

# SUNY Joins BioMed Central

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## Background

The ongoing scholarly journal pricing crisis that has plagued libraries for decades has prompted faculty and researchers around the world to begin experimenting with communication and publication options that do not rely on typical commercial or society presses. One such option is [BioMed Central \(BMC\)](#), an independent publishing house with a portfolio of over [100 journals](#), that is committed to providing immediate free access to peer-reviewed biomedical research.

Authors who publish original research articles in journals published by BMC retain [copyright](#) over their work. Publishing with BMC enables authors to protect the integrity of their work and to have their full work referenced whenever all or part of it is reproduced. Moreover, BMC authors agree to allow free and unrestricted non-commercial use of their work by others. Research articles published in BMC are permanently archived and made accessible through [PubMed Central](#), a free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature created by the U.S. National Institutes of Health.



BMC uses a new business model. While most publishers cover costs by charging for subscriptions, BMC journals charge their authors article-processing fees, ranging from \$630 - \$1595, to cover the costs of peer review and publication. However, if the author's institution is a member of BMC, no processing fee is required. Currently 526 institutions are BMC members.

## SUNY Institutions are Now Members

As of April 2005, thanks to a generous two-year grant from the [Joint Labor/Management Committee](#) made up of members of United University Professions, the Governor's Office of Employee Relations and a subsidy from the SUNY University and Health Science Center Libraries, all SUNY four-year and university and health science center campuses are enrolled as BMC members. During this membership period, April 2005 - March 2007, SUNY faculty and researchers may submit an unlimited number of research papers to BMC journals without incurring article processing fees. SUNY faculty, researchers and students are encouraged to publish in and use BMC. Extension of SUNY membership beyond March 2007 will depend, in part, on the use that SUNY students and faculty make of these journals. Additional information on BMC can be found at <http://www.biomedcentral.com>.



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