

Libyan International Medical University

Policy on Open Access to Scholarly Publications and Intellectual Production

Version 1.0 - Dec.2017

“Equal access to science is not only a social and ethical requirement for human development, but also essential for realizing the full potential of scientific communities worldwide and for orienting scientific progress towards meeting the needs of humankind”.

The World Conference on Science, 1999, held under the auspices of UNESCO and the ICSU

The Libyan International Medical University (*LIMU*) believes that knowledge empowers citizens and helps to improve their lives. One of its central roles is to improve access to information and knowledge for Libyan citizens and others through appropriate use of information and communication technologies.

The LIMU has developed and will now implement the following policy for Open Access to its own knowledge.

A. Publications

All published knowledge outputs, except those compromising with sensitive information will be Open Access. This applies to journals, books and other knowledge output types of intellectual productions. LIMU will provide free, immediate access through its repository database.

B. Obligations on LIMU funded authors

The following materials **must** be included in the Open Access database repository of LIMU

- refereed research articles and conference papers (author's accepted, final, peer-reviewed manuscript)
- books or book chapters
- Theses and dissertations
- Student final projects
- Posters and reports

Any recipient of LIMU funding must ensure open access (free of charge, online access for any user) to all peer-reviewed scientific publications relating to its results.

In particular, it must:

- (a) as soon as possible and at the latest on publication, deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the scientific publications;

Moreover, the recipient of published version or final peer-reviewed manuscript accepted for publication in a repository for public funding is encouraged to deposit at the same time the research data needed to validate the results presented in the deposited scientific publications.

- (b) ensure open access to the deposited publication — via the repository — at the latest:
 - (i) on publication, if an electronic version is available for free via the publisher, or
 - (ii) within six months, or soon after the embargo of publication (twelve months for publications in the social sciences and humanities) has ended.
- (c) ensure open access — via the repository — to the bibliographic metadata that identify the deposited publication.

The bibliographic metadata must be in a standard format and must include all of the following:

- the terms ["ACRONYM OF FUNDER" and "PROGRAM OF FUNDING"];
- the name of the project, acronym and grant number;
- the publication date, and length of embargo period if applicable, and
- a persistent identifier of Digital Object Identifier (DOI)/ Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) **or** Corporation for National Research Institute CNRI.

Compliance and Monitoring

LIMU shall monitor compliance and shall withdraw or withhold further support from authors not complying with the policy. Exceptions are sometimes necessary to grant but shall be kept to a minimum. Exceptions shall not be granted on grounds of preferences but only for justified reasons.

C. Policy FAQs

- What are the benefits to researchers of Open Access?

As authors, researchers benefit because their research papers are given a much wider dissemination and can be read without restriction by anyone with Internet access. This increases the impact of their research. Indeed, evidence is accumulating to show that open access articles are cited more than non-open access articles. As readers, researchers benefit because they will increasingly be able to access and use the full text of all the research published in their area, not just the research available to them via the subscriptions their institution can afford.

- What are the benefits to Libyan International Medical University?

First, LIMU's research and knowledge will be more accessible to global researchers, hence better known and more widely used and cited. The prestige of high-profile

LIMU researchers will increase; even lesser known researchers will gain more exposure and impact. Second, all LIMU's research will be open to all entrepreneurs and the general public with Internet access. This will be beneficial both commercially and culturally. Third, access, usage and citation data on this research will increasingly become available and analyzable to help shape research strategies and policies in institutions and in nations across the world, including developing and emerging countries.

- What should be deposited when I have a paper ready for publication?

The final manuscript of the author's research paper or book chapter should be deposited. This is the author's own final, as accepted for publication, including all modifications resulting from the peer-review process. (In some cases publishers may permit their own published version, either in SGML/XML or PDF, to be deposited as well; this is welcome, but is not a requirement.)

- When should papers be deposited?

An electronic version of the author's final manuscript resulting from research supported, in whole or in part, by LIMU's funding must be deposited **immediately** upon acceptance for publication.

- Will authors still be able to publish in a journal of their choice?

Authors will of course still decide in which journal they choose to publish their research papers. They will merely have to ensure that a copy of the final, peer-reviewed paper is deposited in LIMU repository **immediately upon acceptance** for publication.

- How can I find out whether my journal has a policy compliant with depositing my manuscript in my institutional repository?

You should consult the individual journal's policy which is given at:

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php> or at

<http://romeo.eprints.org/publishers.html>. About two-thirds of journals do allow this practice. If the journal you wish to publish in does not permit it, please remember that your contractual obligations are first to this institution and then to journal publishers.

- How do I ensure contractual compliance?

Authors' contractual obligations with LIMU to conduct their research pre-date any contractual agreement with the journal in which the resulting research is published (apart from the brief transitional period when this new policy is first announced). Hence authors can ensure in advance that any later contractual agreement for publishing their research complies with the author's earlier contractual agreement with LIMU, informing the journal that they are under an existing obligation to deposit in

an open access repository. LIMU's rules are mandatory and binding on all employees carrying out research in LIMU.

- What kind of papers should I deposit?

The policy applies to peer-reviewed, original (primary) research publications and reviews that have been supported, in whole or in part, by LIMU funding.

- Do I need to deposit my paper if the journal publishing my research already provides immediate open access to my articles?

Yes. LIMU still wishes to have your work deposited in our repository to enable it to maintain a complete record of institutional research output.