

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY
AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007**

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

Responsibilities and Duties

The University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC) advises the president about the administration of University libraries in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Regents.

UCOL held three in-person meetings and three conference calls in 2006-2007 (November, March, and June), which included one joint meeting with the University Librarians (ULs). Highlights of the committee's activities and accomplishments are noted in this report.

Proposed UC Open Access Policy

UCOLASC supported the Open Access proposal in principle, commenting that both UC and the academic community at large would benefit from its realization, which would enable the rapid online posting of scholarly material for teaching and research. In its May letter of support to Academic Council, UCOLASC argued that the proposal would promote the influence of faculty research; change the economics of publishing by providing a counterbalance to monopoly publishers; and increase faculty copyright rights. The committee also made some cautionary remarks, noting the large bureaucratic burden the proposal would impose; its vagueness; and the inadequate attention paid to cost issues and implementation details. The committee was also concerned that the issues of high scholarly communication costs and the intellectual property (copyright) retention have become muddled.

Amendment to Bylaw 185 and Committee Name Change

In July 2006, UCOLASC requested a modification of its governing [Bylaw 185](#) changing the committee's name from the University Committee on Library (UCOL) to the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC), and allowing the committee to add up to three at-large members with expertise and experience not found among UCOL's divisional representation. The Academic Assembly passed the revisions to in May 2007.

Monograph Subvention Policy Proposal

UCOLASC continued its work on a subvention policy to support first monographs for junior UC faculty, originally proposed by the Special Committee for Scholarly Communication (SCSC). The proposal would award between five and ten thousand dollars to UC faculty who are preparing to submit a manuscript for their first academic book publication. In developing the proposal, UCOLASC was motivated by the economic difficulties facing faculty who want to publish books, particularly first-time authors in the humanities and social sciences. While faculty members in the hard sciences would not be excluded from the proposal, it was anticipated that the majority of awards would go to faculty in the humanities and social sciences.

UCOLASC/Office of Scholarly Communication Symposium

UCOLASC discussed the possibility of co-sponsoring, with the UC Office of Scholarly Communication, a meeting with selected scholarly society representatives to discuss open access and scholarly communication issues. The symposium was being planned for late fall/early winter.

Campus Reports

UCOLASC members reported on the activities of their corresponding divisional Senate library committees. Campus reports highlighted scholarly communication issues, including open-access, digitization and preservation of library holdings, journal access, and the future form of libraries (both physically and conceptually).

Personal Repositories & Academic Promotion

UCOLASC discussed the use of electronic bibliography/personal repository applications, such as the [Berkeley Electronic Press](#) (BePress), as a way to facilitate the academic personnel process. The committee invited UCAP Chair Mary Croughan, former SCSC member Nick Jewell, and Director of Publishing and Strategic Initiatives Catherine Candee to its November meeting. After noting some obstacles to systemwide implementation, including campus-specific differences in academic personnel processes, technical barriers, and high cost, the committee decided to postpone further development of the initiative.

Joint Meeting with University Librarians

UCOLASC met with the University Librarians in March to discuss common topics of interest, including the proposed open access policy, library planning, strained library budgets, regional library facilities (RLFs), e-reserves, the development of library search technologies (Melvyl and [WorldCat](#)), and the various digitization initiatives involving Google, Microsoft, and Yahoo!. UCOLASC also received updates from UL Convener Tom Leonard at its November and June meetings.

The committee received regular briefings on the two UC RLFs – the northern facility (NRLF) at Berkeley and the southern facility (SRLF) managed by UCLA. Both are designed to be modular and capable of housing 11 million volumes each. The NRLF has a capacity of 7.3 million volumes. The SRLF was planned with only three modules; two are already built and will be full by 2010. The third phase (SRLF-3) is scheduled to begin construction in 2010-11 with occupancy expected in 2013-14.

UCOLASC and the ULs also discussed a Google initiative to digitize the world's books. Tom Leonard reported that while a copyright lawsuit brought against Google by the Authors Guild and the American Publishers Association for Google's initiative, UC is indemnified against any damages. The lawsuit asserts 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. The Google initiative has attracted a number of other partners, including Stanford, the University of Michigan, the New York Public Library, Harvard, and Oxford.

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