

## Open Access has long-term value

As the prices of conventional journals spiral out of control and become unsustainable, your options of accessing high-impact journal material will diminish. OA Research provides a positive alternative for you to find top, current research soon after it has been published. You will be able to access online, full-text, peer-reviewed scholarly research and data without delay via the Internet.

You will not have to write to authors for copies of their papers, wait for their replies, or apply for copyright and pay high copyright fees to access material. It will all be available online, open and immediately, with no charges. You will be able to share articles with colleagues, students and other information users inside and outside South Africa, without any concerns about copyright infringement. You can reduce the number of copyright permissions needed for research purposes or electronic theses/dissertations.

### Useful resources on Open Access, see:

Libguide on Open Access, A2K & Scholarly Communication - [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess\\_a2k\\_scholarly\\_communication](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication)  
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For more information or queries about Open Access and Open Publishing, contact:

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Wartenweiler Library

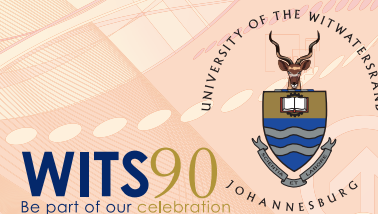
Tel: 011 7171929 or  
email: [Denise.Nicholson@wits.ac.za](mailto:Denise.Nicholson@wits.ac.za); or

Wits Research Office, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Senate House  
Tel: 011 71254 or  
Email: [Robin.Drennan@wits.ac.za](mailto:Robin.Drennan@wits.ac.za)

*Retain Wits long-lasting legacy  
of high-level achievement and  
excellence - Adopt Open Access!*

## Open Access Scholarly Publishing

Showcasing Wits Research on the  
Global Stage



## Wits elects to become a signatory to the Berlin Declaration on Open Access in the Sciences and Humanities

As of the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012, Wits will sign and commit itself to the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities ([http://oa.mpg.de/files/2010/04/berlin\\_declaration.pdf](http://oa.mpg.de/files/2010/04/berlin_declaration.pdf)). This decision, taken at the Senate meeting of 14 June 2012, will -

- Amplify the range of channels for dissemination of groundbreaking knowledge in niche areas
- Optimise the international visibility and impact of Wits research, and its reputation for teaching
- Widen the global footprint of access to knowledge produced at Wits through extensive scholarly networks
- Contribute to society's access to knowledge
- Further promote a distinctive focus and reputation for ground-breaking research and scholarship in science, engineering and technology (SET) disciplines

## What is Open Access (OA)?

Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, full-text, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions (Source: <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>).

## What is Open Access (OA) Scholarly Publishing?

Open Access scholarly publishing is the dissemination of peer-reviewed scholarly research via an open access platform which provides full-text, unrestricted access to the works and ancillary documentation and data.

## Open access will increase the research impact of Wits academics

Academics will have a larger potential audience than any subscriber-restricted journal can give, even the most prestigious. This will result in better impact, increased citations, global and cross-disciplinary exposure, more collaborative projects, more scholarly productivity and possible funding options. Your scholarly works will be harvested by major search engines and made accessible to anyone using the Internet, including researchers and scientists in your own field, and in new emerging interdisciplinary fields. For those scientists working on future commercialisation of research, the publications will also be more easily accessible to private firms seeking commercialisation partnerships.

## Open Access will enhance Wits research reputation

Open access publishing will aid in showcasing Wits research on the global stage and provide knowledge to researchers, educators, librarians and other information users who do not have the resources to access closed subscription-based journals, particularly in rural areas of South Africa and in other developing countries around the world.

## 3 ways to ensure open access to your work

- Deposit pre-prints and post-prints in Wits Institutional Repository (WIReDSpace) <http://wiredspace.wits.ac.za> by communicating with Denise Nicholson, Copyright Services Librarian at [Denise.Nicholson@wits.ac.za](mailto:Denise.Nicholson@wits.ac.za) or your Faculty Librarian.
- Attach Wits' Author's Addendum (under Author's Rights) at: [http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess\\_a2k\\_scholarly\\_communication](http://libguides.wits.ac.za/openaccess_a2k_scholarly_communication) to the Publisher's Agreement, when publishing, so that you retain some of your rights, and in the process, also protect access rights of your readers.
- Submit your work for publication in peer-reviewed OA journals – <http://www.library.up.ac.za/aoajsa.htm>; <http://www.doaj.org> or <http://www.scielo.org.za>; or in OA books – <http://www.doab.org>

## Three (3) ways to promote open access to knowledge

- Publish your next book as an OA Book under a Creative Commons licence.\*
- Make your conference papers, presentations, reports, newspaper articles and other 'grey material' relevant to your discipline/research available on an OA website, e.g. WIReDSpace.
- Encourage an open access culture within the journals you publish, edit or review