

***UT Scholarly Communications Committee  
Meeting Notes, November 15, 2005***

Present: George Kabalka, Jane Row, Carol Parker, Linda Phillips (recorder), Bruce Ralston, Kurt Piehler, Susan Martin, Jay Whelan

**1. Open Access Resolution**

Members of the Committee (Jay Whelan, Soren Sorensen, Susan Martin, Linda Phillips, Ron Gilmour) met with the Faculty Senate Library Committee on October 25 to discuss the resolution we prepared last spring. A few changes were added, and the document will be reviewed at the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting on January 23, with presentation at Faculty Senate on February 6.

The Committee discussed ways to encourage implementation of faculty actions, such as “encouraging and collaborating with publishers’ efforts to advance open access;” striving to retain intellectual property rights in their own work where this will help it become more widely available; and remaining alert to efforts by publishers to impose barriers on access to the fruits of scholarly research.” Further, the resolution calls for promotion and tenure review to use judgments based on individual quality and scholarly content, rather than on publication venue.

Suggestions included:

- a) Conduct departmental discussions about journals that serve the discipline, and consider issues such as editorial rigor, pricing, and willingness to advance open access.
- b) Humanities departments hold similar discussions about monographic publishers.
- c) Inform faculty about the Creative Commons license options, and the *Directory of Open Access Journals*.
- d) Distribute information about citation frequency in open access journals, such as those published by *BioMedCentral*.
- e) Conduct impact studies for open access journals.
- f) Full professors may be more willing to contribute articles to open access journals, because their reputations have already been established.
- g) Jay will raise some of these issues at a department meeting next week.
- h) George reports a decline in page charges for chemistry journals. Some publishers send a template for accepted articles that authors use for the final version.
- i) Kurt recommends inviting University of Virginia’s Ed Ayres to speak at UT about his work to establish and promote digital publication. See Ayres’ *The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War* web site at: <http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vshadow2/choosepart.html>.

## **2. Newfound Press**

Linda demonstrated the Libraries' new digital imprint, Newfound Press. The Press has published one book, and is seeking monograph manuscripts, journals to host, and digital multimedia. An Advisory Board is helping to shape the direction of the Press, including development of guidelines for submitting and peer-reviewing content. The Advisory Board has developed a survey about faculty interest in digital multimedia as an emerging scholarly publication medium.

## **3. Use of Citation Counts to Determine Quality of Journal Articles**

Linda distributed copies of the October 14, 2005 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article on this topic for discussion at a future meeting.