RESOLUTION ON FAIR ACCESS TO DIGITAL CONTENT

WHEREAS, OWWL Library System and member libraries have a duty to ensure access to information for all;

WHEREAS, publishers are increasingly imposing restrictions on library purchases of new and popular materials in digital formats;

WHEREAS, libraries are typically required to pay exponentially higher prices for copies of books in digital formats than consumers; and

WHEREAS, these barriers are an impediment to the freedom to read, particularly for those who are most dependent on libraries, as well as a challenge to our long-held commitment to equity of access; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the OWWL Library System supports all digital content being made equally available to libraries without moratorium or embargo and at fair prices;

RESOLVED, that the OWWL Library System supports itself and member libraries raising public awareness of these issues; and

RESOLVED, that OWWL Library System supports itself and member libraries taking active steps to reduce the efficacy of publisher practices that are harmful to libraries and readers.

Amended: March 10, 2021
Adopted: November 20, 2019