Memorial University Statement on Open Access

In the spirit of the academy, open access publishing makes the results of academic research freely available to the world via the Internet. Open access to research output means that users can “read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles” (BOAI, 2011). As with traditional publishing, open access requires that authors’ works: 1) be properly acknowledged and cited, 2) be expressed appropriately in conjunction with other works, and 3) cannot be distorted, mutilated or otherwise modified without permission. Open access literature can be peer-reviewed or non-peer-reviewed, and can operate within various business models. Inspired by approved Senate resolutions on open access across North America[1], the Memorial University Senate Committee on Copyright supports the principles of open access by encouraging the dissemination of Memorial University’s research output as widely as possible.

The Committee recommends that Memorial University encourage all members of the University community to deposit an electronic copy of their research output, or creative work, in the Memorial University Research Repository. An initiative of Memorial University Libraries, the Research Repository showcases and preserves Memorial’s creative and intellectual output, making it freely available to the international community. Content creators include Memorial University faculty, graduate students, staff, post-docs, emeriti, and honorary research professors. Depositing work in an open access repository offers the ability to openly share research findings published in open access journals, as well as traditional peer-reviewed journals. The ability to deposit work in any online repository is possible if the journal publisher, or other rights holder, allows such a deposit. To determine journal permissions, consult the SHERPA/RoMEO database, or journal website.

The Committee also recommends that Memorial University encourage all members of the University community to disseminate their work in open access publications. This means that peer-reviewed literature would be freely available to readers upon publication, without subscription barriers. More than 7000 quality controlled scientific and scholarly open access journals exist, with potential titles listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals.

For more information, contact Memorial University Libraries.

Works cited

Appendix 1

Examples of approved Open Access policies at North American universities

Athabasca
Columbia: Columbia University Libraries/Information Services
Columbia: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
Concordia University
Duke
Harvard Business School
Harvard Divinity School
Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Harvard Graduate School of Design
Harvard Graduate School of Education
Harvard Kennedy School of Government
Harvard Law School
Kansas
MIT
Princeton University
Queen’s: Queen’s University Librarians and Archivists
Stanford: School of Education
University of Calgary: Library and Cultural Resources