

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE  
ON  
LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION  
2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT**

**TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:**

The University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC) met in person two times and once by teleconference in the 2013-2014 academic year to conduct business in accordance with its charge, outlined in [Senate Bylaw 185](#), to advise the president about the administration of University libraries and issues related to innovations in forms of scholarly communication. Highlights of the committee's major activities are outlined briefly below.

**Data Sharing Plans**

UCOLASC is monitoring the implementation of the White House Executive Order of May 2013 that requires federal agencies to have plans to make research publicly available.. Without documentation and data management plans, the reproducibility of research becomes very difficult. The issue of costs is a confusing one as it is often unclear who will cover the costs of data preservation and this mandate spells out a role for the public sector in preserving data. Additionally, researchers hear about the data management plan requirements but are unsure about how to comply. Consultants from the California Digital Library have provided the committee with detailed information about the Curation Center program, known as UC3.

UC3, in cooperation with the UC libraries, considered how best to help researchers meet the data sharing requirements and created a number of tools. Tools include the data management planning tool that CDL developed with several other institutions which walks people through the process of developing a plan. Over six thousand researchers at eight hundred institutions are using the data management planning tool. CDL has received a Sloan Foundation grant to develop the next generation of the tool. A valuable feature of the tool is that it will be configured with information from each campus. The tool allows users to create a data management plan to respond to funding requirements and it will include local information. UCOLASC will continue to monitor the utilization of the data management tool and other developments at the Curation Center.

**Open Access Policy Implementation**

At each meeting this year, the committee received an update about the implementation of the open access policy from the CDL Director of Publishing. The required deposits were implemented for UCSF, UCI and UCLA in November using CDL's manual publication harvesting tool. The automated publication harvesting tool is the next phase of implementation. [Simplectic](#) is the vendor selected by the CDL and their tool is called Elements. UC will be the second U.S. institution using the Elements system but the company is well established in the U.K and Australia.

UC will be licensing the harvesting system but it will be hosted locally, and the harvester will be linked to the campus payroll systems and to eScholarship. The robust tool will also be integrated with the waiver and embargo tools. Faculty will receive a prompt to upload the appropriate version of the paper but the metadata will already be there. The CDL will look at the use of the harvesting tools across different disciplines. The harvester will be capable of searching for publications that pre-date the implementation of UC's policy. This system could ultimately function as a publication information hub and feed into and harvest from a multitude of sources with information about what faculty are producing. The data available so far reflects low participation rates for deposits, underscoring the need for more education for faculty. Strategies to increase participation include outreach especially at campuses not in this implementation phase, and local FAQs are being developed at campuses. Faculty also need to be informed about how they will benefit from depositing their work. CDL is working with UCSF to create a decision tree that will help faculty understand the process. UCOLASC learned that over three hundred letters were sent out to publishers notifying them about the policy. As CDL receives more responses from publishers about the

policy, it will compile a list of “friendly” publishers. That the CDL has not heard back from the majority of publishers may be a positive sign that the policy is not problematic for them.

The CDL submitted a six-month review report to UCOLASC in June and the committee’s feedback will be produced in the Fall. The second phase will respond to the full year of review and will provide a picture of what has happened over several months. It would look at how well the system is being used including how much the tools are helping faculty, faculty satisfaction, and ease of use. A three-year review will look at issues such as the faculty response to the process. It should be noted that UCOLASC is concerned that, as of April, the funding to extend the harvesting tool to the campuses not in the pilot had not yet been approved by the Office of the President, while the CDL budget has been cut by roughly 2%.

### **Update on Journal Negotiations**

UCOLASC received regular updates on the status of journal negotiations from Ivy Anderson, Director of Collections at the California Digital Library. The libraries spent \$37 M on systemwide content licenses in 2012-13 (\$30M from the campuses and \$7M from CDL). Current expenditure breakdown: journals are 71%, databases are 18%, 3% are one time purchases, 7% are eBooks (a growing part of the portfolio) and scholarly communication support is 0.4%. One time purchases are often of historical resources that have high price tags. The CDL and UCOLASC are aware of the concerns at the campuses about a number of journals not licensed systemwide because of the dispute with Nature Publishing Group. NPG is reportedly exploring open access with some of its journals but is not looking at anything like the model discussed with UC several years ago. In addition, the CDL representatives suggested that NPG realized that it cannot increase UC's rates as significantly as it proposed in the past. The committee would like to explore strategies to make journal pricing sustainable to UC.

A new agreement with Elsevier for 2014 to 2018 was announced in April and the contract includes a one time purchase of eBooks. The CDL discussed possible ways that Elsevier can support UC's open access policy and they will continue to examine ways this can be done. Student feedback given to one committee member about eBooks has been fairly negative. The committee discussed the usage of eBooks and Director Farley reported that the CDL has not purchased many eBooks at the systemwide level.

### **UC Open Access Presidential Policy Task Force**

The Senate recommended to the administration that the open access policy should become presidential policy and a task force chaired by UCOLASC’s Immediate Past Chair, Chris Kelty, worked on this during the year. The new Presidential policy will not override the Senate policy. One reason to have a presidential policy is that a commitment from UC is required in order to ensure that resources are available to the CDL to host the materials and create a mechanism for uploading the materials. The second reason is that it is not only Senate members who publish, so these other types of authors should be able to defend their rights. The draft was submitted to the Academic Planning Council in June. The goal is to release the policy for a ninety day systemwide review in March. One question is whether UCOP will provide more funding to the campuses if this becomes a Presidential policy. Currently the provost is funding the harvester with other costs being absorbed by the CDL and the libraries. From the CDL’s perspective, the technical infrastructure will be no different, but it will simply be used by more people as a result of the policy being expanded. The CDL’s request for funding for more library staff was reportedly not approved because the chancellors would prefer that funding from UCOP not be earmarked and the pilot phase will be used to determine the impact on campus library resources.

### **Joint Meeting with University Librarians**

UCOLASC met with the University Librarians in February to discuss common topics of interest, including open access and the CDL budget.

### **Other Issues and Additional Business**

In response to requests for formal comment from the Academic Council, UCOLASC submitted views on the following:

- President's Policy on Copyright and Fair Use

### **Campus Reports**

UCOLASC devoted part of each regular meeting to member reports about issues facing divisional Senate library committees. In these discussions, faculty members touched on library budget and space issues.

### **Committee Consultations and Acknowledgements**

UCOLASC acknowledges the contributions of its administrative consultants and guests. The committee benefited from consultation and reports from University Librarians Convener Lorelie Tanji (UCI), CDL Executive Director Laine Farley, CDL Director of Collections Ivy Anderson, CDL Director of Publishing Catherine Mitchell, and Librarians Association of the University of California President Nick Robinson (UCB). UCOLASC also consulted the Academic Senate chair, vice chair, and executive director about issues facing the Academic Senate.

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