

Dear Science and Technology Policy Office,

I agree with the sentiment that the results of publicly-funded science should be available to the public. However, the Research Works Act does not help to further this goal; instead, it makes it more difficult, by preventing many researchers from disseminating their work in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

I'm an astronomer at the Rochester Institute of Technology, in Rochester, NY, and I've published many papers, many of which involved federal and state funds. The fastest and easiest way for me to present my results to my peers and to the general public is via on-line avenues such as [arXiv.org](http://arxiv.org)

[http://arxiv.org/](http://arxiv.org)

or the Public Library of Science

[http://www.plos.org/](http://www.plos.org)

My colleagues and I perform the research, write the papers and carry out the peer review. I have never received any compensation for the many papers I have reviewed. There is no need or any reason to give the publishers any control over the dissemination of our results.

Please reject the Research Works Act.

Michael Richmond
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