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Clearing the barriers to scholarly communication: new paths to publication and information access - a faculty breakfast sponsored by Northeastern University Library and the Provost's Office, April 8, 2004 - press release

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For Immediate Release

March 11, 2004

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Clearing the Barriers to Scholarly Communication: New paths to publication and information access - A Faculty Breakfast sponsored by Northeastern University Library and the Provost's Office, April 8, 2004

Technology is fundamentally transforming how scholarly and scientific information is created, disseminated, and shared. The changes, and the rate of change, vary by discipline, but some factors are common to all: journal prices continue to increase rapidly, so library subscriptions get cut; new e-journal titles and publishing models are under development; "open access" journals are appearing; authors are being asked to meet submission and page charges; subject pre-print e-archives are growing in size and importance; institutional repositories (which collect, store, and disseminate a university's scholarly output) are appearing: The scholarly publishing and communication environment, in fact, is reeling with these and many other related developments. **Learn more about these developments, and help shape the way Northeastern is taking the lead with them, in a Faculty Breakfast in the Raytheon Amphitheater, 8:00-10:00am on Thursday April 8.**

The Library has invited two knowledgeable speakers to help clarify the issues.

Jean-Claude Guédon holds a doctorate in the History of Science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is currently Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Montreal and a noted international authority on scientific and scholarly communication. He has founded an electronic journal, *Surfaces*, and his interest in the theory and practice of electronic publishing has led him to produce numerous papers on the subject as well as to present at conferences worldwide. His active engagement with issues at the boundaries of scholarly communication includes membership of the Steering Committee of the Canadian National Site License Project, chairing its Advisory Board; membership of the Board of Directors of the Networked Digital Library for Theses and Dissertations; membership of the Governing Board of the Francophone Association of Users of Free source code (open source) software (AFUL); and membership of the Information Sub-Board of the Information Program, Open Society Institute. For a summary of the issues under discussion, see his article at <http://www.arl.org/newsltr/218/guedon.html>.

Professor Robert Futrelle is well known to the Northeastern community, with 18 years as a faculty member in the College of Computer and Information Science. His background and training is in physics and biology, and in 1989 he established the Biological Knowledge Laboratory, whose overall goal is to develop systems that can discover and exploit the content of scientific documents, e.g., using AI techniques for representing the conceptual structure of the documents. He is an active leader in the field of Open Access publication, and currently involved in founding a new e-journal as part of the BioMed Central initiative. More information about his work and Open Access in particular is at: <http://www.ccs.neu.edu/home/futrelle/talks/NUInfoAccess0404/>.

April 8, 2004: Save this date! For more information contact Will Wakeling, ext. 4961, w.wakeling@neu.edu. And to reserve a place at the Breakfast, RSVP by March 26 to Pat Murphy, ext. 5001, p.murphy@neu.edu.