Resolution on Open Access Publication

Whereas, SUNY faculty members create scholarly research and publish it with commercial publishers to sell to libraries at increasingly unaffordable prices; and

Whereas, the SUNY Libraries recognize the need for faculty and students to have access to, read, publish in, and to cite high quality, high-impact journals in their fields of study; and

Whereas, SUNY needs to develop a multi-faceted long-term strategy for scholarly communications and library funding across our campuses; and

Whereas, such a strategy will require strong statements of direction from the SUNY System Office, significant cultural change on our campuses, and alignment with faculty governance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate encourages SUNY, its Libraries, and the Faculty to explore and support alternatives to publishing scholarship with commercial publishers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the University Faculty Senate work with the SUNY Provost office, the SUNY Librarians Association, the SUNY Council of Library Directors, and other stakeholders to create a task force to explore alternative models of scholarly publishing and communications, and their impact on promotions and continuing appointment, and to report back to the University Faculty Senate with an interim report at the Winter 2016 UFS Plenary meeting, and with a final report at the Spring 2016 UFS Plenary meeting, regarding the feasibility, desirability and logistics of adopting such alternative models.