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Academic Senate

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UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY
COMMUNICATION (UCOLASC)

Mark Hanna
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February 27, 2025

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Erik Mitchell, Mathew Willmott, Miranda Bennett, Co-Chairs
Project Transform Negotiating Team (PTNT), Project Transform Working
Group (PTWG), UC Council of University Librarians (CoUL)

RE: UCOLASC Statement on 100% Open Access Agreements with
Publishers

Dear Erik, Mat, and Miranda,

As discussed at our joint UCOLASC and Council of University Librarians
(CoUL) meeting held on February 21, 2025, UCOLASC remains committed
to advancing the goals established in its [2018 “Declaration of Rights and
Principles to Transform Scholarly Communication”](#) and to uphold efforts of
the Project Transform Negotiating Team (PTNT) and Project Transform
Working Group (PTWG).

Thus, UCOLASC has unanimously endorsed the following statement to
reflect its unwavering support of the PTNT in negotiating open access
agreements on behalf of all UC authors:

“The University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication
(UCOLASC), hereby signals its collective and resolute commitment to
support the negotiating position of the University of California (UC) with
Elsevier and other publishers in order to advance UC’s mission as a public
institution, make the products of our research and scholarship as freely
and widely available as possible, enable authors to retain all their rights as
creators, and ensure that UC spends taxpayer money in the most ethically,
morally, and socially responsible way.

To this end, UCOLASC calls for UC to enter into open access agreements
with publishers whereby open access publishing and Creative Commons

Attribution licenses (CC BY) are default for all our authors. UCOLASC does so with the acknowledgement that a limited number of UC authors may require additional publishing and licensing options for reasons that are discipline-specific and related to academic freedom—but such options should not restrict the rights of authors.

Pursuing 100% open access publishing agreements advances the goals set forth in the UCOLASC Declaration of Rights and Principles to Transform Scholarly Communication and aligns closely with the mission of the University to provide “long-term societal benefits through transmitting advanced knowledge, discovering new knowledge, and functioning as an active working repository of organized knowledge.”

We thank you, the other members of the PTNT, PTWG, and CoUL for your efforts on our behalf, and we remain by your side with firm resolve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hanna', on a light yellow rectangular background.

Mark Hanna
Chair, UCOLASC

Kathrin Plath, **Vice
Chair**

Richard A. Schneider,
Past Chair

Mark Haiman, **UC Berkeley**
Naoki Saito, **UC Davis**
Zili Liu, **UC Los Angeles**
Jessica Blois, **UC Merced**
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