Open Access: Liberate Your Research

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What is Open Access?

Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research works, coupled with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment. (Source: www.sparc.arl.org/issues/open-access)

Why Open Access?

Research improves the public good through scientific discovery, innovation, and education – yet too often the results are closed behind subscription paywalls, inaccessible to the majority of a community of potential users.

The Internet gives us the opportunity to bring research to a worldwide audience at virtually no cost, with benefits to all.

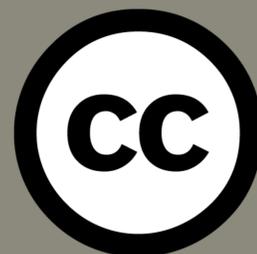## Open Access benefits researchers by:

- » Increasing visibility and impact of research work
- » Creating new avenues for discovery
- » Enhancing interdisciplinary research and collaboration
- » Accelerating the pace of research, discovery, and innovation

Open Access benefits the community by:

- » Democratizing access to research across all populations
- » Providing previously unattainable access to underfunded groups
- » Encouraging innovation with access to cutting-edge research
- » Enriching the quality of education

Open Access is compatible with:

- » copyright
- » peer review
- » revenue (even profit)
- » print
- » preservation
- » prestige
- » quality
- » career advancement
- » indexing

& other features and supportive services associated with conventional scholarly literature.
(Source: Peter Suber, "Open Access Overview," 2004)

Resources:

- » Open Access @ Pitt:
  http://openaccess.pitt.edu/
- » Pitt OA Author Fee Fund:
  http://library.pitt.edu/about-open- access-author-fees-fund
- » D-Scholarship, the Pitt archive:
  http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu

Beyond Pitt:

- » Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition:
  http://www.sparc.arl.org/issues/open-access
- » Directory of Open Access Journals:
  http://doaj.org
- » Creative Commons:
  http://creativecommons.org
- » SHERPA/RoMEO – publisher & journal policies:
  http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/

Are you committed to openness?

8 things you can do:

- » Deposit your work in D-Scholarship
- » Publish in Open Access journals
- » Utilize our Open Access Author Fee Fund
- » Choose Creative Commons licenses for your work and teaching materials
- » Encourage others to share their work openly
- » Volunteer as a reviewer or editor for an Open Access journal
- » Start the OA conversation with a toll-access journal
- » Celebrate Open Access Week with us

http://openaccess.pitt.edu