Dartmouth College

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MEMORANDUM

TO:	Dartmouth Research Community
DATE:	November 23, 2015
RE:	NSF Public Access Policy

Following a Presidential Memorandum, federal funding agencies, and some foundations, have been implementing policies to increase public access to the outcomes of funded research. In general, the requirements for all federally funded research are:

- published results must be made publicly available; and

- researchers must develop data management plans that address preservation of and access to scientific data.

The DOE, NIH, and some other agencies and foundations already have requirements in place.[1] Starting with proposals submitted in January 2016, the NSF will be implementing its policy. The NSF policy requires final journal articles to be available within 12 months for reading and downloading. Articles will need to be reported in annual and final reports with a "persistent identifier that links to the full text and metadata elements." The NSF will be launching a pilot repository in December 2015/January 2016 for this purpose. OSP will provide further information as details become known. NSF's current data management plan requirements will remain unchanged for the present. Additional details are available online: https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/public_access/.

Current Dartmouth resources to help meet the public access requirements include:
- The Dartmouth Faculty Open Access Policy provides for scholarly journal articles to be made open access in the long term via the institution's digital repository, through grant of a license on the part of the faculty to Dartmouth prior to publishing their work.
- The Data Management Plan Tool, customized for Dartmouth, makes it easier to create a strong data management plan that meets current federal requirements. For consultation on data management, see Data Management and Resource Sharing Plans.
- Library and OSP staff are available to assist with public access and data management requirements as needed.

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1. For an overview of which agencies and foundations have Public Access requirements and their plans, see the Dartmouth College Library Research Guide: Scholarly Publishing and Communication.