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5 Resolution in Support of University Libraries Licensing Priorities

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8 **WHEREAS**, a lack of state funding results in a limited University budget for operating and
9 general funds; and

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11 **WHEREAS**, ongoing subscription costs and inflationary increases for library resources outpace
12 budget increases and imperil the University Libraries' ability to meet current and projected
13 collection, research, and service needs; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, publishers rely on uncompensated or minimally compensated academic labor in the
16 form of authorship, peer review, and editorship in the creation of journals and content; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, publishers levy Article Processing Charges (APCs) on authors in addition to the
19 subscription fees paid by the University Libraries; and

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21 **WHEREAS**, publishers restrict authors' abilities to share their articles openly with other
22 researchers and with the public at large, contrary to our goals as a public institution and the
23 advancement of science and dissemination of scholarly research;

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25 **WHEREAS**, publishers use non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) or confidentiality clauses to
26 obscure contractual terms with universities and hinder free, transparent negotiations; and

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28 **WHEREAS**, publishers leverage profits to exert control over key tools for managing the research
29 lifecycle and scholarly communications; and

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31 **WHEREAS**, publishers use institutional data as business intelligence to create additional
32 subscription content or services;

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34 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming endorses
35 the University Libraries Licensing Priorities as follows:

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37 **University of Wyoming Libraries Licensing Priorities**

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39 The Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming resolves to support University Libraries in
40 their commitment to seamlessly connecting people with the highest quality information and
41 expertise. University Libraries practice responsible stewardship by advocating for equitable
42 information production, discovery, and access. Their goal in establishing these priorities is to

43 increase transparency and to communicate the University's values and expectations for
44 licensed resources to our stakeholders and vendors.

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46 In keeping with these values University Libraries have identified qualities that our resources
47 should embody:

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49 • **Accessibility:** Provide equitable access to information for all library users. The Libraries
50 prioritize acquisition of materials with a demonstrated commitment to web accessibility,
51 universal design principles, and optimizing end-user experiences.

- 52 • **Affordability:** Reduce subscription costs to a sustainable level. Recognize the limitations
53 on campus budgets and lack of funding from the state of Wyoming. The Libraries
54 negotiate fair and sustainable prices for resources and services based on transparent
55 and cost-based pricing models.

- 56 • **Preservation:** Ensure long-term digital preservation and accessibility of content through
57 partnerships with trusted digital archives. Offer perpetual access rights to purchased
58 content.

- 59 • **Privacy and Security:** Preserve users' right to privacy, ensure data security, and prevent
60 unauthorized use of user data. The right to free inquiry as assured by the First
61 Amendment depends upon the ability to read and access information free from scrutiny
62 by the government or other third parties. Libraries have an ethical obligation to protect
63 user privacy and confidentiality.

- 64 • **Scholarly Sharing:** Allow the ability to borrow and lend between libraries (interlibrary
65 loan, or ILL), including the ability to lend whole ebooks and other digital content in their
66 entirety. An active academic community needs the ability to share information in order
67 to engage in scholarly discourse and collaborative research and learning. ILL is an
68 established practice in libraries and essential to supporting research in digital and print
69 formats.

- 70 • **Transparency:** Eliminate license terms or practices, such as non-disclosure or
71 confidentiality clauses, that are counter to our obligations as a state institution and limit
72 our ability to release information that could create more equitable or transparent
73 pricing. Vendors should share usage statistics and information about affiliated authors,
74 editors, and publications, and article processing charge payments.

AUTHENTICATION: The foregoing Faculty Senate Resolution 447, as amended, duly adopted by the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming under date of November 27, 2023, is hereby transmitted to the President of the University of Wyoming for review in accordance with UW Regulations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Treva E Sprout Ahrenholtz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T' and 'A'.

Treva Sprout-Ahrenholtz

Secretary, Faculty Senate

November 28, 2023