

## Your Rights as an Author

“Authors should think about both current needs and future uses of their works and be certain that they retain rights sufficient to accommodate those needs.” From *Copyright & Authors’ Rights: A Briefing Paper*

**We strongly encourage all faculty to retain control of their intellectual property.**

### Consider your Options

1. Decide where you want to publish.

- Look at the publisher policies. Sherpa/Romeo, a database of publisher policies may quickly give you policy information, or look at the journal’s submission page.  
<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>
- Use the PLOS “HowOpenIsIt?” guide to decide if you want to publish with that journal.  
<http://www.plos.org/open-access/howopenisit/>

2. Negotiate. “Publishers require only the author’s permission to publish an article, not a wholesale transfer of copyright.”

- Scrutinize the copyright transfer agreement and look for key phrases  
<http://beckerinfo.net/scp/2008/02/11/what-to-look-for-in-publisher-copyright-agreement-forms/>
- Add an addendum. This allows you to customize your contract.
  - Scholar’s Copyright Addendum Engine <http://scholars.sciencecommons.org/>
  - SPARC addendum for access and reuse  
[http://www.sparc.arl.org/sites/default/files/Access-Reuse\\_Addendum.pdf](http://www.sparc.arl.org/sites/default/files/Access-Reuse_Addendum.pdf)

### Want More Information?

SPARC Author Rights Page: <http://www.sparc.arl.org/theme/author-rights>

Author’s Rights, Tout de Suite: a good introduction to the main aspects concerning authors’ rights.  
<http://www.digital-scholarship.org/ts/authorrights.pdf>

This page adopted from Author’s Rights Retention Kit at  
<http://libguides.utk.edu/content.php?pid=508057>

Cornell University Copyright Management:  
[http://copyright.cornell.edu/policies/copyright\\_management.cfm](http://copyright.cornell.edu/policies/copyright_management.cfm)

**For assistance or additional information, please contact Allen Reichert, 823-1164,  
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