

February 20, 2019 | By Nikki Kolupailo

UC San Diego Makes a Commitment to Open Access by Signing the OA2020 Expression of Interest

The University of California San Diego has signed an Expression of Interest (Eol) to adopt the principles of [Open Access 2020](#) (OA2020), an international effort to make all scholarly publications freely and immediately available to everyone by replacing the current costly subscription-based approach with transparent, sustainable funding models.



UC San Diego joins educational institutions across the world that have signed the OA2020 Eol, including the University of California (UC) campuses at Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside and San Francisco. By signing the Eol, these universities have indicated a commitment to advancing open access (OA) through many possible mechanisms.

“Signing our Expression of Interest to join the OA2020 initiative is a strong affirmation of UC San Diego’s commitment to open access,” said Elizabeth H. Simmons, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UC San Diego. “The principles of open access are central to UC San Diego’s mission as a public research university: to disseminate scholarship and research results and translate scientific discoveries into practical knowledge and innovations that benefit California and society at large.”

When an institution commits to signing the OA2020 Eol, it agrees to make a good faith effort to devise and implement practical strategies and actions for attaining reduced barriers in accessing and reusing information. This particular movement — initiated and led by the Max Planck Digital Library in Munich — provides a flexible framework for each institution to define for themselves how they will repurpose their journal subscription funds to support OA publishing. UC San Diego’s goal is to ensure that the resulting actions in support of open

access are feasible, sustainable and in the best interests of its faculty. To achieve this, the university will undertake outreach efforts that keep the lines of communication open between the Library, campus leadership, faculty, researchers, and scholars.

“OA is about equitable access to information and honoring our commitment to educating the people of California and the world,” said Robert Horwitz, chair of the UC San Diego Academic Senate and professor in the Department of Communication. “Signing the Eol is an exciting opportunity for a leading research institution such as UC San Diego to expand access to our scholarship.”

The UC system has long been a leader in the open access movement. In 2013 the Systemwide Academic Senate acknowledged its commitment to open access by adopting an open access policy covering faculty senate members at all 10 campuses. Recognizing the benefits this brought faculty, two years later the University of California formalized a new policy to expand open access rights and responsibilities from just senate faculty, who were covered by previous policies, to all UC employees.

MEDIA CONTACT

Nikki Kolupailo , 858-534-0667 nkolupailo@ucsd.edu

UC San Diego’s [Studio Ten 300](#) offers radio and television connections for media interviews with our faculty, which can be coordinated via studio@ucsd.edu. To connect with a UC San Diego faculty expert on relevant issues and trending news stories, visit <https://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/media-resources/faculty-experts>.