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# University of North Texas

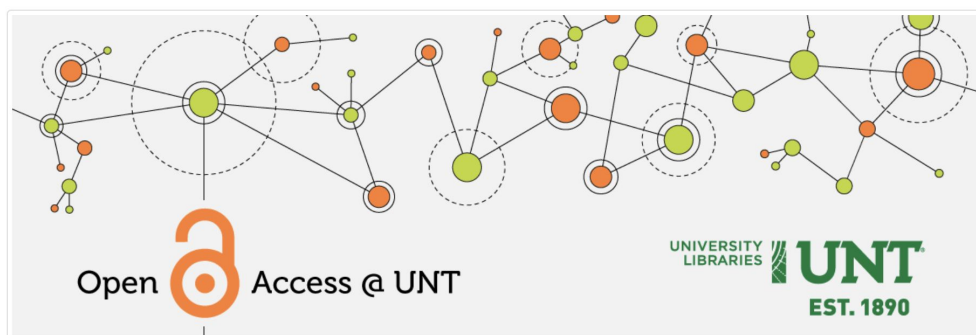
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# Open Access @ UNT

**UNT**  
EST. 1890

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Open Access @ UNT is an initiative that provides information about the [open access movement](#) and engages researchers at UNT by providing information about UNT's institutional [open access policy](#).

This website provides [resources](#) about open access, including UNT's [annual symposium](#) and other news and events related to open access.

In the open-access movement, we are perhaps best known for our annual OA symposium. We just held our 11th symposium last week, attracting speakers and attendees from around the region, the US, and beyond. Our former dean of libraries and other champions of OA on campus got this series going a decade ago in order to build momentum for OA. It led to the adoption of the first campus-wide OA policy at a public institution in Texas—by the Faculty Senate in 2011 and approved by the provost in 2012. That year's OA symposium also led to the drafting of the Denton Declaration: An Open Data Manifesto.

This policy specified that an Open Access Advisory Board would be created to advise the provost on matters relating to OA, including recommending changes to the policy. That group was finally formed in 2016, and I've co-chaired or chaired it since then.

<b>Policies of the University of North Texas</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b>
<b>06.041 Stewardship of and Open Access to Works of Scholarship</b>	<b>Faculty Affairs</b>

**Policy Statement.** 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.

**Application of Policy.** All University.

OA policy was revised in 2017 (went into effect in 2018) for clarity and to align more closely with “Good Practices for University Open-access policies” (<http://bit.ly/goodoa>)

Our first order of business was in fact to rewrite the policy—mostly to make it easier to understand but also to make a few changes to mechanics of the policy itself, including aligning in a few ways more closely with the “Good Practices for University Open-access Policies” developed by the Harvard Open Access Project.

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## Features of UNT's OA policy (1)

- Applies to all faculty, students, and staff (“you”)
  - All “published works of scholarship” must be deposited, but you get to pick the version to make available based on your preference and any publisher-imposed restrictions.
  - You grant a nonexclusive, irrevocable, worldwide license to UNT to make your work available, except if you’ve signed a publisher agreement that prevents you from granting this right. (This last provision is not found in Harvard-style policies.)
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## Features of UNT's OA policy (2)

- Libraries makes works available in OA in the IR unless:
    - You direct the Libraries not to (file for a waiver).
    - The Libraries learns that you did not actually have the right to grant the license to UNT (because you signed a restrictive publisher agreement.)
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## Populating the IR

- IR librarian monitors PubMedCentral, Web of Science, and Google Scholar for new OA publications to download and deposit without involvement of faculty.
  - Provost's office provides annual reports of all new publications entered by faculty in the Faculty Information System, but it's a lot of data to go through, with few publications being OA.
  - Outreach to faculty, especially new faculty: inviting them to send their CV for Libraries to review to find eligible publications.
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As of this spring, approximately 44% of full-time, tenure-track or librarian faculty have at least one item in the IR that they are the author or co-author of. Our IR librarian has found that the most effective way to get faculty to participate is to reach out to new faculty -- especially if you can catch them before their first semester begins!

Our IR is a collection in the UNT Digital Library, which includes a number of other collections of scholarship from the UNT community made available in OA, including select publications from the UNT Press, gray literature from various research groups at UNT, publications from various units on campus, and work presented at conferences sponsored by UNT.

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## OA to theses and dissertations

The OA policy covers only “published works of scholarship” and explicitly exempts theses and dissertations from the policy. These, however, are covered under the grad school’s policy, which was last revised in 2009. It mandates OA except with approval of the faculty advisor for an embargo of five years (with an optional two-year extension requested shortly before expiration of the embargo).

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(summarize slide)

We use TDL’s Vireo to manage submissions of theses and dissertations.

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## Aquiline Books

- Author pays
  - No peer review, but at least one author or editor must currently be at UNT.
  - Cafeteria menu of options for editing and design (conducted by freelancers and vendors)
  - All books made free to read online in UNT Digital Library; authors can optionally fund print production.
  - UNT Press chooses to distribute some titles.
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Our library publishing operation is called UNT Libraries Scholarly Publishing Services. We engage in both book and journal publishing, requiring that works be made “free to read online”. We generally use that term because it’s clear to people who don’t know about OA or have misconceptions about it.

Since 2015 we’ve published books under the Aquiline Books imprint. (read slide)



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# UNT Libraries Journal Hosting

- Free service for journals using OJS.
  - Requirements:
    - At least one member of editorial collective must be a faculty member currently at UNT.
    - Must adhere to COPE code of conduct.
    - Must not charge authors to submit or publish (platinum/diamond OA).
    - Must check bibliographic references to insert DOIs where missing (as required by Crossref).
    - Articles must be made free to read online immediately, with authors retaining copyright.
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We also have a journal hosting service that we're in a soft launch of. This replaces an earlier hosting service once offered by our Digital Libraries Division.

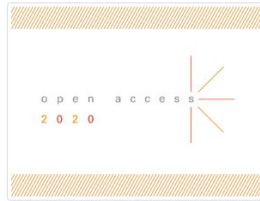
(read slide)

UNT has right to archive the journal outside OJS in case it ceases.

## UNT Signs the OA2020 Expression of Interest

### ABOUT

- Scholarly Communication
- Scholarly Publishing Services
- Copyright Advisory Services
- Digital Scholarship
- Data Management
- Outreach



Posted: 06/06/2018

Scholarly Communication [In the News](#) [Did You Know](#)

UNT is one of the first US universities to join a global alliance for accelerating the transition to open access scholarship.

The University of North Texas has joined [OA2020](#), a global alliance of institutions led by the [Max Planck Digital Library](#) in Munich, that have committed to taking active steps to drive the transformation of the system for publishing works of scholarship. By signing the [OA2020 Expression of Interest](#), President Neal Smatresk has pledged that UNT will convert resources currently spent on journal subscriptions into support for sustainable models for publishing in open access, meaning articles are made free to read and share rather than available only through subscriptions. UNT is the seventh US institution and the first outside of California to sign the Expression of Interest.

"With the cost of subscriptions to journals increasing by an average of 6% per year, libraries can no longer afford to continue absorbing the cost of subscribing to so many subscription-based journals," said Diane Bruxvoort, dean of libraries. "As the primary customers for scholarly journals, academic libraries need to take leadership in converting academic publishing from a subscription model to one where other models of funding allow journals to be made free for all to read."

Moving beyond services of the Libraries ... In 2018 the Libraries asked UNT's president to sign the OA2020 Expression of Interest, thereby pledging to convert resources currently spend on journal subscriptions to some sort of support for sustainable models for publishing in OA. However, having recently achieved a hard-won increase to the student library fee, which had been fixed since 2003, and with UNT recently achieving R1 status, there is little appetite at the moment to decrease access to subscription resources, so there is no reallocation of funds happening at this time.

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## Review of P&T policies

Open Access Advisory Board recommended in 2018 that the following language be included in P&T documents:

Evaluation of scholarly work will use the same criteria whether works are published in digital or print formats and whether they are made accessible online to the public at no cost or are accessible only through individual or institutional purchase.

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There are two other recent activities related to OA that I want to summarize as well.

First, our provost, who came to UNT in 2017, undertook a review of promotion & tenure policies across campus, requiring departments to make certain changes to ensure appropriate standards for an R1 institution across departments. The Open Access Advisory Board took the opportunity of departments revisiting their policies to recommend that the provost ensure that all P&T policies include language ensuring that OA and digitally native content would be treated equal to conventional publications. Unfortunately, only a few departments actually made such an adjustment.

The Open Access Advisory Board also formulated recommendations on joint funding from the provost's office, Libraries, and research office to create an APC fund for assistant professors publishing in certain eligible journals, and to join the TOME initiative for paying university presses that have accepted manuscripts from UNT faculty to make those works OA. Neither proposal found enough matching funding to launch.

As an aside, I want to mention something related to scholarly communication though not OA. The UNT Libraries also reviewed draft P&T policies, looking for inappropriate uses of metrics, compiling comments for the provost's office to share with departments. We also offered to consult with any departments looking for guidance on appropriate use of metrics, and we had a few productive discussions.

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## Textbook affordability

- Membership in Open Textbook Network
  - Informal “alt-textbook” group
  - [affordability.unt.edu](http://affordability.unt.edu)
    - UNT Open Texts
    - OER Summer Grants
    - Access Day One program (inclusive access negotiated course by course with any publisher that uses Barnes & Noble’s platform)
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Finally, I want to talk about efforts at UNT to promote alternatives to conventional textbooks.

The UNT Libraries joined the Open Textbook Network in 2016, holding workshops for faculty and for stakeholders which we think moderately accelerated the use of open textbooks on campus. We have been experimenting with the OTN’s Pressbooks sandbox as a tool for faculty to create or edit open textbooks.

But beginning in 2015, a group of stakeholders from across campus, including the Libraries, university press, Barnes & Noble bookstore, our center for learning and teaching, and the Student Government Association began meeting occasionally to talk about not only OER and other developments in learning materials but also the political challenges to diverting textbook revenue that supports the Division of Student Affairs and certain academic departments.

After some discussions, we felt comfortable creating:

- UNT Open Texts, a joint imprint of the UNT Press and the UNT Libraries for publishing open textbooks authored by UNT faculty for use in UNT courses (and potential adoption beyond). Faculty receive funds up front in lieu of royalties.
- OER Summer Grants, which complement UNT Open Texts by offering funding to UNT faculty who adopt or adapt existing open textbooks or who create ancillary material for an open textbook. Grant recipients will give a presentation during the next International Open Access Week, which we hope

- will help build interest in open textbooks on campus.

No one has yet expressed interest in UNT Open Texts, though we received four applications for OER Summer Grants in our first round (this year). We plan to offer Pressbooks as the platform to be used for open textbooks.

In addition, our provost's office has staff with experience negotiating with academic publishers on department-wide adoptions of textbooks. This past fall, they conducted a pilot inclusive-access program in a few sections of some survey courses, it will expand to many more courses this coming fall. The program is unlike other typical inclusive-access programs in that departments can opt in course by course and can choose from all of the major publishers.