

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

2016-2017 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 videoconference in the 2016-2017 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.

Open Access

Senate Open Access Policy

[The Senate's Open Access Policy](#) dominated UCOLASC's discussions this year. The California Digital Library (CDL) reported that close to 50,000 publications had been collected as of May and data indicates that people all over the world are accessing this content, an outcome very much in line with the goals of the policy. The publication management system, powered by Symplectic Elements, has automated much of this process, including harvesting faculty publication records from indexes and prompting faculty by email to claim and deposit their publications, and deposits increased dramatically with implementation of this system. However, there are serious concerns about the stability of funding from the Provost's Office for the system license, and consequently about the future of the policy itself.

This year, UCOLASC initiated the third year review process of the Senate's Open Access policy. The committee dedicated considerable time to discussions about the outcomes of the policy and whether they align with the expectations and desires of the Academic Senate, and about setting goals for the policy going forward. In June, [the committee submitted a report to the Academic Council](#) on the status of the policy, highlighting the critical need for ongoing funding for the policy's support infrastructure which includes the Symplectic Elements system and associated staffing. This support infrastructure is not only vital to the success of the Academic Senate policy, it is also essential for the implementation of the separately-issued Presidential Open Access Policy that applies to non-Senate employees of the University as of October 23, 2015. The UCOLASC report was endorsed by Council on June 28th and subsequently transmitted to the President's Office.

Commitment to Free and Open Information, Scholarship, and Knowledge Exchange

In March of this year, UC's Office of Scholarly Communication and the UC Libraries jointly issued a Statement on Commitment to Free and Open Information, Scholarship, and Knowledge Exchange, "in response to recent actions by the new federal administration and in order to address resulting concerns about continued open access to and preservation of information, scholarship, and knowledge." The full text of the statement is available at <https://goo.gl/0VVV2E>. UCOLASC endorsed this statement and [requested that Academic Council](#) also consider endorsing it on behalf of all Academic Senate faculty. The Statement was endorsed by Council on June 28th and transmitted to the President's Office.

OA2020

The Max Planck Digital Library is coordinating an international effort, dubbed OA2020, to convert the dominant subscription-based scholarly journal publishing model to Open Access (see <http://oa2020.org/>). UCOLASC discussed OA2020 throughout the year and members coordinated with the campus libraries and librarians to facilitate discussions in divisional Senate library committees. As of June, three UC campuses (Berkeley, San Francisco and Davis) had signed the non-binding OA2020 Expression of

Interest (see <http://oa2020.us/>) and the remaining UC campuses are actively considering also signing the Expression of Interest. UCOLASC members agreed that OA2020 is consistent with the Senate's Open Access Policy and that it also aligns with UC's larger mission to conduct research in the public interest. OA2020 is a critical part of a larger effort by scholarly organizations and academic institutions, including UC, to regain control of scholarly communication and to transform it in ways that work better for authors, readers, and libraries. In June, [the committee submitted a memo](#) to the Academic Council asking for its support of this effort in the form of a public affirmation of what UCOLASC has called UC's Open Access mission, set in the larger context of [UC's mission](#) of "providing long-term societal benefits through transmitting advanced knowledge, discovering new knowledge, and functioning as an active working repository of organized knowledge." Council approved this request on June 28th and forwarded UCOLASC's memo to the President's Office.

Journal Licensing

At each meeting, UCOLASC received reports on journal licensing negotiations from CDL's Director of Collections, Ivy Anderson. Two big licenses were under negotiation this year, with Springer-Nature and with Sage. It was noted that the merger of Springer and Nature complicated the negotiation of the three-year licensing agreement for CDL. Director Anderson shared that CDL has spoken to various publishers about implications for future shifts to publishing in Open Access.

Joint Meeting with University Librarians

UCOLASC met with the University Librarians in February to discuss topics of common interest, including Open Access, Regional Library Facility Planning, AAU/ARL OA Monographs Task Force, and the Pay It Forward Project funded by the Mellon Foundation and conducted by the CDL and UC Davis.

Campus Reports

UCOLASC devoted part of each regular meeting to member reports about issues facing divisional Senate library committees. In these discussions, divisional representatives noted ongoing library budget and space issues on their respective campuses in the context of rising enrollments and changing needs.

Committee Consultations and Acknowledgements

UCOLASC acknowledges the contributions of its administrative consultants and guests. The committee benefited from regular consultation and reports from University Librarians Convener MacKenzie Smith (UCD), CDL Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director Günter Waibel, CDL Director of Collections Ivy Anderson, CDL Director of Publishing Catherine Mitchell, and Librarians Association of the University of California President Dana Peterman (UCLA). UCOLASC also consulted the Academic Senate Chair and Vice Chair about issues facing the Academic Senate.

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