Scholarly Publishing Statement of Principles University of California, Berkeley

We resolve that the Berkeley campus will take the following steps immediately:

Retain Faculty Control: The faculty of the University of California, Berkeley will seek to maintain control of their work by retaining intellectual property rights and/or by submitting their work to alternative venues or to publishers who maintain reasonable business practices. Retaining control of one's scholarly output will allow Berkeley faculty greater freedom to disseminate their work, therefore increasing others' use of it and maximizing the impact of their scholarship.

Advancement and Promotion: All those involved in the process of academic review will not discriminate against alternative venues for scholarly communication. As always, work will be judged based on its individual quality and scholarly content. The role of a publication venue in this process will be assessed according to such criteria as its demonstrated standards, degree of selectivity, and the quality of its peer-review.

Incentives: The Academic Senate and the campus administration will provide appropriate incentives and tools for faculty to establish alternative scholarly outlets, serve on and lead relevant editorial boards, and submit their scholarly work to such ventures.

Support the Library: Libraries around the world are beginning to take a hard line when negotiating contracts with publishers and societies that put profits above scholarly communication. The faculty and administration of the University of California, Berkeley will support the Library's efforts to curtail unsustainable pricing structures even if this sometimes means losing access to titles.

endorsed March 2005 by the Academic Senate, Berkeley Division