

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

**Minutes of Meeting**

Monday, October 22, 2018

**I. Consent Calendar**

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes as Noticed

**II. Welcome, Logistics, Introductions, and Reports**

*Chair Rich Schneider*

*Vice Chair Dennis Ventry*

The Chair provided the Committee with an overview of UCOLASC's bylaw and its function. He asked the committee members to introduce themselves.

**III. Consultation with the Academic Senate Leadership**

*Robert, May, Academic Council Chair*

*Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Academic Council Vice Chair*

Academic Council Chair May told the committee that the Senate has been asked by the President to look at standardized testing. If UC decides to do away with the SAT it would have an incredible impact on the national educational scene. There are two areas – professional graduate student testing and undergraduate SAT testing. BOARS, UCORP, and UCEP will be looking at this.

Chair May stated that most of the members likely had heard something about the represented Librarians and academic freedom. The librarian union has said they will not accept APM 010 and 015 as a prerequisite for academic freedom. He said that the issue not bargainable. Unit 18 Lecturers have it, but they have accepted 010 and 015. He went on to say that the Librarians have the strong support of the Senate, but have rejected 010 and 015 at the bargaining table. The union is trying to portray the University and the Senate as being against the Librarians. This is a really important issue for the Senate. The University Librarians released a statement absolutely supporting the Senate's view.

Chair May told the committee that there is not a big threat to retiree health at the moment. For current employees, there have been a very small increases in cost for Kaiser and the Blue and Gold Plan, but a large increase for UC Care; there is lot of concern about this. There is a worry that UC Care will enter the "death spiral" where healthy people will drop out of the higher premium program and cause costs to increase further. The HCTF is closely monitoring the open enrollment data. Separately, the University has changed the description of "domestic partner." There is now only one definition of domestic partnership, regardless of age or gender. The Senate is responsible for this change.

The issue of repatriation of Native American artifacts and remains is being addressed by the University. If committee members are interested in participating (or know someone who would be interested, please inform the Senate.

#### IV. Consultation on Open Access Publisher Agreements

##### A. Update on License Negotiations and Pilots

*Chair Rich Schneider*

*Jeff Mackie-Mason, University Librarian, UCB*

*Guenter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director, CDL*

*Ivy Anderson, CDL Director*

The Chair noted that UC has had two negotiations with Elsevier and will have a third one on Friday. This will be the first time that faculty are involved in these negotiations for the University. The Chair noted that the administration and the faculty are closely linked in this endeavor. The publishing contracts are for five years and are expiring. For the first time, the University is introducing the issue of Open Access into the negotiations. It is unclear if Elsevier will sign the contract by December 31. Germany agreed to continue negotiations in good faith and that might happen with UC as well. However, it is also possible the faculty and staff will lose immediate access. These activities have attracted a lot of media attention.

##### B. Faculty Engagement and Communications Strategy

*Jeff Mackie-Mason, University Librarian, UCB*

Mr. Mackie-Mason informed the committee that his group had made a proposal that would have a substantial reduction in total cost, but does not have much hope of it being accepted. It is asking for three-year contract rather than five. UC is delivering money to Elsevier, and the librarians are proposing to integrate that so there is a single charge. He shared a PowerPoint that showed how this would affect authors and added that there may be library fund in place if authors do not have sufficient funds. In addition, if, an author does not want to publish with OA, s/he can opt out. The discussion is now focused on what would happen if UC walks away; will it give the University the leverage it needs? Germany terminated its contract almost two years ago and nothing happened; then in July Elsevier turned off the spigot. UC would have perpetual access to almost all Elsevier content from the past, and has alternative ways to get things that are not available. It has mechanisms for providing alternative access. A task force is now working to ensure that these alternative methods will work if Elsevier shuts down.

Mr. Mackie-Mason said that it is important to inform stakeholders about what the libraries are doing and get their input and support. Communication is important to help protect them and to maximize benefits while minimizing costs. The team is developing a strategy and messages for the campuses and for systemwide use. In mid-summer, they made a presentation to Council and to the provosts had an enthusiastic response. The group is open to meeting with any other constituents that may be interested.

The committee discussed this issue at length.

#### V. Consultation with the California Digital Library

##### A. Update on CDL Activities

*Guenter Waibel, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director, CDL*

##### B. Update on OSC Activities and Working Groups

*Catherine Mitchell, Director, Publishing and Special Collections*

*Dan Morgan, UC Press Publisher*

AVP Guenter Waibel said that the CDL is trying to form partnerships beyond UC; it is trying to expand its capacity through joining with others. It is difficult to sustain special collections and

access. CDL has received a grant from the state to see if it can work with others who have similar portals and shoulder the portals together. It is a planning grant.

Dryad developed into a repository for all manner of data sets from any discipline. It has integrations with about 600 journals. Twelve percent of the data sets in Dryad are from UC researchers.

UC has been participating in the Hathi Trust since 2005 at five different locations across the system. There has been an announcement that now the entire corpus will be available for non-consumptive research; individuals can do text mining across it. AVP Waibel said that he will put together a small packet on this to distribute to the committee.

Director Catherine Mitchell introduced herself and stated that her office provides these main services:

1. Resources for analysis of current and emerging topics in this area.
2. Coordination and provision of central access.
3. Drafting of statements on behalf of UC (when appropriate) on local and national policies.
4. Providing a website which is the clearinghouse for all of this information.

OSC has acquired new staffing to support the OA efforts. It has been supporting the Senate's policy for five years and we has landed with Symplectic elements with scholarship. There is standing funding from year to year for the license and for one staff member to support it. This should be much more solid and the office should be able to do much more than we were before. It also will be better able to share data. OSC is hoping to explore more strategies for collecting these materials.

The office is trying to harmonize a lot of messaging that is coming out; there are many different efforts taking place. It has created an FAQ to support faculty around the Elsevier negotiations and is hoping to anticipate some of the concerns and questions from the faculty. As more questions roll in, they will be added to the FAQ. Dan Morgan is chairing a group that will create a guide to journal flipping. It is still a work in progress but will be finished soon.

## **VI. Joint Discussion with UCACC**

*Rich Schneider, Chair*

*Maryann Martone, UCACC Chair*

*Allegra Smith, Scholarly Communication Librarian*

*Catherine Mitchell, Director, Publishing and Special Collections*

- A. UCOLASC Principles for Transforming Scholarly Communication
- B. Measuring Research Performance and Impact through Academic Analytics, SciVal, Symplectic, and Other Platforms

Chair Schneider introduced the Principles for Transforming Scholarly Communication document. It was felt that it would be a way for the faculty to articulate a position on how scholarship would look in the future. He said that he is looking to get input and endorsement from the other committees and encouraged groups to come forward with questions and concerns if they have them.

He noted that the Principles form a strategic framework to put a stake in the ground. It is a more extreme version than what the librarians would ask for; plays on a "good cop/bad cop" dynamic. He also wants it to go out to different constituencies, and ask them what they would like in the future. They provide a means to focus the conversation, but is also supposed to be aspirational

and lofty and coordinate with OSC and SLAZIAC. The intent is to aim high and stand the University's principles and to have as much support from the Academic Senate committees and faculty as possible. UCPB had some concerns about the cost structure, and the Chair has the intention of meeting with them and allaying their concerns.

The committee had a number of questions and considerable discussion ensued.

Allegra Swift stated that she is involved in two projects that are related. Her group is developing simple tool to help campuses communicate with vendors. Library interest and awareness has really grown around these issues. These vendors are often marketing directly to University employees. These are tools to analyze data, not about the data itself. UCSD just had a digital science day at that was engineered by David Miner. A letter from UCAP outlined faculty concerns, mostly from non-STEM fields; the metrics can easily be misrepresented or misread. Library involvement is a logical extension. Libraries started to become alarmed when Elsevier bought ePress. They are buying up pieces and are also taking on the educational process. Students are having to purchase content directly as part of their course material. The project goal is to create an inventory of systems to understand individual campus systems and reporting. It hopes to discover a way to get the concerns integrated and be more helpful.

The second item is the Scholarly Communication Infrastructure Project. This is still under development and needs to be fleshed out. It is the Cambridge University model. It dovetails nicely into everything being discussed. She asked for faculty insight and input.

## **VII. Consultation with the Council of University Librarians – Elizabeth Cowell, CoUL Representative**

Professor Cowell said that she is thrilled to be chair of CoUL. Currently, she is looking how the university library group works; she wants to identify the alternative access methods and assess their viability. For this, she will need to perform an initial assessment. Chair Schneider remarked that the library has become invisible to faculty and these things need to be brought out into the open. The committee discussed this process for some time.

## **VIII. UC Press and OA Publishing Infrastructure at UC**

*Tim Sullivan, UC Press Executive Director*

*Dan Morgan, UC Press Publisher*

*Catherine Mitchell, Director, Publishing and Special Collections*

*Margaret Chowning, EDIT Chair*

Executive Director Sullivan remarked that he believes publishing is about bringing material to market for editors. The shared funding model has been on the decline since about 1975. In 1975 a scholarly press could sell about 2500 copies to research libraries, but that has been on the decline ever since; the bulk of UC's monograph sales are from individual consumers. A new shared funding model would be different and the University is now in "weird gray area in between." It's a challenging mix of business models. In essence, ebooks are being given away, while print on demand is very popular. Those physical sales help subsidize the free ebooks. One of the other issues is organizational change. The same parts of the old organization may need to work in new ways.

EDIT Chair Margaret Chowning remarked that the University has not had a discussion about Luminos in awhile but it used to have an author contribution as well. There has been consistent concern in the editorial community about this author contribution; it is one of the bottlenecks. The peer review process point of view holds that the OA monographs are not treated differently; they

should be reviewed the same. She said that it is hard to do experiments with print books, but with digital books you can price things at different tiers and see how they do.

UC Press Publisher Dan Morgan said that the Press publishes and are supported by two journal models. In 2014 it did run an experiment of running a mega journal called Collabra. The Editorial committee is the controller of UC Press.

Rich Schneider said that another parallel activity involves journal flipping. There is also a lot of excitement about flipping journals to OA, but the question is where do they go? How do those decisions get made and how are titles identified? UC press is a publishing brand.

Director Catherine Mitchell shared that eScholarship has been publishing for 15 years through CDL and the UC libraries; it has over 200K publications, and there is a lot of visibility around those publications. This is not publishing with an editorial committee or publications manager. It does not provide any staffing or support. Established faculty seek these kind of services and are usually from the social services and humanities, but there are from some STEM. They are now developing this tool called Editoria that will allow CDL to support things on the “back end.” They think this will really ramp up book publishing services at UC. They are looking for a pilot partner (perhaps ANR) to publish the first book and see. The main strategy is to try to bring the platform up to a standard d that you can get with commercial publishers. Ironically, the Berkeley Electronic Press got purchased by Elsevier.

The committee discussed this topic at length.

## IX. Campus Reports

Campus representatives updated the committee members with actions and concerns from their individual campuses.

- UCB has spent a lot of time talking about negotiations. It also has spent a considerable time discussing rankings.
- San Diego has finally signed on to OA 2020. The campus has a new librarian and a new Academic Senate chair.
- Santa Cruz’s COLASC has met twice. The campus is also moving forward on OA 2020.
- UCSF has major concerns about Elsevier issues, since the campus is comprised mostly of STEM faculty and graduate students.
- Merced is in the middle of doubling its campus right now; they are shooting to have 10K students by 2021. The library does not have very many books, and half of the building is devoted to administration.
- Riverside focused on OA 2020 last year and had discussion with the whole campus. Access and quality are primary concerns.
- At Davis, the library administration is trying to use the development office to remodel the library by taking out the books; they hired an outside consultant.

- UCLA hasn't met this year yet, but it does have concerns about how the negotiations. Faculty are deeply involved in discussions about journal discussions and open access.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00.

Minutes prepared by Fredye Harms, Committee Analyst  
Attest: Rich Schneider  
, Committee Chair