

# Graduate Student Senate

## Resolution 9.10.2026.3

### *Reaffirming a Call for an Open Access Publication Fund*

**Sponsor(s):** Collin Coil, President of the GSS

**Date Introduced:** September 17, 2026

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**WHEREAS,** On March 19, 2024, the Graduate Student Senate adopted Resolution 3.19.24, calling upon the President, the Board of Trustees, and the Graduate College to establish an open access publication fund for graduate students and to convene stakeholders to explore its creation, and no such fund has been established in the two and a half years since; and

**WHEREAS,** Article processing charges for open access publication commonly reach several thousand dollars per article, a cost that graduate students cannot absorb from stipends and that many advisors' grants cannot accommodate; and

**WHEREAS,** Federal and other funder policies increasingly require immediate public access to the results of sponsored research, while the treatment of publication costs on federal awards remains under revision, leaving graduate students without a dependable means of meeting an obligation that is no longer optional; and

**WHEREAS,** Pillar 2 of *Green, Gold, and Bold*, "Study What Matters," commits the University to a lasting commitment to research excellence and to transforming practice and policy through discovery and innovation, including developing infrastructure that shortens the distance between research and its use and ensuring that the work produced at UVM is read, applied, and implemented throughout the region, the nation, and the world; and

**WHEREAS,** Scholarship held behind a paywall cannot meet that commitment, and graduate students, who author a substantial share of the University's research output, are the members of the research community least able to pay for the reach the strategic plan envisions; and

**WHEREAS,** Openness is named among UVM's Common Ground values, and peer research universities routinely maintain open access publishing funds administered through their libraries at modest annual cost; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) reaffirms Resolution 3.19.24 and calls upon the President, the Board of Trustees, and the Graduate College to establish and fund an open access publication fund for graduate students, administered in partnership with UVM Libraries, beginning with the FY2028 budget cycle; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the GSS requests that the Graduate College convene, before the close of the Spring 2027 semester, a working group of graduate students, UVM Libraries, and the Office of the Vice President for Research to recommend the fund's scale, eligibility criteria, and administration, and report those recommendations to the Senate; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President, the Provost, the Board of Trustees, and the Dean of the Graduate College.

*Collin Coil*

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**Adopted by the Graduate Student Senate on: October 15, 2026  
President, Graduate Student Senate**