

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

Responsibilities and Duties

The University Committee on Library (UCOL) advises the President concerning the administration of University libraries in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Regents.

UCOL met a total of six times (three face-to-face meetings; three conference calls) during the 2005-2006 academic year, which included one joint meeting with the university librarians (UL's). Highlights of the committee's activities and accomplishments are noted in this report.

Special Committee on Scholarly Communication White Papers

The Special Committee on Scholarly Communication White Papers (SCSC) produced five white papers and one policy proposal, the *Scholarly Work Copyright Rights Policy*. UCOL strongly endorsed the principles and intent of these white papers.

Scholarly Work Copyright Rights Policy

Members supported this proposal, commenting that both UC and the academic community at large would benefit from the realization of this proposal, which would enable the rapid online posting of scholarly material for teaching and research. However, members were concerned that the burden for establishing a non-exclusive license, or permission, to place faculty work in a scholarly repository should be taken up by the University rather than individual faculty members. They emphasized that individual faculty members, especially junior faculty, should not be made vulnerable to legal action, or action by publishers that might adversely affect their publication opportunities, by this policy change. Committee members made the recommendation that a team of legal experts should thoroughly review this resolution before its eventual implementation.

Bylaw 185 Amendment

With the impending sunset of SCSC at the end of the 2005-06 academic year, UCOL recognized the importance of bringing scholarly communication under the permanent faculty oversight of a systemwide Senate standing committee. Members argued that UCOL is the appropriate location for such faculty oversight, as scholarly communication is very germane to the business of UCOL. Through its association and consultation with UL's, UCOL has not only become familiar with scholarly communication issues, but more importantly, it has gained a significant body of expertise in this area. To that end, UCOL submitted a proposal to the Academic Council to amend its governing bylaw, bylaw 185, which would formally bring scholarly communication within its purview. In addition, the committee recommended a formal change in its name from the 'University Committee on Library' to the 'University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication' to reflect this expanded mandate. Finally, in order to supplement the expertise of divisional members in scholarly communication, UCOL requested the

addition of up to three at-large members, who would have other expertise and experience not found among UCOL's divisional representation. The proposed amendment is currently on the agenda of Academic Council, and it should be acted upon early in the 2006-07 academic year.

Scholarly Work Copyright Rights Policy Frequently Asked Questions

In consultation with SCSC, the committee provided feedback and helped to produce a Scholarly Work Copyright Rights Policy Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). The FAQ is designed to help the faculty understand the implications of the proposed copyright policy and to contribute to its eventual systemwide review. The FAQ was published in the August 2006 edition of the [Senate Source](#).

Monograph Subvention Policy Proposal

In addition to its accomplishments note above, SCSC also produced a draft monograph subvention policy proposal, which it asked UCOL members to comment on. While the committee supported the proposed policy, members were concerned that that the proposed subventions be applied to high-quality projects and manuscripts. To that end, they expressed recommended linking subventions to the substance or quality of what is actually being published. Finally, the committee cautioned SCSC Members to be wary of unintended consequences of such a policy. For example, if successful, this policy could result in a bias toward monographs in certain disciplines.

Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006

Members expressed their support for the Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006 (FRPAA), which would require Federal agencies with extramural research budgets of more than \$100 million to develop policies that ensure that National Institute of Health (NIH) funded research results are placed in an open-access digital archive within six months after publication. In supporting this proposed legislation, the committee pointed to the fact that if enacted, it would directly benefit UC faculty members and investigators by increasing the distribution of their own NIH-funded research as well as increasing their access to other non-UC NIH-funded research.

Outreach to other Universities and Coalitions

Members discussed possible ways to conduct outreach to other universities and coalitions involved in scholarly communication. To that end, members suggested a joint sponsored (between the Office of Scholarly Communication and UCOL) invitational workshop or symposium, which would focus on developing next steps in addressing scholarly communication issues. Such a symposium is being planned for the 2006-07 academic year.

Evaluating Commercial Journal Practices

UCOL continued to monitor commercial journal practices, especially in regard to their pricing. At its June meeting, members were apprised of a UL initiative to model value-based pricing of journals. Using Professor Ted Bergstrom's research on the prices of journal articles, the UL's have determined how much UC is currently paying for certain packages of journals from commercial publishers, and how far this price varies from the median non-profit journal price. The UL's are drafting an internal white paper that will

eventually become a statement about the potential for value-base pricing as a negotiation tool with commercial publishers.

Campus Reports

UCOL members reported on the activities of the divisional academic senate library committees. This year campus reports highlighted scholarly communication, which included open-access issues, digitization and preservation of library holdings, and journal access among others. Library space, as well as the future form of the library (both physically and conceptually), also loomed large. A number of members expressed concern about the attention paid to library resources within proposals for new graduate degree programs. They commented that often these proposals either take for granted the library resources for these new programs, or simply do not address (in the proposal) the needs of the new program in terms of library resources. Finally, divisional library committees spent a significant amount of time discussing the SCSC white papers and the bylaw 185 amendment.

Joint Meeting with University Librarians

UCOL met jointly with the UL's at its January meeting, and received an update from the UL Convenor at its June meeting. Common topics of interest included library planning, specifically the management of the Regional Library Facilities (RLF's), and the various digitization initiatives involving such internet search engine companies as Google and Yahoo!.

Consultant Dan Greenstein briefed the committee on the two RLF's in the UC system--the northern facility at Berkeley (NRLF) and the southern facility (SRLF) managed by UCLA. He noted that a third phase has just been completed at the NRLF. The SRLF is nearly full, and a third phase of this facility is scheduled to be completed by 2011. Members were particularly interested in how technological advances might affect the outlook for the UC library system by 2050. The UL's responded that technology and mechanization should play a major role in the development of new phases of the RLF's, and adding digital storage units to one or both of the facilities is one option. They also mentioned that UC is about to be hit by a wave of new monographs from China and India, which the library system will have to purchase and store. Special Collections archives will also continue to grow unabated at the campus level, which are very space intensive.

Digitization of library materials is another issue of concern to both UL's and committee members. UL Convenor Tom Leonard outlined a couple of these initiatives. The [Open Content Alliance](#), which is a non-profit alliance that seeks to digitize out-of-copyright works, has received contributions from Yahoo! and Microsoft. Google is spearheading a larger initiative to digitize the world's books (both copyrighted and out-of-copyright), and is partnering with UC, Stanford, the University of Michigan, the New York Public Library, Harvard, and Oxford. A lawsuit has been filed against Google by the Authors' Guild and the American Publishers' Association, asserting that Google does not have the right to digitize books for the purposes of creating indexes that are still protected under copyright (those created after 1923) without getting permission to do so. Google takes the

position that it is legitimate to record this information in order to direct people to the proper sources. In other words, Google will not offer full text, but direct readers where to find the information they are looking for (by offering 'snippets' of the digitized material) on its [Google Book](#) website.

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Respectfully submitted:

Ben Crow, Chair (UCSC)
Elaine Tennant, Vice Chair (UCB)
Winder McConnell (UCD)
Simon Leung (UCI)
Rogers Brubaker (UCLA)
Lucille Chia (UCR)

Benjamin Grinstein (UCSD)
Richard Schneider (UCSF)
Phillip Walker (UCSB)
William Sullivan (UCSC)
Jill Harper (Graduate Student, UCI)
Todd Giedt (Analyst)