

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
ON
LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION**

2014-2015 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 2014-2015 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.

California Open Educational Resources Council

UCOLASC received a presentation in October about the [California Open Educational Resources Council](#) (COERC). On February 8, 2012, several lawmakers introduced legislation designed to increase the affordability of textbooks. The bill was approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on September 27, 2012. The target set in 2012 was to create an online library of free (or very low-cost) high-quality textbooks and this required that the COERC agree on courses. The Hewlett and Gates Foundations have provided funds to match the state funding; this funding will be used to support peer review boards. The Council only started meeting in early 2014. In the first phase to increase faculty adoption of materials, the Council selected five courses that had high enrollments across the segments. The Council convened groups of faculty to review and recommend the resources. These first five classes have started this Fall. The COERC progress reports may be found at the following link: <http://icas-ca.org/progress-reports>.

Any faculty who has developed materials for their courses might wish to share those resources. A UCOLASC member proposed to create a website where faculty could express preferences on material that was made openly accessible; this ranking would help other faculty members select material for their courses. The Council is considering partnering with other groups who have already created similar resources. UCOLASC members emphasized the importance of increasing awareness among California faculty about the current resources.

The Author's Alliance

In October, UCOLASC learned about the Author's Alliance, an organization founded by UC faculty members that promotes authorship for the public good by supporting authors who write to be read. The Alliance represents the interest of authors who want to share their creations through the potential of digital networks, in the face of the many barriers that impede public access. Among other activities, the Alliance has engaged in drawing copyright policy proposals, filed an amicus brief in Authors Guild v Google, prepared FAQs on Fair Use and Open Access, and created educational materials for authors looking to regain copyrights. It is important for copyright to not undermine the intended goal of faculty of reaching as wide a readership as possible. UCOLASC members expressed their keen interest in the Alliance, and suggested that the Alliance maintain a list of publishers who provide a reasonable amount of flexibility in their copyright agreements with faculty.

Open Access Policy Implementation

UCOLASC received two reports from the California Digital Library's Director of Publishing, Catherine Mitchell, about the implementation of the Senate's Open Access Policy at UCLA, UCSF, and UCI. In October, the committee reviewed the six-month progress report. Approximately 300 waivers were requested by UCSF faculty between May 2012 and July 2013, while 214 total waivers were requested by UCSF, UCLA and UCI faculty from July 2013 to October 2014. The data probably reflects demands for waivers from publishers, with the Nature Publishing Group requesting the largest number of waivers. The number of article uploads was relatively small. This may reflect a general lack of knowledge about the Open Access policy. In addition, the manual uploading process is perceived by some as time consuming. In a February memo to Academic Council, UCOLASC stated that, in spite of the low rate of paper uploads, the Open Access policy rollout has been successful and that UCOLASC found no reason why the policy should not be expanded to all ten campuses as planned. Further, the committee urged the Academic Council to request that the Office of the President provide the California Digital Library with the funding necessary to support the systemwide implementation. CDL is looking to secure long term funding to ensure that the system is operational for the long-term, and UCOLASC is committed to supporting this.

The Symplectic Elements harvester system was released to the pilot campuses (UCSF, UCLA and UCI) from January to March 2015, with the goal being to have the system up and running at all campuses by December 2015. The harvesting tool makes it easy for faculty to “claim” and deposit their publications, and provides faculty with a comprehensive list of publications with accurate citations. This promotes more compliance with the OA policy while saving money and staff resources. Emails automatically generated by Symplectic and sent to UCLA faculty on January 14, urging them to log in to eScholarship to upload their publications, produced a 25% response rate, with 250 items deposited in the first 48 hours. A total of 542 articles have been deposited in the four weeks since the release of the harvester. OSC and UCOLASC are very pleased with these results, but also concerned that many faculty may still be still unaware of the tool or the policy. University Librarians are considering new strategies to increase the visibility and faculty awareness of the policy.

The twelve-month report which will be prepared for UCOLASC’s Fall meeting may include data on faculty participation, usage data, user surveys/anecdotal reports from campuses, and integration/cost. This report will be reviewed by UCOLASC and forwarded to the Academic Council.

Journal Licensing Negotiations

UCOLASC received reports on journal licensing negotiations from CDL’s Director of Collections, Ivy Anderson, in October and May. UC is starting to license new Nature journals that are in high demand; the baseline deal with Nature for systemwide purchasing is very good. UC had a trial with the citation database SCOPUS last year, which will continue for another year. Most research institutions are already licensing SCOPUS and Elsevier has offered UC a competitive price. SCOPUS has been the best source for the Symplectic Elements harvester according to the CDL, and thus it is hoped that it will receive continuing support, as it is integral to the success of the Open Access policy.

Consultation with the UC Press

In February, UC Press Director Alison Mudditt briefed UCOLASC on two new Open Access (OA) programs that UC Press launched in late January—[Collabra](#), an OA journal program, and [Luminos](#), an OA monograph program. UC Press believes that Collabra and Luminos offer a more sustainable business model that will help address the crisis of the high cost of scholarly publishing. The programs also align with the new Open Access policy and the larger mission of the UC Press—to give “*voice, reach, and impact*” to the scholarship it publishes.

Some UCOLASC members expressed concerns about some aspects of the Luminos’ publication costs and about the pay-to-publish model. Suggestions from UCOLASC included that the UC Press explore a less expensive model that would allow faculty to select specific publication and marketing services from a menu of options. The committee was also informed that the Mellon Foundation recently awarded the UC Press and CDL a \$750K grant to develop a cloud-based content management system for digital monographs that is expected to increase efficiencies and reduce costs.

Challenges Facing Scholarly Communications in the Humanities

UCOLASC’s February meeting included a discussion focused specifically on scholarly communications in the Humanities, a system that involves multiple players and functions. Budgetary pressures on university presses have downstream implications in promotion and tenure for faculty in the Humanities. As presses react to this pressure by downsizing and retrenching, they publish fewer titles, particularly in the Humanities, making it more difficult for faculty to publish and achieve tenure.

Several members proposed that UCOLASC request that the Academic Senate form a new Special Committee to consider the crisis from a modern UC perspective, to help the university get ahead of the changes in scholarly publishing that are expected to occur over the next decade. A memo outlining this proposal was sent by Chair Manduchi to the committee for discussion in July and this matter will be on the agenda for UCOLASC’s October 2015 meeting.

Copyright and Software

Senior UC Counsels Rita Hao and Angus McDonald from the Office of General Counsel joined the February meeting to discuss copyright in the context of software. The committee suggested that UC copyright policy should provide more direction about faculty ownership of software, particularly computer code, that computer science faculty use in teaching and distribute to students, or that faculty researchers use to share results. The Senior Counsels noted that the Office of General Counsel does not set UC policy, and only assists in its interpretation and enforcement. Federal copyright law mandates that employers, in general, own the copyright to their employees’ work, although the academic tradition, which is also codified in the [1992 UC Copyright Policy](#), says that faculty retain ownership of scholarly or aesthetic work. The 1992 policy, however, is outdated, and does not address the ownership of software or code specifically.

Software presents unique issues, and not all computer code rises to the level of copyright. The Senior Counsels noted that the Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC), and specifically its Subcommittee on Copyright Policy, has authority over UC copyright ownership policies, and would be the final arbiter of any policy amendment. The Senior Counsels also discussed elements of the UC's 2003 [Policy for Ownership of Course Materials](#), and the "fair use" exception to intellectual property law. They noted that a new revision of the [UC Policy on Copyright and Fair Use](#) will be circulated for systemwide review later this year. It was agreed that SLASIAC should consider revisions to the UC Copyright Policy that incorporate software and copyright issues. It was also suggested that UCOLASC might produce a general statement of purpose to help guide the effort. Chair Manduchi commented that issues with the copyright policy were discussed at a SLASIAC meeting. While certain aspects of the policy are still not clear, the new revision represents a substantially improved version. This revision includes a new definition of the class of employees allowed to own their scholarly work and it will address some issues related to software copyright ownership. UCOLASC wrote a letter in December 2014 requesting that the policy clearly state when the verb "author" applies and that a passage on University Authors who do not own the copyright in their scholarly work also be clarified. The revised Presidential Policy on Copyright and Fair Use was issued effective July 9, 2015. The revised policy can be found online at: <http://copyright.universityofcalifornia.edu/resources/copyright-fair-use.html>

Regional Library Facility Planning

During the February and May meetings, UCOLASC briefly discussed issues related to regional library facility planning. In the modern hybrid library environment, an increasing number of materials are digital, but there is still a need to preserve physical copies of infrequently used materials of enduring value. UC has two shared storage facilities, in Richmond and Los Angeles, which provide long-term physical space for materials, which students and faculty can access through the interlibrary loan service. However, these resources are expected to reach capacity in only a few years. The libraries are exploring the extent to which they can eliminate duplicate copies of materials consistent with persistence guidelines, but they will still need more physical space to house the growing collections. The librarians will be studying proposals for expanding the Northern Regional Library Facility (NRLF) in Richmond as well as lower-cost alternatives in the Central Valley, and potential funding mechanisms.

UCOLASC members commended the librarians for moving the space and preservation issue forward and expressed interest in reviewing the options and plans as they develop. Members noted the need for robust loss-prevention systems at the campus libraries and the need to educate the public (and UCOP) about the critical importance of preservation and of the libraries themselves. It was noted that the book still has a strong future in the academy and in libraries. In June UCOLASC sent a letter to the Chair of SLASIAC in support of the expansion of the Northern Regional Library Facility.

Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act

In May, UCOLASC members considered if the committee should submit a letter in support of the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research (FASTR) Act. All of the UC libraries are formally supporting this Act, originally introduced back in 2013. The primary issue with the Act is related to the length of the embargo, whether it should be six or twelve months. Committee members supported submitting a letter of support and expressed support for the six month embargo. At the time of this report, this memo had not yet been drafted.

Joint Meeting with University Librarians

UCOLASC met with the University Librarians in February to discuss common topics of interest including open access and the joint project between the University Library and CDL to investigate a sustainable open access model, supported by a grant from the Mellon Foundation.

Other Issues and Additional Business

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

- The President's proposed new Open Access Policy for Non-Senate UC Authors

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 Lorelei 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 Matthew Conner (UCD). UCOLASC also consulted the Academic Senate chair, vice chair, and executive director about issues facing the Academic Senate.

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