

Open access policy for the University of Stavanger

The University of Stavanger shall be an open university¹, and as such the university's research output shall be openly available to all. This will be in line with the principles for academic freedom², which means that the researcher is free to choose the venue for the publication of their scientific work.

At the same time, UiS stays in line with the guidelines and requirements for open communication from authorities and research funders. For externally funded research, the funder's requirements for open access shall apply. Furthermore, it is the goal of the government that all scientific articles stemming from publicly funded research shall be openly available by 2024³.

The policy shall also contribute to promoting UiS goals related to career development, by laying the groundwork for transparency and openness in research. This enables UiS to fulfill their commitments following the signing of the DORA declaration⁴, and similar initiatives.

UiS follows up by promoting and enabling open access to scientific publications in the repository and through the financial support for article processing charges.

1. Choosing a publishing venue

In the choice between two venues of equal scientific worth, UiS recommends that employees publish in venues which provide open access to the public. This applies to all kinds of scientific output and artistic development work. Venues UiS researchers choose to publish in should also be financially sustainable for UiS as an institution over time. Self-archiving is a good alternative if direct open access is difficult to achieve.

2. Rights retention strategy

On the 12th of October 2023, UiS introduced a new rights retention strategy on behalf of their employees, where non-exclusive rights to scientific articles is retained, in order to make it possible to archive the author accepted manuscript (AAM/post-print). The articles shall be made available in the repository at the time of publishing, in line with Plan S, and the open access policies of the Research Council of Norway (RCN) and the EU.

- UiS employees are free to choose where they wish to publish scientific articles.
- Scientific articles shall be archived in the repository with a Creative Commons BY licence (CC-BY)⁵ upon acceptance, in line with requirements from funders such as RCN and the EU.
- UiS, represented by rector, is responsible for the interpretation and management of the strategy, and legally responsible in the event of any disputes.

- Employees wishing to obtain an exemption from the strategy, can notify the library of the articles this applies for.

3. Self-archiving all peer reviewed articles in the repository

All researchers employed at UiS after the 1st of May, 2012, are obliged to self-archive the author accepted version of scientific, peer reviewed articles produced in connection with their UiS employment in the repository. This also to articles/chapters in anthologies as well as journal articles. When the publisher permits the self-archiving of the final version (version of record) this is the preferred version to self-archive.

UiS also encourages all other employees to follow the principle of self-archiving. Authors affiliated with UiS are further encouraged to make other scientific output openly available, including works related to artistic development. Master students and PhD candidates are also encouraged to make their theses / dissertations openly available.

The policy was passed by the board on the 18th April 2012/revised 28th April 2016/revised 12th October 2023.