

## **Key Points about Federal Research Public Access Act of 2009 (FRPAA)**

With the FRPAA, final manuscripts of scholarly work published in a peer-reviewed journal and funded by government agencies must be submitted to those agencies within 6 months of publication. These documents are then made available electronically for free to the general public. Furthermore interested parties can also use the research to further human knowledge.

Fears that the bill will damage the research publication industry are unfounded. Journals would still provide more immediate access to these highly time sensitive documents since there can be up to a 6 month delay in public availability. Additionally, publications of privately funded research may still only be available through these journals.

FRPAA promotes the current trend toward collaboration and open-access models in the journal publishing industry. As electronic technology decreases the cost of publishing articles, the 'pay to publish' model has gained dominance and popularity; authors pay to submit articles, which are then peer-reviewed, finalized, and published both electronically and on paper, with electronic access being free to the reader. This model has the advantage of increasing journal readership, especially for audiences outside large research universities.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) currently has a mandate similar to FRPAA for all NIH funded research. Under FRPAA, all public funded research will follow that model.

Tier 1 research universities such as Harvard, MIT and UC-Berkeley, as well as other academic institutions such as Stanford's School of Education, Cornell, and Dartmouth have formed a pact that they will help pay for articles published in open access (OA) journals. The international research community is also moving to open-access models; Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Scotland, and Switzerland all have OA mandates.

### **ENDORISING THE FEDERAL RESEARCH PUBLIC ACCESS ACT WILL:**

- Mandate that all federally funded research is publically available in order to maximize its access, uptake, usage, application, impact, and progress.
- Enhance the dissemination of knowledge through a variety of means.
- Allow for researchers more easily to share their work and collaborate with others.

## **Enhance research awareness and collaboration: support FRPAA!**

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

**James Hodgson**  
Legislative Concerns Chair  
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students  
lcc@nagps.org

**Julia Mortyakova**  
President/CFO  
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students  
president@nagps.org