“Open access means published work in my area is broadly accessible to colleagues, including those who are practitioners not affiliated with an academic institution. In a sub-discipline where the divide between science and practice is often described as a yawning gulf, providing broad access reduces at least one barrier to keeping up-to-date on the latest research findings that may inform their work.”

- Tanya Tompkins, Professor of Psychology

“Because I want information to be accessed freely and be unfettered. Open Access makes us all smarter.”

-Susan Barnes Whyte, Associate Professor and College Librarian

“Always important, open access is more critically important now than ever before. As humanity faces unprecedented, converging challenges – environmental, social, economic, political, climate change, etc., we will need all the creative thinking - all the best ideas, from across the entire spectrum of thought, to construct meaningful responses.”

-Tom Love, Professor of Anthropology

“Open Access allows content that is often hidden to burst upon the scene too.”

-Barbara Valentine, Professor and Reference/Systems Librarian

“Open access matters to me because it allows my work to find a broader audience.”

-Mindy Larson, Associate Professor of Education

“Open access matters to me because it allows more opportunities for my research to be read by those interested in the work I’m engaged in within my discipline.

Open access matters to me because it provides a way for me to connect with other researchers and practitioners in Education.

Open access matters to me because it allows my work to find a broader audience.”

-Mindy Larson, Associate Professor of Education

“While I believe that authors work hard and have a right to be paid for that work, I also think that from time to time it makes good sense to make something available, with permission, for free, to a wider online audience. "Why Do That?" might be of some interest to prospective student writers who want to see one faculty’s motivations. And it will not hurt to publicize the book, Poetry: Reading It, Writing It, Publishing It, of which this essay is a small part. And then there’s the fact that as a writer of poems, I pretty often get the question "why do that?" The answer is complicated, so it’s good for me to have taken a stab at that complexity.”

-Lex Runciman, Professor of English and Creative Writing

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“Open access is important to me because scholarship doesn’t exist in a vacuum and doesn’t belong just to the scholars. As a scientist and an educator, my job is to add to the knowledge of society, and share that knowledge as widely as I can. Open access means that I can share my work with anyone, regardless of their location or academic affiliation.”
- Jeremy Weisz, Assistant Professor of Biology

“Contributing to Open access is, to me, an expression of my commitment to the Linfield "community of scholars" to share and disseminate scholarly research, art and critical perspectives in every way available.”
- Ron Mills de Pinyas, Professor of Painting, Drawing, and Printmaking

“Open access is so important to nurses, especially those who don’t work at an organization or healthcare facility that has a medical library or journal subscriptions. Open access makes the most recent evidence available to the nurse, and other healthcare providers, to apply to practice, which improves the quality of care and health care outcomes.”
- Melissa Jones, Assistant Professor of Nursing

“Science is a collaborative process that thrives on the sharing of ideas and knowledge. It is so important that scientific discoveries or new ways of thinking are transparent, available to all, and not hindered by economic barriers.”
- Sarah Costa, Assistant Professor of Health, Human Performance & Athletics

“Open access is so important to university is to conduct inquiry in order to produce knowledge. If we want to do good work, we must know what work has already been done. Open access is vital to this process. Open inquiry and open access go hand-in-hand.”
- David Sumner, Professor of English

“Open Access enables scholars to reach the widest possible audience with their research. So much of our work as scholars remains hidden in hard to find publications, or it is inaccessible to many potential readers due to the high costs of academic journal subscriptions. As a scholar, I want to promote the dissemination of my scholarly work to interested audiences both within and outside academia. For that reason, I am grateful for Open Access portals like Linfield’s Digital Commons.”
- David Fiordalis, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

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"Open access matters to me because I work in a field that involves both academic researchers and media professionals. I prefer to publish in open-access journals because media professionals don't usually have access to paid research databases, and I want my scholarly work to be available to them. I also believe in making information as available as possible to a wide audience, and open-access publishing is a great way to do that."
- Susan Currie Sivek, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication

"As an artist, open access is extremely important. I create photographs that I want to share with the world. It is important to have an audience that can interpret and interact with the work. By having the work accessible to all, I can reach the most people."
- Liz Obert, Associate Professor of Art and Visual Culture

"Quite simply open access matters because of the availability of information to anyone interested. In the visual arts this is extremely important. It serves not only as information but an online gallery to what is happening at Linfield. Not just the gallery but the classroom as well. Every day, students are exploring ideas in new ways. This is their form of communication. Open access helps them to talk to others. This is the ultimate for every artist. It is why we exist. Personally it has increased my "web presence," and that also has a win-win. Google has linked together my art, my job, and my students in a way that I could not afford to pay for. All this because of Digital Commons."
- Totem Shriver, Adjunct Professor of 3D Design

"Open access matters because it makes the work I do available to others in my field. Having easy access to others' work advances the work we are all doing to improve education."
- Martha VanCleave, Professor of Mathematics

"Having my scholarly work available online with open access has made it available to a much wider audience, which is incredibly gratifying for an author. I placed several of my traditionally published scholarly articles and book chapters in Digital Commons, and I've been amazed at the level of interest in them. Even older publications are reaching people who never would have encountered them if they weren't available through Digital Commons. One book chapter that was published in 2003 has been downloaded 3,268 times since it was placed in the open-access repository in 2010."
- Lisa Weidman, Associate Professor of Mass Communication

"Open Access means immediate and unencumbered access to resources that are vital to our research and collections. By contributing our work as part of the larger open access environment, we are contributing to a large and sustainable academic community that supports freely accessible information so that it can be compared, built upon and easily shared."
- Rachael Woody, Archivist, & Rich Schmidt, Director of Resource Sharing

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