



Arizona State University

Baylor University

Brigham Young University

Colorado State University

Iowa State University

Kansas State University

Linda Hall Library

Oklahoma State University

Oregon State University

Rice University

Southern Illinois University

Texas A&M University

Texas Tech University

University of Arizona

University of Arkansas

University of Colorado at Boulder

University of Hawai'i at Manoa

University of Houston

University of Kansas

University of Missouri - Columbia

University of Nebraska – Lincoln

University of Nevada – Las Vegas

University of New Mexico

University of Oklahoma

University of Oregon

University of Southern California

University of Texas at Austin

University of Utah

University of Washington

Utah State University

Washington State University

Washington University, St. Louis

October 1, 2009

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

As chief academic and research officers representing the member universities of the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA), we are writing to you in support of the Federal Research Public Access Act of 2009 (S.1373 or FRPAA). With campuses in 17 states in the western and mid-western U.S., GWLA universities enroll more than 650,000 undergraduates, 200,000 graduate students, with an aggregate full-time faculty over 50,000.

Timely, barrier-free access to the results of federally funded research supports the core mission of our academic institutions and is essential to fully utilize our collective investment in science. FRPAA will help us maximize this investment by increasing the sharing research results, advancing the pace of discovery, and applying this knowledge for the benefit of our communities.

The FRPAA bill also expands on the success of the public access policy of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the first U.S. agency to require public access to taxpayer-funded research. More than 450,000 unique users access material from the NIH repository each day. Under S.1373, we envision researchers and students working in fields of equal importance – from climate change to renewable energy – having the same access to federally funded research to advance their critical work.

This bill is a crucial step in realizing this goal and we look forward to working with you to secure the bill's passage.

Sincerely,

Reed Dasenbrock, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Gary K. Ostrander, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Edward S. Macias, Provost, Washington University

Steven F. Warren, Vice Provost for Research, University of Kansas

Danny J. Anderson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, University of Kansas

Neal Smatresk, Executive Vice President and Provost, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Elizabeth Capaldi, Executive Vice President and Provost, Arizona State University

R. F. Shangraw, Vice President Research and Economic Affairs, Arizona State University

James Bean, Senior Vice President and Provost, University of Oregon

Bob Smith, Provost and Senior Vice President, Texas Tech University

Ruth A. Dyer, Interim Provost, Kansas State University

David W. Pershing, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Utah

Don S. Rice, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Russell L. Moore, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research, University of Colorado – Boulder

Raymond T. Coward, Executive Vice President and Provost, Utah State University

Brian L. Foster, Provost, University of Missouri – Columbia

Robert Duncan, Vice Chancellor for Research, University of Missouri – Columbia

Sabah Randhawa, Provost and Executive Vice-President, Oregon State University