

## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

**I. Consent Calendar**

The agenda and minutes were approved as noticed 11-0-0.

**II. Chair Report**

*Chair Dennis Ventry*

The Chair said that UC is meeting frequently with the large publishers to discuss open access publishing agreements and having some good conversations. The libraries are also starting to have conversations with CSU about pursuing open access transformative agreements together.

In the transformative open access model being pursued by UC (via Project Transform), the UC Libraries will pay at least the first \$1,000 toward the article processing charge (APC) to publish open access. If there's any remaining balance due on the APC, UC authors are asked if they have grant funding available to cover the balance. If an author does not have grant funds to cover that difference, the UC Libraries will pay the entire APC on their behalf, ensuring that lack of research funds does not present a barrier for UC authors who wish to publish open access.

UCOLASC and the libraries have released a poll to understand the impact on the UC community of not having an Elsevier subscription agreement; this is a service improvement poll, to help the libraries better respond to UC needs through alternative access. The poll, which was still open as of this meeting, has already received over 5000 responses.

**III. Consultation with the California Digital Library**

*Günter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director, CDL  
OSTP Policy*

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is considering revisions to its 2013 policy memo on public access to the published results of federally funded research. OSTP plans to or has already engaged university administrators, faculty, libraries, publishers and scholarly societies. A recent OSTP consultation included three UC representatives. OSTP recently issued an Request for Information (RFI) on increasing public access to federally funded research outputs; a systemwide response is being written by UCOP Research Policy Analysis and Coordination, and the campus libraries and California Digital Library are also submitting responses. Chair Ventry will draft a letter on behalf of UCOLASC for circulation to UCOLASC members.

**IV. OSC Updates**

*Catherine Mitchell, Director of Publishing & Special Collections  
Katie Fortney is reporting in lieu of Catherine.*

1. Site Reorganization
2. Inventory Update
3. Presidential Policy Implementation

Site Reorganization -- Copyright Policy & Education Officer Katie Fortney discussed the reorganization of the [Office of Scholarly Communication \(OSC\) website](#). She thanked members of

the committee who had helped provide feedback during the re-design process. Fortney noted that the OSC website first launched in 2013 and within the last year it has experienced significant growth due to increased site content. The revised site went live in early January, and includes a section on transformative publisher agreements. The site also houses the [OSC blog](#) and serves as a clearinghouse for information and resources on scholarly communication, including the University's recent transformative open access work.

Inventory Update – UC Press and CDL are collaborating on an inventory of campus-based publishing initiatives. So far, they have updated an inventory from 2007 for 8 of the 10 campuses and expect to be finished by the end of this month.

Presidential Policy – The University has had [the Presidential open access policy](#) covering all UC employees since 2015; the Senate policy is a little older (2013). Faculty continue to receive emails from the harvesting system identifying articles authored by UC faculty and researchers and asking them to claim and upload the articles to eScholarship. So far, only Senate faculty have had access to that harvesting system. However, CDL is trying to expand it, and make it is easier for all UC employees, systemwide, to participate. A pilot is currently underway with UCI and UCR to integrate further support for the Presidential policy. UCOLSAC will be kept apprised of this pilot and work to then further roll out policy implementation systemwide.

## **V. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Mary Gauvain, Academic Council Vice Chair*

The Standardized Testing Task Force report is currently out for review and due back by the end of March. Thereafter, the Senate will forward the report to the Assembly then to the President and, ultimately, will be presented to the Regents in May.

There is a Working Group on Comprehensive access which has to deal with the working with value-based institutions. The Senate will be sending responses to the President next week.

It is not clear how the U.S. Supreme Court will rule on DACA. There is a lot of planning being done at the systemwide level about how the campuses will respond if the ruling goes against undocumented individuals. The President is very committed to undocumented students, faculty, and staff.

The state auditor is going to audit the admissions process; this action is partly due to the admissions scandals that occurred nationally.

Several searches going on: the Merced chancellor and president. The presidential search committee says it will have someone announced by the May Regents' meeting. The Academic Advisory committee is helping vet the academic bona fides of candidates. The head hunter seems interested in faculty input. There have been town halls at some of the campuses.

Wildcat strike at UCSC – The President has sent a letter saying that OP will not acknowledge the strike. There are fair number of police on the campus. There is some participation from STEM students, but it is more in solidarity with the non-STEM TA-ships.

**\*\*UCOLASC was joined by CoUL\*\***

## **VI. Project Transform Update and Discussion**

Jeffrey MacKie-Mason, University Librarian, UCB

Kristin Antelman, University Librarian, UCSB

UCB University Librarian Jeff MacKie-Mason said that the overarching goal of Project Transform is to transform academic publishing from “pay to read” to “pay to publish” with full and perpetual OA upon publication. If these developments are successful, all institutions will transition to this type of agreement, and all scientific publications will be open access. A strategic roadmap called Pathways to Open Access was developed by the libraries in collaboration with faculty (including UCOLASC) from 2016-2018 to bring all 10 campuses and CDL together on a set of shared strategies and objectives. Meanwhile, UCOLASC articulated a set of open access goals and principles in its Declaration of Rights and Responsibilities, published in 2018. For its part, SLASAC published a Call to Action charging the libraries and faculty to negotiate a new set of contracts implementing these principles, by negotiating transformative agreements that redirected the libraries subscription expenditures into payments for open access publication. (A transformative agreement is one that converts subscription spending into open access publishing spending, in a finite period of time.) That effort has been named Project Transform.

Mr. MacKie-Mason noted that UC has signed several transformative agreements over the last year. The first agreement, with [Cambridge University Press](#), is the standard funding model that the University is aiming for in most of its agreements as described earlier by Chair Ventry, in which the libraries provide the first level of support for article publishing fees, and authors with grant funds are asked to cover the remainder. Authors without sufficient funds can request that the library make up the difference, and the libraries will cover the full cost if a faculty member does not have the funds. The University also has similar agreements with [JMIR Press](#) and [PLOS](#), two native open access publishers, as well as an open access agreement with a society publisher, and [ACM](#), that uses a different funding model. The ACM transformative agreement was entered into jointly with MIT, CMU and Iowa State University. ACM has committed to flip entirely to OA if this model works.

Currently, the University is actively negotiating with Springer Nature and Wiley, the second and third largest scholarly publishers in the world. The UC Negotiation Team will meet with Elsevier on March 9 for a workshop to determine whether the two parties can restart negotiations.

Most of the agreements of the sort UC is seeking have been consummated by European consortia with a combination of publishing- and reading-intensive institutions. UC, as a publishing-intensive institution, has been in discussions with CSU, a reading-intensive institution, since fall 2019 about pursuing a transformative agreement together. These talks have been very productive – both sides see big advantages in working together, providing a model of intersegmental collaboration and enabling a UC-CSU partnership to function more like a European consortium. SCELAC is another consortium, consisting primarily of private institutions in California, interested in negotiating with UC and CSU to further broaden the coalition.

Several of the major publishers have very high-prestige journals – e.g., Nature, Science, Cell, Lancet – with considerably different business models than most academic journals. For example, they publish a great deal of non-peer-reviewed material, including some of their own writing, and they have in-house editors and thus have higher costs. Turning those journals into pay-to-publish journals – at least without disaggregating the front material from the research material – is close to a deal-breaker for the publishers. The publishers’ default approach is simply to exclude those journals from transformative agreements, and continue publishing them as subscription journals. The UC Negotiation Team is working hard to change this, and to put these journals (and publishers) on an open access path. UCSB UL Kristen Antelman shared a PowerPoint on how alternative access is working on the campuses. She noted that Elsevier ILL requests are still a relatively small fraction of the total ILL requests; demand has been very manageable. Alternative access mechanisms can

provide quick and timely access. For ILL, most articles are delivered within a day and some within a few hours. Antelman also discussed the Elsevier impact poll, which is still in progress.

## **VII. SILS**

*Günter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director, CDL*  
*Chris Shaffer, University Librarian, UCSF*

University Librarian Chris Schaffer and Executive Director Günter Waibel are co-chairing a team of library staff from all 10 campuses plus CDL to migrate the libraries' various systems to a systemwide integrated library system (SILS). It will be the libraries' biggest enterprise system. Migrating to a shared, modern cloud-based solution will have a significantly positive impact; in addition to operational efficiencies and cost savings, faculty and student access to library collections systemwide will be greatly improved. OP has approved a multi-year funding package that will support implementation and some staffing. The SILS implementation kickoff is planned for March, and the system will be live in late July 2021. The libraries will coordinate with UCOLASC and local COLASCs on the best way to share the information about the new system.

## **VIII. RIMS Working Group Update**

*Dennis Ventry, UCOLASC Chair*  
*Mackenzie Smith, University Librarian, UCD*  
*Catherine Mitchell, Dir. of Publishing & Special Collections*

Two years ago, the University initiated an inventorying of the Research Information Management Systems (RIMS) in use around the UC; the survey did not sufficiently reveal the extent to which RIMS are employed at UC. The charge of the working group is to deliver to Provost Brown a report on what is currently in use. In addition to identifying with systems are in use, the ultimate goal is to come up with some norms and policies about what the University is tracking with respect to research activities, how those are represented, who owns the data, and the uses and potential misuses of that data. The working group's immediate job is to collect about what is being used and how and then make a recommendation around who should create these policies, etc. The working group might seek assistance from UCOLASC in getting the word out to the right parties on campuses.

Chair Ventry will circulate the RIMS report from last year.

## **IX. Signaling the Shared Value of OA at UC to President Napolitano's Successor**

*Elizabeth Cowell, University Librarian, UCSC*

President Napolitano's support has been critical to the success of the efforts of the libraries and the CDL. In CoUL's farewell letter to the President, whose term with the University ends this summer, Cowell highlighted the President's support for open access publishing and efforts to transform the scholarly publishing landscape. CoUL will have their annual meeting with the President in April; they will ask for her advice around how to best engage the incoming President.

At the request of the Council of Chancellors, a Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASAC) Study Group has been charged to study the libraries' collective work. The study group's report will be submitted to the Chancellors and President this June.

Academic Senate Vice Chair Mary Gauvain advised UCOLASC to write a letter to Council re: the shared importance of open access at UC, who could then bring it forward to the search committee.

## **X. Campus Reports and Executive Session**

UCB - Nothing to report. The campus is working to generate more response to the poll.

UCD – The member was not present.

UCI – The campus committee hasn't had a meeting since the poll was released; it is meeting tomorrow. The committee member will share that UCI respondents were only eight percent of the survey respondents and will push them to respond more.

UCLA – There has been some confusion between the University's poll and the Elsevier poll. Separately, the library took oversight of the film and television archive from the theater department and is trying to figure out how to make it more accessible. Physical space has also been an issue for the library and it is getting some funding to retrofit some of its libraries. Librarians are also trying to help faculty deposit articles into eScholarship.

UCM – The librarians are working to try to increase the UCM response to the poll. The library is also up for program review and LASC is working with the library to assist them.

UCR – The member was not present.

UCSD – The central library is an iconic structure. A donor has given a substantial donation and so the library is undergoing a \$9M renovation. One of the issues is that students are using the library in a new ways now. The function of the library as a repository of books is less relevant.

UCSF – The library will be starting a strategic planning process. It hired an associate librarian for research education and she will be leading the strategic planning. Some of the space will be converted into educational use; a lot of the collection will go to a storage facility.

UCSB – In January, the new University Librarian presented a plan for reorganizing the library but it had no details. There were two senior positions that were filled and a lot of librarians moved around. One of the main consequences was that there was going to be a reduction in the number of subject librarians who were subject experts. Departments petitioned to rethink the reorganization. The University Librarian arranged to consult each and every department.

UCSC – Nothing to report.

The committee adjourned at 2:40.