**Guiding Principles for Licensing Electronic Resources**

**Sustainability**

The WSU Libraries negotiates for terms that build and support sustainability and the open sharing of knowledge created at the Washington State University. We prioritize agreements that move past the historical pricing models that uphold artificial rationing of knowledge and we work with publishers to move towards models based on sharing. We are shifting spending away from purchasing content from proprietary, closed, for-profit scholarly information providers and increasing investments to create and support community-owned infrastructure and shared digital resources.

**Sustainable Pricing**

**We expect transparent pricing structures and pricing models that ensure greater sustainability.**

As sound stewards of University resources we expect agreements that recognize and align with our budget realities. Further, we favor agreements that move past historical pricing models and provide transparency in their pricing structure.

**No Non-disclosure/Confidentiality Agreement**

**We believe it is critical to be transparent about our license agreements with our user community and academic partners.**

WSU, as a state agency, is at all times is subject to the Washington Public Records Act, RCW 42.56.010 et seq. as now existing or as amended. If WSU receives a public records request for an agreement, generally, such information will be a public record and must be disclosed to the public records requester.

Nondisclosure agreements preclude the ability to achieve fairness and openness in the electronic resources acquisition process. Because confidentiality clauses prevent libraries from communicating with others pricing and the terms and conditions of use, vendors should not restrict us from sharing information with our stakeholders and colleagues.

**Usage Data**

**Standards compliant usage data is essential to support assessment and decision making.**

Usage data should be made available on-demand. Usage data should be COUNTER compliant and adhere to the most recent COUNTER Code of Practice. Usage data should be made available on-demand via a web-based portal and accessible via SUSHI.

**ACCESS AND EQUITY**

The WSU Libraries negotiates terms to preserve and further equitable access to knowledge for all faculty, researchers, and students at the Washington State University. We seek agreements that elevate voices from historically minoritized, ignored, and silenced groups. We actively negotiate for agreements that ensure equitable access for persons with disabilities and protect the privacy of researchers and their ability to conduct their research without sharing personal information. As an institution committed to advancing the public good, we continue to work toward the creation of an open scholarly ecosystem where barriers that restrict access to research and to publishing are eliminated.

**Authorized Users**

**We are committed to licensing resources for the benefit of all students and researchers at the Washington State University at all sites, including individuals visiting the University to use our collections onsite.**

“Authorized users” include all current students, faculty, and staff of the Washington State University. As a public institution with a broad mandate to serve the State of Washington. Washington State University "authorized users" also include other library patrons accessing the WSU Libraries’ collection onsite (a.k.a. “walk-in users”).

**Privacy and Data Security**

**We adhere to the long-held value of protecting the privacy of all our library users.**

We affirm the ALA Library Bill of Rights Article VII that states, “all people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use.”

Licensors will provide access models that allow for anonymous access for authorized users, and not require the creation of user profiles or the transfer of personal information. Licensors will ensure the privacy and data security of all users.

**Accessibility**

**We are committed to providing equitable service and access to information for all our library users.**

Licensors shall ensure their resources are[**accessible**](https://www.washington.edu/accessibility/guidelines/) and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), by supporting assistive software or devices such as large print interfaces, text-to-speech output, voice-activated input, refreshable braille displays, and alternate keyboard or pointer interfaces, in a manner consistent with the Web Accessibility Initiative Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. Licensors should provide a current, accurate, completed WCAG Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) to demonstrate compliance with accessibility standards.

**SUPPORT OF SCHOLARSHIP AND TEACHING**

The WSU Libraries supports the breadth and depth of scholarship and teaching at all levels at the Washington State University. We do this by being part of a network of shared collections in research libraries worldwide that allows our researchers to reach into the collections anywhere in this network to access what they need to complete their research. The WSU Libraries negotiates agreements that support sharing across this network of collections. We prioritize agreements that allow us to curate our collections in alignment with research and teaching priorities.

**Fair Use/Scholarly Sharing**

**We recognize and respect the well-established principle of Fair Use.**

Fair Use principles permit library users to make certain uses of copyrighted materials for non-commercial, educational, instructional, and research purposes. Licenses must not expressly prohibit fair use of information by authorized users.  Agreements should allow for the printing, downloading, and copying activities that are inherent in scholarly work. The license should specifically permit instructional use in the form of electronic reserves and course packs, as well as scholarly sharing of reasonable amounts of content with colleagues and research collaborators at other institutions.

**Interlibrary Loan (ILL)**

**Provisions for interlibrary loan or other equivalent services should be included in all relevant license agreements.**

In accordance with the Interlibrary Loan Provision of section 108 of the US Copyright Law, the WSU Libraries should be able to use electronic resources for the purpose of supplying interlibrary loan requests from other libraries. Interlibrary loan shall not be limited by the geographic location of the requesting library.