

**STATEMENT OF THE DC PRINCIPLES COALITION
IN RESPONSE TO REMARKS MADE BY NIH DIRECTOR ZERHOUNI
ON NOVEMBER 7, 2005**

Bethesda, MD - (November 11, 2005) – The DC Principles Coalition (<http://www.DCPrinciples.org>) today released the following statement:

“On November 7, 2005, NIH Director Elias Zerhouni, MD gave the Matheson Lecture, sponsored by the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL), during the annual meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges. During the question and answer period, Dr. Zerhouni underscored the importance of public access to NIH-funded research.

The DC Principles Coalition wants to reiterate its strong support for the NIH policy’s stated goals of public access and advancement of science. As not-for-profit scholarly publishers, we helped move scientific journals online working in collaboration with Highwire Press (www.highwire.stanford.edu/). Through the HighWire portal, the public has access to over 1,000,000 free articles from over 800 journals. These research articles are funded by both NIH and other funding organizations. Publishers are also adding 10,000 new articles every month. Nonprofit publishers have been publishing scientific research online since 1995 and making the results available to the public at no charge since 2000.

The DC Principles Coalition seeks to collaborate with the NIH to provide the public with access to research material while at the same time preserving the academic and scientific societies who publish research journals. On October 17, 2005 we requested a meeting with the NIH to demonstrate how a public-private partnership, using existing resources to link to journal websites, will make access work for everyone. Linking to journal websites will bring vast amounts of research findings to the public efficiently and at no cost to the taxpayer. We look forward to hearing from the NIH about our proposal.”

Media Contact:

Donna Krupa
Office: 73.527.7357
Cell: 703.967.2751
E: djkrupa1@aol.com