OPEN ACCESS TO UW RESEARCH ARTICLES

How did this start?

An idea: organic, student origins.

Benefits of working with students on OA:

Inspiring the next generation of researchers. Arguably, the biggest change in the status quo can be made with students and ECRs.

Generally open-minded and idea-driven.

The ideas caught on... Now who are we?

The OA initiative at UW is led by a self-assembled group of students, faculty, and library staff.

WHY UW?

UW IS HUGE.

- 45,000 students; 5,000 faculty.
- A world-renowned medical school and cutting edge research.
- 440 degree options.
- 6 Nobel Prize winners, 15 MacArthur Fellows, and 167 American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellows.

UW receives more federal research dollars than any other public university in the nation.
In 2014, UW received $1.39 billion in research awards (12% more than the previous year).

WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

■ **Adopt an open access publications policy that facilitates free and public access to scholarly peer-reviewed articles produced by UW faculty, students, and staff.**

More specifically...

▪ **Adopt a Harvard/UC-style policy with non-coercive, clear opt-out options and robust institutional support, accompanied by committed school-/department-level follow-up.**

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

The Basics:

- Education and awareness is most critical
- Improvement of infrastructure
- Collaboration with diverse disciplines
- Participation from faculty, students, and staff

But what about the not-so-basic?

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- We send professors billions of emails until they respond,
- We secure a young, energetic faculty champion,
- We pound the pavement at every faculty council meeting ever,
- We tell every faculty member we know about OA,
- We build a comprehensive website and run the FAQ by stakeholders (thanks, UW librarians!),
- We call in to SPARC and HOAP and Creative Commons and other experts for backup,
- We run interference on faculty meddling ;)
- We dig into the legal literature,
- We hit Twitter when we have questions,
- We connect with other student leaders around the country and world,
- We go to conferences like ARCS and NASIG to get a fuller picture of different stakeholders and perspectives,
- ...And more!

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & TIMELINE

- **1/14: The Faculty Council on Research** and **Faculty Council on University Libraries** express their support for OA and intent to collaborate.
- **1/14: The Graduate & Professional Student Senate (GPSS)** unanimously passes an OA resolution.
- **3/22: The Student Advocates for Graduate Education (SAGE)** adopts public access as part of its national advocacy agenda and **advocates for FASTR.**
- **3/31: Associated Students of the UW Student Senate (ASUW) unanimously passes** an OA Resolution – signaling the support of all 45,000 students.

4/23: Faculty Senate unanimously passes an OA Resolution calling for a university-wide policy and resources to improve ResearchWorks.

CHALLENGES & QUESTIONS

- **Discipline-specific pushback**
- **Unexpected pushback**
- **Legal concerns, questions, misunderstandings, etc.**

Open questions/challenges for coming year:

- How to explain opt-out in a clearer way?
- How to interface with less-than-supportive faculty?
- How to stay "at the table" as grad students?
- How to build student momentum?
- How to build up a strong faculty bench team?
- How to include students in the policy?

Where do we go from here?

LIBRARY & STUDENT SOLUTIONS

General advice:

What works with each faculty? Best ways to navigate the system? Technical know-how and backup?

Internships and jobs!

Policy implementing:

General technical support, helping faculty use/troubleshoot IR, interfacing with faculty and other students, making sure everything runs smoothly.

Advocacy:

OA Week – make it a *big deal*, presentations to departments and faculty meetings, meetings with administrators, generally spreading the word.

THANK YOU!

We've gotten far and accomplished a lot...
But there's always more to do.

For questions, comments, advice (yes, please), ideas, and anything else:

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