

Open Access Policy

Mount Saint Vincent University is committed to disseminating its research and scholarship as widely as possible. This policy outlines the principle of open access and provides guidelines for voluntary support of the principle by members of the Mount community.

Open Access is the principle that all research should be freely accessible online, immediately after publication. Open Access content is scholarly material that is freely available on the World Wide Web. Access is free for the reader; there are no subscriptions or pay-per-view fees. Normally access is also free of most licensing and copyright restrictions.

The Mount requests that faculty, academic and professional staff members deposit in the Mount's Digital Commons an electronic copy of any research article which has been accepted for publication. The contract with the publisher determines whether the article may be deposited as a pre-print or post-print, restricted in some way (listed in the repository as a record of the Mount's research but not accessible online by other researchers) or completely accessible online by researchers as an open access document.

Guidelines

- 1. When publishing new work, Mount faculty and staff are encouraged to contact the copyright holder and request permission to publish the research concurrently in an open-access format in the Digital Commons.
- 2. Faculty and staff members are encouraged to post previously published works.
- 3. The Mount's institutional repository, the Digital Commons http://dc.msvu.ca shall conform to international standards for Open Access. See more information at http://libguides.msvu.ca/openaccess.
- 4. Other published or unpublished data sets, teaching materials, conference presentations, and creative works are welcome for inclusion.
- 5. Nothing in this policy shall contradict the Mount's collective agreements currently in place.

The policy is to take effect immediately; it will be reviewed after five years by the Senate Library Committee, with a report presented to Senate.

Approved by Senate, Mount Saint Vincent University, October 25, 2010