

Copyright Policy

Cornell University is committed to providing an environment that supports the research and teaching activities of its faculty, students and staff. As a matter of principle and practice, the university encourages all members of the Cornell community to publish without restriction their papers, books, and other forms of communication in order to share openly and fully their findings and knowledge with colleagues and the public. The Copyright Policy has been prepared in this spirit and with this intent, and is intended to promote and encourage excellence and innovation in scholarly research and teaching by identifying and protecting the rights of the university, its faculty, staff, and students.

Copyright ownership and the rights thereof are concepts defined by federal law. University policy is structured within the context of the federal copyright law. The long-standing academic tradition that creators of works own the copyright resulting from their research, teaching, and writing is the foundation of the university's Copyright Policy. Exceptions to this rule may result from contractual obligations, from employment obligations, from certain uses of university facilities, or by agreement governing access to certain university resources or when the copyright is related to an invention. The Copyright Policy addresses these exceptions (see <http://store.cornell.edu/t-publishing-copyright.aspx>).