



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

Tuesday, August 30th, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dr. Alondra Nelson  
Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Executive Office of the President  
1650 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20504

Dear President Biden and Dr. Alondra Nelson,

On behalf of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS), representing the graduate-professional student governments of 52 institutions across the United States, we write today to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the updated policy guidance issued by the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP) that will make taxpayer-funded research immediately available for the public to freely access and fully use. We applaud the administration for eliminating the current 12-month waiting period for access to critical research outputs – both articles and data.

As students, educators, and researchers, we need open access to articles reporting on research funded by US federal agencies. Until now, this research, paid for by taxpayers like us, was rarely accessible to the public due to the exorbitant cost of journal subscriptions. Yesterday's action will ensure that students, educators, and researchers have access to the information they need to advance critical research to mitigate climate change, solve complex medical puzzles, which unlock the cure to diseases, send our rockets to the moon, and far more.

With this announcement, OSTP is laying the foundation for a more open and equitable system of research that will benefit graduate and professional students, our country, and the world. It is the culmination of more than 15 years of steady progress. The memo provides a much-needed update to strengthen U.S. policy that will bring our country to equal footing with governments across the world that have established strong open access policies to promote their national innovation agendas.

We thank you for your steadfast leadership on this issue and stand ready to work with your administration to support and implement this important policy guidance.

Sincerely,

Thad Potter, NAGPS President

Sonia Kaufman, NAGPS Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs