

**From:** Ewan McNay  
**Subject:** **Comment on open access**  
**Date:** January 11, 2012 12:10:11 PM EST  
**To:** [publicaccess@ostp.gov](mailto:publicaccess@ostp.gov)

Dr. Ewan McNay  
Behavioral Neuroscience, University at Albany  
Albany, NY 12222

1. First, thanks for seeking comment on this issue; it's refreshing and welcome to see open access to the results of taxpayer-funded research being discussed.
2. I'm a researcher working on diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, and brain function. My work has been, and is currently, funded by both federal (NIH) grants and private, charity-derived grants.
3. Open, free, citizen access to the results of scientific research is both (i) essential to the goal of an informed citizenry and (ii) the only appropriate result for taxpayer-funded work.
4. In the case of my own work, having public access allows for improved individual healthcare, leads to preventative action that will increase public health and reduce care costs, and permits further research to build upon this work.
5. The interests of for-profit publishers should be very much secondary to the interests of the public and of researchers.
6. In particular, the current mandate to deposit work in the PubMed system is appropriate, working well, and a great step forward; please do NOT support or sign any legislation that would reverse this much-needed advance. The current 'Research Works Act' would be a large step backward without any positive effect that would dramatically impede scientific advances.

With thanks,

Ewan