

Carnegie Mellon University
University Libraries

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The Honorable Representative Mike Doyle
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

To the Honorable Representative Mike Doyle,

On behalf of Carnegie Mellon University and the roughly 4,000 faculty and staff we represent, we thank you for introducing **H.R. 708, the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act of 2013**. FASTR will ensure that all researchers and other U.S. taxpayers have not only prompt, free access to peer-reviewed manuscripts reporting on federally funded research, but the right and wherewithal to exploit this information fully. Public access, open formats, and reuse rights will accelerate the pace of discovery and innovation at an unprecedented rate.

FASTR is both firm and flexible, requiring final manuscripts of peer-reviewed articles to be deposited within six months of publication in any open, interoperable repository committed to long term preservation. We applaud requiring articles to be deposited in an open format with licensing terms that support productive reuse. These stipulations are critical to maximizing taxpayer investment in research and growing the economy.

FASTR advances progress made by the highly successful National Institutes of Health public access policy and reflects the growing worldwide trend of funding agencies and higher education institutions to maximize access to and reuse of research results. The combination of expanding public access mandates to other federal agencies and requiring open formats and licenses undoubtedly removes significant barriers and leverages the digital environment in ways that will facilitate interdisciplinary research and accelerate scientific progress. FASTR will increase the use and application of research, leading to the creation of new services, products, and jobs that benefit the public and the economy.

Many Carnegie Mellon faculty members are outspoken advocates of public access to peer-reviewed research. In 2007 the Faculty Senate passed a resolution strongly supporting public access to the community's intellectual assets. In 2008 the Senate passed a resolution that led to the creation of a sustainable open access campus repository. In 2012 our Scholarly Communications Advisory Board approved guidelines encouraging faculty to grant the university a license to archive, preserve, and provide access to their articles and to use the articles in teaching and research. We are now focusing on open data and open licensing. Carnegie Mellon is a leader in computational sciences and therefore a strong supporter of formats and terms that enable computational analysis.

We thank you again for your leadership in introducing FASTR and look forward to working with you to make it the law.

Sincerely,



Gloriana St. Clair, Dean of University Libraries



Denise Troll Covey, Scholarly Communications Librarian