



31 March 2015

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to inform you about a new Boston University faculty policy that affects peer-reviewed scholarly articles authored by BU faculty. On February 11, 2015, BU adopted an Open-Access Policy that gives the University nonexclusive permission to make available faculty-authored scholarly articles and to exercise the copyright in those articles for the purpose of open dissemination. The policy reflects and supports the faculty's commitment to the widest possible dissemination of its research and scholarship.

In adopting this Policy, BU faculty have granted to BU a nonexclusive license to exercise any and all rights under copyright relating to each scholarly article written by a faculty member, provided that the articles are not sold for a profit. The license also allows BU to authorize others to exercise the same rights.

The Policy applies to all scholarly articles completed after the adoption of the Policy, while an individual is a member of the BU Faculty, as long as the Faculty member did not enter into an incompatible licensing or assignment agreement before the adoption of the Policy.

The version of the article that will be deposited under the Policy in OpenBU (<http://open.bu.edu/>), an open-access repository, is the author's peer-reviewed manuscript; that is, the manuscript with any changes made as a result of the peer-review process, but prior to a publisher's copy-editing or formatting.

Some authors may use a BU amendment to publisher copyright agreement that reflects this Policy, though the Policy gives rise to a grant of license that exists prior to the execution of any publisher agreement, and applies regardless of the use of this amendment. I include this amendment as well as the full Policy for your reference.

Authors will be able to opt out of making their articles openly accessible, on a per-article basis. If they do, they will be able to specify whether they wish to place an embargo on the article or opt out of open access altogether. Whatever the case, our intention and hope is to deposit *all* articles into the repository, some of them "dark" (inaccessible to the casual user), in order to create a more complete BU research portfolio, and also in order to be able to preserve all published BU research long-term and make it openly accessible after copyright expires.

I write not only to make you aware of this Policy but also to seek your cooperation and partnership in working with it. We believe the Policy can work in tandem with journal publishing to disseminate research as broadly and quickly as possible, a goal universities and publishers share. We welcome conversations about the Policy. If you have any questions or concerns about publishing BU authored articles under this Policy, please feel free to contact us. For policy questions, contact Jack Ammerman (jwa@bu.edu or +1 617 353-3710); for operational questions, contact Vika Zafrin (vzafrin@bu.edu or +1 617 358-6370).

Sincerely,

Robert E. Hudson
University Librarian

Enclosures (2)

cc: J. Morrison, J. Ammerman