



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE-PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS

April 5, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) wishes to express our thanks on behalf of the 600,000 graduate and professional students we represent, for the Administration's policy memorandum on February 22, 2013 to open access to federally funded research.

Open Access to federally funded research is an important issue for our members. We have published an op-ed in the Washington Post, signed the *We the People* petition, and submitted public comments urging these policies. Students frequently struggle to gain access to journal articles to complete their research in timely and efficient ways. The rising cost of journal subscriptions has been prohibitively expensive for our libraries and for institutions without significant resources. This has meant that many articles paid for by taxpayers are simply unavailable to students and the general public. Open access to federally-funded research will provide students the access they need and will open science and research to the American people who have funded our nation's investment. We support your directive to agencies with more than \$100 million in Research and Development to develop plans to provide federally-funded research to the public within a year of its publication.

As your office continues to develop and oversee plans for implementing the federal initiative for open access to federally-funded research, NAGPS stands ready to assist you. Your offices may contact us at any time, should you require graduate and professional students' perspectives on issues affecting post-secondary education

Sincerely,

Jared Voskuhl, M.A.
President & CEO, NAGPS
Juris Doctorate Candidate, Class of 2013
University of California, Davis

Meredith Niles
Director of Legislative Affairs, NAGPS
Ph.D. Candidate in Ecology, Class of 2014
University of California, Davis

NAGPS members:
Arizona State University
Arkansas State University
Armstrong Atlantic State University
Auburn University
Baylor University
Bentley University
Boston University
Bryn Mawr College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Chatham University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Drexel University
Duke University
East Carolina University
East Tennessee State University
Eastern Illinois University
Emerson College
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
Florida State University
George Mason University
Grand Valley State University
Harvard University
High Point University
Johns Hopkins University
Kent State University
Loyola University Maryland
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Missouri University of Science and Technology
North Carolina State University
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Old Dominion University
Pennsylvania State University
Regent University
Rice University
Southern University
St. Cloud State University
St. Louis University
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
Tufts University
University of Akron
University of Alabama, Birmingham
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas, Little Rock
University of California
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Merced
University of California, San Diego
University of Central Florida
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Louisville
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Miami
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri
University of Missouri, St. Louis
University of Montana
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Nevada, Reno
University of New England
University of New Haven
University of North Texas
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus
University of South Dakota
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee Knoxville
University of Toledo
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
Western Michigan University
Xavier University