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## Oberlin College's Open Access Policy

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# Oberlin College Open Access Policy

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# Good practices for university open-access policies

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- Last revised October 19, 2015. Version 1.5.
- Suggested short URL for this guide = [bit.ly/goodoa](http://bit.ly/goodoa)

## Preface

- This is a guide to good practices for university open-access (OA) policies. It's based on the type of policy first adopted at Harvard, Stanford, MIT, and the University of Kansas. Policies of this kind have since been adopted at a **wide variety of institutions** in North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia, for example, at affluent and indigent institutions, public and private institutions, research universities and liberal arts colleges, and at whole universities, schools within universities, and departments within schools.
- At the same time, the guide includes recommendations that should be useful to institutions taking other approaches.
- The guide is designed to evolve. No early version will cover every point on which good practices would be desirable or might be discernible. We plan to revise and enlarge it over time, building on our own experience and the experience of colleagues elsewhere. We welcome suggestions.
- The guide was in the works for several years before the first public version [launched](#) in October 2012. It's one small part of the larger effort described in Recommendation 4.2 of the [ten-year anniversary statement of the Budapest Open Access Initiative](#) (September 2012): Supporters of open access "should develop guidelines to universities and funding agencies considering OA policies, including recommended policy terms, best practices, and answers to frequently asked questions."
- We deliberately call our recommendations "good practices" rather than "best practices". On many points, there are multiple,



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