

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2006**

I. Chair's Announcements

UCOL Chair Ben Crow outlined two agenda items for this teleconference. He said that he would like the committee to (1) discuss and draft the UCOL position on the SCSC white papers; and (2) collect suggestions to strengthen UCOL.

II. SCSC White Papers

ISSUE: Chair Crow solicited comments on the white papers, and asked members whether they would like to endorse the white papers as they currently stand.

DISCUSSION: Chair Crow asked the members how they would like to go about making their comments to the Academic Council. Some members thought that it would be helpful to have the divisional library committees' comments in-hand before drafting UCOL's comments, but this idea was dismissed given the universitywide committee response deadline of March 8th. It was assumed that divisional library committee comments would appear in the final divisional responses. All members agreed that UCOL should endorse the white papers while recognizing that they are still in draft form. Rather than just a simple endorsement, members stressed that the final correspondence should not only list UCOL's concerns but also pledge the committee's support of the implementation of the ideas contained in the white papers.

ACTION: Chair Ben Crow and Analyst Todd Giedt will draft an endorsement of the SCSC white papers.

III. Copyright Resolution

ISSUE: Members felt that it would be best to draft separate correspondence on the copyright resolution since this seemed to be the most controversial.

DISCUSSION: Members thought that this resolution needs some refining and evaluation from legal experts. They were also concerned about its eventual implementation. They recognized that it will be controversial and noted that a task force of legal experts may be needed to further evaluate it. At this point, committee members are reluctant to endorse the specific language of the resolution without further evaluation and possible reformulation of the language. They also wondered if SCSC had already reformulated the language since the January draft. Chair Crow said that he would look into that and get back to the committee. The committee remarked that the final language should clarify that faculty members are not responsible for legally obtaining permission to place their work in a UC scholarly repository. The policy should protect faculty members from any legal prosecution from scholarly publishers as well.

ACTION: Chair Ben Crow and Analyst Todd Giedt will draft UCOL's comments on the SCSC Copyright Resolution.

IV. Strengthening UCOL

ISSUE: Chair Crow directed members’ attention to Bylaw 185, which states that UCOL shall “confer with and advise the President concerning the administration of the libraries of the University in accordance with the Standing Orders of The Regents” and “perform such other appropriate duties as may be committed to the Academic Senate by proper authority.” He thought that this charge is too limiting given the wide scope of scholarly communication. First, he proposed providing the committee with an appropriate structure that would allow it to properly discuss scholarly communication issues. Second, he wanted to strengthen the committee’s profile within Academic Council. Both initiatives would involve amending the current Bylaw 185 that governs UCOL. Chair Crow also suggested that the divisional library committees consider changing both their mandates and titles to encompass the wide-ranging and complex nature of scholarly communication.

DISCUSSION: Members stressed that scholarly communication should remain within the purview of the faculty. While UCOL members acknowledge that there will probably be an administrative task force responsible for the implementation of SCSC’s work, they feel that there is also a need for long-term faculty oversight of scholarly communications, which UCOL is best equipped to handle. They also considered the possibility of creating a new committee completely devoted to scholarly communications, but felt that such a creation would not be the most sensible alternative for a number of reasons (additional layers of administration, sharp learning curve, etc.).

In order to expand the committee’s purview, members suggested adding “and issues relating to scholarly communications” to the first clause of the Bylaw 185. Members discussed the possibility of upgrading UCOL’s committee status to a “Council” committee, which would mean that its Chair would attend the monthly Academic Council meetings. Such a change would require UCOL to opine on many more Council issues, some of which may not be germane to UCOL’s charge. Members agreed that UCOL should hold additional teleconferences, but upgrading UCOL to a Council committee is not warranted at this time. Chair Crow will call additional teleconferences as needed.

Members took up the discussion of the divisional committee mandates and titles. They agreed with Chair Crow that it would be a good idea for divisional committees to not only change their mandates, but also change their titles in such a way to include “scholarly communication” in the title. Such a name change would raise their standing within the Academic Senate. Members also noted that bylaws would have to be changed at both the systemwide and divisional levels to be effective. A short discussion followed as to whether this should be a top-down (initiated by the divisions) or bottom-up (initiated by the Academic Council) approach, with members agreeing that both algorithms are equally viable.

ACTION: Chair Ben Crow and Analyst Todd Giedt will draft a justification for amendments.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Attest: Ben Crow, UCOL Chair
Prepared by: Todd Giedt, Committee Analyst