sincerely,

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
www.aahsl.org
Contact: Gary Freiburger (521-626-6121)

Association of College and Research Libraries
www.acrl.org
Contact: Kara J. Malenfant (312-280-2510)
American Library Association  
www.ala.org  
Contact: Jessica McGilvray (202-628-8410)

Association of Research Libraries  
www.arl.org  
Contact: Prudence Adler (202-296-2296)

Association of Southeastern Research Libraries  
www.aserl.org  
Contact: John Burger (919-681-2531)

Creative Commons  
www.creativecommons.org  
Contact: Tim Vollmer (650-294-4732)

Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions  
http://sparc.arl.org/COAPI  
Contact: Andrew Wesolek (864-656-0137)

Electronic Frontier Foundation  
www.eff.org  
Contact: Adi Kamdar (415-436-9333)

Greater Western Library Alliance  
www.gwla.org  
Contact: Joni Blake (913-370-4422)

PeerJ  
www.peerj.com  
Contact: Peter Binfield (415-413-4956)

Public Knowledge  
www.publicknowledge.org  
Contact: Peter Suber (207-326-9482)

Public Library of Science  
www.plos.org  
Contact: Donna Okubo (415-624-1213)

SPARC (Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition)  
www.arl.org/sparc  
Contact: Heather Joseph (202-296-2296)