

AAHSL Scholarly Communications Committee Report
October 21, 2015

November, 2014 - AAHSL signed onto a SPARC letter urging various congressional appropriation subcommittees to retain public access language as they work through the conferencing process.

December, 2014 – Pat Thibodeau reviewed the CE course outline for Publishing 101. Committee input will be sought to decide whether or not to offer the content through AAHSL-sponsored webinars.

February, 2015 – AAHSL sent a letter to the American Public Health Association (APHA) expressing concern about the changes made to its policy for providing open access to the American Journal of Public Health. AJPH extended its embargo period from 2 years to 10 years and closed public access to articles via the journal’s web portal.

April 2015 – AAHSL agreed to sign on to a SPARC letter to thank each of the five original sponsors of the FASTR Act.

May 16, 2015 – Committee met at MLA in Austin, TX. Melissa DeSantis and Donna Gibson volunteered to take the lead in reviewing the Scholarly Communications content on the AAHSL website and working with representatives of the MLA Scholarly Communications Committee to address content overlap on the websites. Melissa and Donna developed a survey and sent it to AAHSL members for feedback on the content and value of the existing content on the AAHSL website. They continue to work on revising the content. Pat Thibodeau will survey AAHSL members about Biomed Publishing 101 content to see if the content is of interest to members, and if so, which format is most desirable.

May 2015 – AAHSL was asked to sign on to a SPARC letter regarding Elsevier’s updated sharing and hosting policies. AAHSL declined to sign on to the letter, instead agreed to work with MLA to craft our own response.

July 2015 – AAHSL and MLA sent a joint letter to Elsevier outlining concerns about their updated sharing and hosting policies. On October 20, 2015 there was a follow up call with Alicia Wise, Director of Access and Policy, Elsevier, to respond to the concerns.

August 2015 – AAHSL and MLA prepared a joint response to the NIH request for information on the NIH Strategic Plan.

August - October 2015 – Pat Thibodeau distributed the Biomed Publishing 101 survey results and created a LibGuide with resources that are already available to guide the discussion of next steps for possible delivery of the content.

Brenda attended monthly conference calls with the Open Access Working Group (OAWG) and forwarded emails from the listserv to committee members.

A Scholarly Communications Committee meeting will be held at AAHSL in Baltimore on November 5, 2015 at 2 pm.

Committee Members: Brenda Seago, Chair, Patricia Thibodeau, Chair-Elect, Ruth Riley (Board Liaison), Melissa Desantis, Deborah Sibley, Andrea Twiss-Brooks, David Osterbur, Dixie Jones, Donna Gibson, Emily McElroy, Michael Koehn, Daniel Burgard