Open Infrastructure and the COVID-19 Crisis

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Agenda

- Background
- Review of principles, criteria, and process
- Use with COVID-19
Background

Existing Policies

- Open Access Collection Development Policy
- IT Governance Process

However, not all decisions related to open infrastructure passed through these processes.

Open Access Collection Development Policy

Prepared by: Chris Palazzolo, Head of Collections

Purpose
Open Access and Collections

The following policy, drafted by Collection Management and the Office of Scholarly Communication, outlines basic policies and principles regarding the addition of open access content to supplement Woodruff Library’s current collection development policy, as well as the support of emerging Open Access monograph and journal programs and models. The policy is divided into two parts: (1) financial support for open access initiatives, and (2) identification and selection of open access content for addition to the collection and OPAC.

Woodruff Library committed to the support and promotion of open access by way of providing open access materials in our collection and supporting open access publishing efforts of faculty members and the greater research and publishing community. These open access materials enhance and supplement traditional resources that are purchased/owned, leased or created by the library.

Support of OA Collection Initiatives
Numerous new and innovative open access initiatives from established and new publishers and presses (e.g. http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Publishers_of_OA_books) are being marketed and piloted. There a number of models emerging in this area.

The following guidelines should inform selectors and collection managers as to what content initiatives are to be supported by Emory’s libraries. Funds for support of these initiatives will likely come be requested from the Common Good fund.

- The content should be within our current collection development guidelines (i.e., would we purchase this content if it were fee-based to support the curricular and research needs of the Emory Community)? Note that there are cases that even when content may not match Emory curricular needs that Emory may support due to the general nature of the initiative.
- A sustainable and equitable business model that does not require exorbitant costs on the part of the author or the library.
- Library financial support should be based on a cost/content ratio (fees compared in proportion to the content received).
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Principles of open infrastructure support

We support open infrastructure locally and globally

We are committed to sustainable and equitable models of open infrastructure

We are responsible for being good stewards of our resources

We support initiatives that align with our core values and strategic plan
Criteria for evaluation

Overview

Description, justification; what problem does this solve?

Governance and organizational viability

Structure and staffing; readiness to complete and sustain work

Financial sustainability

Contracts and liabilities of org; expertise and funding available in the libraries

Benefits to libraries and scholarly community

Alignment with priorities, benefit to our users vs. commitment, benefit to scholarly community
Process for evaluation

Requestor answers questions related to the criteria

Operations and Management Team reviews and approves

Source of funding or staffing is identified by OMT

Regular review of support
Use with COVID-19

Temporary Budget Adjustments

5% budget adjustments for administrative units

In the libraries they primarily impacted:

- Student employee budgets
- Open positions
- Collections
- Freeze on all discretionary spending

Review of Memberships

All memberships reviewed, not just open infrastructure.

Discussion centered on the principles:

- Governance and organizational viability
- Financial sustainability
- Benefits of membership

Decisions were made accordingly and provided us additional cushion in our budget.
Questions?

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