



Policy Chapter: Chapter 6 Faculty Affairs

Policy Number and Title: 06.041 Stewardship of and Open Access to Works of Scholarship

I. Policy Statement

The University of North Texas (UNT) is committed to providing long-term stewardship and preservation of works of scholarship and to providing the broadest possible access to published works of scholarship produced by members of the UNT community, in the course of academic activities.

II. Application of Policy

All employees.

III. Policy Definitions

A. *UNT Community Member*

“UNT community member,” in this policy, means a faculty member, staff member, or student of the University.

B. *UNT Scholarly Works*

“UNT Scholarly Works,” in this policy, means the online institutional repository operated by the UNT Libraries on behalf of the university.

C. *Published Work(s) of Scholarship*

“Published work(s) of scholarship,” in this policy, means a pedagogical, scholarly, artistic, technical, or professional work published by an outside publisher or by the UNT Press and authored or coauthored in the course of academic or professional activities supported directly or indirectly by the university.

D. *Open Access*

“Open access,” in this policy, means providing free online access to readers without requiring user registration.

IV. Policy Responsibilities

A. *Deposit of Materials*

Each UNT community member wishing to make their published work(s) of scholarship available for open access shall submit a copy of such work(s) of scholarship, along with enough bibliographic information to identify the publisher’s version of record, to UNT Scholarly Works.

1. Open Access Mandate at Contract or Grant

All requirements for open access shall be met, with no exceptions and no waivers, if the sponsoring entity of the scholarship has mandated open access at contract or grant award.

2. Libraries' Responsibility

The UNT Libraries shall take responsibility for the long-term stewardship and preservation of all deposited published works of scholarship.

B. Grant of Rights

Each UNT community member grants to UNT a nonexclusive, irrevocable, and worldwide license to exercise any and all rights under copyright for each of their published work(s) of scholarship for the purpose of making their published work(s) of scholarship available for open access. This license has three features. First, it is nonexclusive, meaning the UNT community member is free to sign other license agreements (such as publisher contracts) beyond this license with UNT. Second, the license is irrevocable, meaning the UNT community member cannot withdraw the rights given to UNT at any time. Third, the license is worldwide, meaning it gives UNT rights under copyright in any country, not just in the United States. However, this license does not apply if it is limited by publisher agreements signed by the UNT community member. As such, if a UNT community member enters into an agreement with a publisher that prevents them from granting this license to UNT, then the license shall not apply. Additionally, this license does not give UNT the right to sell the published works of scholarship for profit.

1. Exceptions to Open Access

In accordance with the grant of rights by UNT community members to the university, the UNT Libraries shall make deposited published works of scholarship available in open access subject to the following exceptions:

a. Express Permission

Upon express direction by a current or former UNT community member to the provost or provost's designee, the UNT Libraries shall make particular published works of scholarship available in full only after a stated period of time, available only to UNT community members, hidden from view, or according to other options as the UNT Libraries shall make available.

b. Authorization Invalidated

If the UNT Libraries receives verifiable notification that the UNT community member does not have the right to authorize the UNT Libraries to make a particular published work of scholarship available in whole or part (due to having not retained this right from the publisher or for some other reason), the Libraries shall restrict access accordingly.

C. Oversight

The provost shall appoint a broadly representative committee consisting of UNT community members, which shall include, but not be limited to, faculty and representatives of the Faculty Senate, UNT Libraries, and the provost’s office, to advise the provost on open access and other matters in scholarly communication.

V. Resources/Forms/Tools

[UNT Scholarly Works](#)

VI. References and Cross-References

[Theses and Dissertations, Toulouse Graduate School](#)

VII. Revision History

Policy Contact:	Policy Director, Office of the Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
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