

**From:** Russell, Judith <jcrussell@ufl.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2020 5:12 PM  
**To:** Norton, Hannah F <nortonh@ufl.edu>; Bialosky, Laurie A <lbialosky@aa.ufl.edu>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Future of the UF Open Access Publishing Fund (UFOAP Fund)

Please share with the research council.

Judy

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Begin forwarded message:

Attached is a brief history of the UFOAP Fund and data about its utilization by various colleges and units. The Libraries administer the fund under the direction of the University Libraries Committee of the Faculty Senate. Funding has been provided by the Provost. The Fund will run out of money at the end of the spring semester, so we need to make a decision about its future.

One option is to close the fund and cease to offer support for Article Processing Charges (APCs) for UF authors. Another option is to seek additional funding from the Provost, UF Research, or even from some of the colleges, to allow us to continue. I don't expect the Provost to provide any additional funding unless there is strong support from you for continuing this service to UF authors.

The ULC discussed continuing the Fund under the current policies but we also considered several options for refocusing it. As you can see from the data on the last page of the report, 1/3 of the funding has been provided to graduate students and Post Docs and there was discussion about focusing the Fund on serving this population since they would be the least likely to have access to other sources of funding for APCs. We have not differentiated the rank of faculty members who have received funding, but there was some discussion about directing the funding to early career faculty members since they are working toward tenure and again have less access to funding than more senior faculty. These options were discussed briefly, but inconclusively, at lunch.

If we do continue, we need to consider what is a reasonable budget for the Fund. We have twice run out of money and had to suspend payments until the new calendar year. We have expended \$468,000 dollars since 2017 and turned away \$282,000 in eligible requests due to lack of funding. And this has been done with very little outreach and promotion because the funding was so limited that we didn't want to create false expectations.

NOTE: We already **exclude** any authors with alternative sources of funding, including grants, departmental funds, development funds, etc.

I need your advice on several questions:

1. Should we continue to operate a UFOAP Fund?

- a. Yes
  - b. No
2. If yes, who should be eligible for funding? (Check all that you feel should apply)
- a. Graduate students and Post Docs?
  - b. Junior faculty?
  - c. All faculty?
  - d. Staff?
  - e. Other? (please specify)
3. How much is enough? Clearly the current funding of \$120,000 per calendar year is inadequate to meet the demand.
- a. \$240,000 per year?
  - b. \$360,000 per year?
  - c. Other? (please specify)

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have and I welcome your ideas about whether and how to proceed.

Many thanks.

Judy

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