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A faculty open forum : the impact of the journals crisis on faculty research and publishing - press release

Northeastern University Libraries

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L I B R A R I E S

Media Advisory

For Immediate Release: March 16, 2005

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A Faculty Open Forum:

The Impact of the Journals Crisis on Faculty Research and Publishing
Featured Speaker: Charles Phelps, Provost, University of Rochester

On Tuesday, April 5, 2005, from 10:00 a.m.-noon in the Curry Center Ballroom, an open forum will be held to discuss the latest initiatives in scholarly communication, open access, and journal pricing models. Impact questions to be considered include:

- How will the future of scholarly publishing affect you and your colleagues?
- Would you like your work to be cited more frequently?
- How will you ensure that your documented research is preserved for the future?

These are turbulent times for the traditional journal as the vehicle for scholarly communication. The open access movement is challenging existing assumptions about copyright control and access to research publications. The National Institute of Health has recently introduced a new policy supporting open access to its funded research via PubMed Central. Additionally, the rising costs of traditional journal subscriptions place an ever-increasing financial toll on viewing the scholarly literature. Meanwhile, the development of preprint archives and digital institutional repositories (such as Northeastern's own IRis) continues apace, offering alternatives to traditional routes of communication and publication.

This open forum, **sponsored by the Faculty Senate Committee on Library Policies and Operations and Northeastern University Libraries**, provides a timely opportunity to hear about and discuss the latest initiatives. Charles Phelps will deliver his presentation, and a panel of Northeastern faculty will respond with views on the impact of these issues on their own practice and disciplines. Refreshments will be provided.

Charles Phelps

A distinguished expert, Charles Phelps, will offer an analysis of the relationship of scholarly communication, open access, and the new business models they are inspiring, as well as recommendations for improving the research communication environment. Professor Phelps has achieved national and international recognition for his scholarly research in health policy and economics. He spent 15 years at the RAND Corporation, was chair of the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine at the University of Rochester, and was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the NAS in 1991. He has been

associate editor of four professional journals, and has testified twice before the US Congress on issues affecting higher education in relation to intellectual property rights in the digital medium.

Faculty Senate Committee on Library Policies and Operations

Members are: John Casey (Chair), Mansoor Amiji, Arun Bansil, Harlow L. Robinson, Emmanuel S. Melachrinoudis, David Schmitt, and Wallace Sherwood.

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