

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY (UCOL)  
ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003**

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

Under Senate Bylaw 185, the University Committee on Library (UCOL) is charged with advising the President concerning the administration of the libraries of the University in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Regents.

UCOL met once during the 2002-2003 academic year. Highlights of the Committee's activities and accomplishments are noted in this report.

**Universitywide Planning Efforts**

University Librarian Daniel Greenstein reported to the committee on Universitywide planning efforts for the libraries and scholarly information. A new strategic plan for libraries is currently being developed. This new plan will supersede the 1996 Strategic Plan, which was a report of the Library Planning and Action Initiative. An outline draft of the new strategic plan will be completed in August 2003. Two members of UCOL also later participated with University Librarian Greenstein in a conference call on strategic planning.

**Librarians Association of the University of California (LAUC)**

LAUC President Esther Grassian and LAUC Vice President Linda Kennedy reported to the committee on the structure, role, and concerns of the Librarians Association of the University of California. LAUC has been actively pursuing issues such as information literacy, access to government information, privacy, and collective selection of materials for UC campus libraries. The statewide LAUC also just recently passed a strong resolution opposing the Patriot Act and related measures.

***Information Literacy***

UCOL examined the issue of information literacy and discussed concerns about the growing number of students at the University of California that are information illiterate. LAUC President and Information Literacy Coordinator Esther Grassian and LAUC Vice President Linda Kennedy provided members with anecdotal examples and evidence of information illiteracy and the benefits of information literacy training. LAUC has examined other institutions' definitions and has developed a preliminary definition of information literacy, which states: "Information literacy is the ability to identify an information need, locate information efficiently, evaluate information, and use information effectively."

Other higher education institutions, such as the California State Universities, have adopted institutional or systemwide information literacy resolutions, but the University of California has not. UCOL agreed that the implementation of

information literacy efforts for the University of California should be campus specific rather than a systemwide mandate; however, members felt that the divisions should be made aware of and encouraged to take up the issue of information literacy.

In response, UCOL drafted and endorsed a “UCOL Resolution on Information Literacy,” which suggests the campus senates address this issue and encourages collaboration among faculty and librarians to create teaching activities that generate information literacy. This resolution has been sent through the UCOL representatives to the members of their respective library committees and has been forwarded to the Academic Council for consideration.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Members suggested the following topics for UCOL to consider focusing on next year:

- Respond to the further state budget revisions and their implications for the library.
- Consult with the University Librarians regarding their strategies for dealing with the budget cuts.
- Examine the issues regarding electronic journals and publishers.
- Invite the new President or some other appropriate UC official to update him/her on the library situation.
- Receive an update from the LAUC regarding information literacy efforts.
- Examine the issues involving the archiving and digitizing of resources.
- Consider how to get the faculty more involved in library issues and challenges.
- **Publicize and inform the faculty of library issues.**

### **UCOL Representation**

UCOL is also represented on the University Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy – the UCOL Chair is an *ex officio* member of ITTP.

### **Acknowledgment**

UCOL wishes to acknowledge the contributions of its administrative consultants: Esther Grassian, LAUC President and Information Literacy Coordinator; Linda Kennedy, LAUC Vice President; and Daniel Greenstein, Associate Vice Provost for Scholarly Information, University Librarian for Systemwide Library Planning, and Executive Director of the California Digital Library.

Respectfully submitted:

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