

**RESEARCH LIBRARIES WORKING
TOGETHER TO PROVIDE THE
INFORMATION YOU NEED**

<http://www.gwla.org>

July 31, 2006

Senator John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

As chief academic officers, we are writing to you in support of the Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006, representing 21 of the 30 member universities of the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA). With campuses in 16 states in the western and mid-western U.S., GWLA universities enroll more than 600,000 undergraduates and 200,000 graduate students. Our aggregate full-time faculty ranks exceed 50,000.

Dissemination of results is an essential component of research and our investment in science. We share your concern that far too often the results of research funded by the U.S. government are not broadly available to researchers, scientists, and members of the public. In addition to ensuring that this research is made available quickly, it is critical also that the published information remain broadly available for future use. We are pleased to see that your bill is designed to support both early, as well as long-term, access to scientific research results.

Public access to publicly funded research facilitates the open discussion needed to accelerate research, share knowledge, improve treatment of diseases, and increase human understanding. Your bill is a crucial step in realizing this goal and we look forward to working with you to secure the bill's passage.

The provosts whose names appear below have endorsed the FRPAA. Additionally, we understand that the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University have contacted your office directly in support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

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

Randall O'Brien, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Baylor University

Susan L. Carlson, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost, Iowa State University

GWLA Provosts' Endorsement of FRPAA, page 2

M. Duane Nellis, Provost, Kansas State University

C. Lee Jones, President, Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering & Technology

Marlene Strathe, Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Oklahoma State University

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

Eugene H. Levy, Provost, Rice University

John M. Dunn, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

George H. Davis, Executive Vice-President and Provost, University of Arizona

Robert Smith, Provost and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Arkansas

Philip DiStefano, Provost & Executive Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Colorado at Boulder

Neal J. Smatresk, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Richard Lariviere, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, University of Kansas

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

Barbara Couture, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Linda Brady, Senior Vice President and Provost, University of Oregon

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

Phyllis M. Wise, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Washington

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

Robert C. Bates, Provost and Executive Vice President, Washington State University

Edward S. Macias, Executive Vice Chancellor, Washington University in St. Louis