Preamble
The Iowa State University Library believes that the free exchange of information and ideas is vital to scholarly discourse. For that reason, the staff of Iowa State University Library are committed to take advantage of available technologies that can enhance the accessibility of their scholarship; to preserve copies of their works for future study; to provide full, online discoverability to their scholarly works; and to promote open access on campus and assist Iowa State University scholars in making their research openly available.

The staff of the University Library are making the following commitment:

Commitment
Each staff member who is the author or co-author of a scholarly work (see Scope of Works of Scholarship below) shall:

1. Publish their work openly in an appropriate venue; or, when publishing openly is not possible,
2. submit a copy\(^1\) of their work to an appropriate open access repository\(^2\), such as one of those hosted by Iowa State University.

Scope of Works of Scholarship
This commitment applies to scholarly works (such as journal articles, essays, datasets, books, conference papers, reports, presentation slides, teaching materials, and audiovisual works) that meet the following criteria:

- The work is authored or co-authored by a staff member while employed by the Iowa State University Library;
- The work is not subject to an incompatible publication agreement, license, or assignment entered into before the adoption of this commitment; and
- The work is in a digital format and of a type that may be included in an open access repository consistent with its policies and practices.

Relationship to Publication Agreements
This commitment is not intended to interfere in any way with an author’s plans to pursue publication of their work or patent rights associated with their work. However, publication of a work is often subject to an agreement between the author and publisher, and such agreement may include provisions that are incompatible with this commitment. When applicable, authors should carefully review their publication agreements and seek revision of the agreement when possible.

\(^1\)The version of the work that may be deposited may depend on the exact terms of the publication agreement. If not otherwise specified in the agreement, the version will be the author’s final version (i.e., post-print), which is the version after the article has gone through peer review and any revisions or copyediting in which the author has participated have been finished.

\(^2\)Provided that such repository makes the work fully accessible to the public, without costs or other restrictions (other than customary embargoes) imposed on any individual user, and that it offers to preserve and maintain access to the work indefinitely.
Most possible conflicts with publishing agreements may be resolved by adding a statement to the publishing agreement such as: “Notwithstanding any provision in this agreement to the contrary, the publisher understands and accepts that the article or other publication is subject to The Iowa State University Library Open Access Commitment.”

If this commitment is ultimately incompatible with the author’s plans for publication or distribution, or with the publisher’s contractual obligations, the author will not be forced to comply; however, authors are encouraged to provide an appropriate Iowa State University repository with a link to where their work can be found when their work is available elsewhere.

This commitment takes effect on September 18, 2018 and does not affect works submitted for publication prior to that date.