



## Brock University Library

# Brock University Open Access Policy

### PURPOSE

The Brock University Act provides that the objects and purposes of the University are the advancement of learning, the dissemination of knowledge and the betterment of its members and society. The purpose of this Policy is to advance these objectives by promoting and facilitating the open dissemination of research.

The open dissemination of research brings many benefits, both to the institution, and the communities Brock serves. Open dissemination accelerates discovery across the disciplines; increases the visibility and impact of Brock research; facilitates connections and collaborations between scholars; strengthens the rigour of published research by ensuring it is open to scrutiny by all; and reflects Brock's societal responsibility as an institution receiving public funding.

The Open Access Policy aligns with these goals by expressing an institutional commitment to make research widely accessible, while at the same time protecting the intellectual property rights of its researchers and acknowledging the principle of academic freedom. The policy also aligns with and supports the ability of Brock Scholars to comply with the [Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications](#).

### SCOPE

This Policy applies to all academic journal articles published by Brock Scholars subsequent to the adoption of this Policy.

The Policy does not apply to books, book chapters, collections of essays, datasets, or other outputs that are not academic journal articles; however, deposit of these and other types of scholarly outputs is welcomed.

This Policy applies to Brock Scholars. Others at Brock not covered by this Policy are encouraged to make their research accessible through the avenues described below.

If any provision of this Policy is found to be inconsistent with the provisions of a collective agreement, the collective agreement will prevail, unless the Policy provision is required by law, in which case the Policy provision will prevail.

### POLICY STATEMENT

1. Brock University recognizes the importance of sharing the products of research and scholarship as widely as possible.
2. Brock University is committed to providing an Open Access Repository optimized for the online discoverability, preservation and dissemination of research; and to providing the appropriate supports, including publishing and author rights consultation services, to enable its full utilization.
3. Brock Scholars are expected to deposit an electronic copy of their academic journal articles in Brock's Open Access Repository ("[Brock University Digital Repository](#)") by the date of publication. If needed, articles may be embargoed within the repository upon deposit to meet time periods required by publishers.

4. Each Brock Scholar who deposits their academic journal articles in the Brock University Digital Repository grants the University the non-exclusive permission to archive and disseminate those articles through the Repository, provided that the articles are properly attributed to the authors, and that dissemination is for non-commercial purposes only.

5. Brock Scholars who choose not to deposit an academic journal article in the Brock University Digital Repository shall notify the University Library through the opt-out form made available through the Brock University Library.

## DEFINITIONS

- Open Access Repository – An online database of open access works that is optimized for online discovery and indexing.
- Open Access – Open Access refers to free, unrestricted online access to content
- Brock Scholars – Brock Scholars refers to faculty, professional librarians, students, as well as staff with research responsibilities (post-doctoral fellows, laboratory scientists, etc.).

## POLICY ADMINISTRATION AND REVIEW

The University Librarian will report annually to the Vice-President, Research on the numbers of deposits to the Brock University Digital Repository and opt-outs received. The Vice-President, Research, in consultation with the University Librarian, will be responsible for interpreting this policy, resolving disputes concerning its application, and making recommendations to Senate Research and Scholarship Policy Committee regarding changes to the policy.

*Note: please consult the Brock University Secretariat [Academic Policies page](#) for the official version of the policy, including dates of approval and review*

## Frequently Asked Questions

### COMPLYING WITH THE POLICY

#### WHAT IS OPEN ACCESS?

Open access refers to free, unrestricted online access to content.

There are two main paths to open access:

- Publishing in an open access journal, which makes its contents freely and immediately available online. This is often referred to as gold open access, partly because some open access journals charge article processing fees to publish.
- Publishing in a subscription-based journal and then depositing a copy of the article in a subject or institutional repository, such as the Brock Digital Repository. This is called green open access and does not involve any fees.

While there are two paths to open access, the Brock Open Access Policy focuses exclusively on the deposit of articles in the Brock University Digital Repository (green open access). The policy is silent on whether Brock scholars should publish in gold open access journals. Most of the information below focuses on green open access.

#### HOW DO I COMPLY WITH THE POLICY?

#### WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T COMPLY WITH THE POLICY?

HOW DO I DEPOSIT MY ARTICLES IN THE BROCK DIGITAL REPOSITORY? +

DO I STILL NEED TO DEPOSIT AN ARTICLE IF IT IS PUBLISHED IN AN OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL? +

HOW DO I DETERMINE WHICH VERSION OF MY ARTICLE TO DEPOSIT? +

CAN I PLACE AN EMBARGO ON MY ARTICLE THAT WOULD DELAY ITS RELEASE? +

WHAT DO I NEED TO CHECK BEFORE I SUBMIT MY ARTICLE TO A PARTICULAR JOURNAL? AND, HOW DO I FIND OUT WHETHER A SPECIFIC JOURNAL WILL ALLOW DEPOSIT TO A REPOSITORY? +

WHAT IF A JOURNAL I WANT TO PUBLISH IN DOES NOT ALLOW DEPOSIT? +

IS IT POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE WITH A PUBLISHER TO DEPOSIT OR OTHERWISE RETAIN MY RIGHT TO SHARE MY RESEARCH? +

AFTER I HAVE SUBMITTED MY ARTICLE TO THE REPOSITORY, CAN I UPLOAD A REVISED VERSION? +

WILL THIS POLICY MAKE IT HARDER TO GET MY ARTICLES PUBLISHED? +

WHY DOES THE POLICY ONLY APPLY TO SCHOLARLY ARTICLES? +

## ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

HOW DOES THIS POLICY AFFECT MY ACADEMIC FREEDOM? —

- The policy has no implications on what or where a scholar chooses to publish and therefore does not infringe on academic freedom.

DOES THE POLICY REQUIRE ME TO TRANSFER MY COPYRIGHT TO BROCK? +

HOW DO I OPT-OUT? —

- All scholars may choose not to deposit a particular article by completing an opt-out form, made available through the Brock University Library (see below). Completion of this form would count as compliance with the Open Access Policy.
- There are no institutional consequences for deciding not to deposit your articles in the repository

## OPTING OUT OF DEPOSIT

### Title \*

Title of the journal article for which a waiver is being requested

### Your name \*

### Brock email address \*

### Status \*

### Brock department \*

Your home academic or administrative unit

**Citation for published version of the article \***

**Rationale \***

Please tell us why are you opting out of depositing this article in the Brock Digital Repository?

- Licence with publisher forbids deposit
- Other

**If you selected Other, please provide more details \***

**SUBMIT**

[Save and Continue Later](#)

**GENERAL**

**HOW DOES THE POLICY BENEFIT ME AS A SCHOLAR?** —

Making your scholarly articles openly accessible brings many benefits including:

Making your scholarly articles openly accessible brings many benefits including:

- Higher citation rates
- Broader visibility and reach of your work
- Supporting in complying with research funders' open access policies
- Enhancing your copyright over your own scholarly articles

DO OTHER INSTITUTIONS HAVE OPEN ACCESS POLICIES?



HOW WILL USERS DISCOVER MY CONTENT IN THE BROCK DIGITAL REPOSITORY?



HOW IS THE BROCK DIGITAL REPOSITORY DIFFERENT FROM WEBSITES SUCH AS ACADEMIA.EDU AND RESEARCHGATE? CAN I STILL POST MY ARTICLES TO THOSE SITES?



HOW DOES THIS POLICY ALIGN WITH THE TRI-AGENCY OPEN ACCESS POLICY ON PUBLICATIONS?



WHO CAN HELP ME UNDERSTAND THE POLICY AND/OR HOW TO DEPOSIT MY WORK?



### HELPFUL LINKS

- Emergency contacts
- Mental Health and Wellness
- Campus map
- Financial information

### CONNECT

- Visitor information
- Contact Brock University
- Media relations
- Website feedback

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