



*Robert C. May*  
*Telephone: (510) 987-0711*  
*Email: [robert.may@ucop.edu](mailto:robert.may@ucop.edu)*

*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate*  
*Faculty Representative to the Regents*  
*University of California*  
*1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor*  
*Oakland, California 94607-5200*

February 4, 2019

**JANET NAPOLITANO, PRESIDENT**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**Re: Faculty Consultation on Library Space and Removal of Print Materials**

Dear Janet,

At its January 23, 2019 meeting, the Academic Council unanimously endorsed the attached letter from the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC) emphasizing the importance of faculty consultation and clear and open communication from campus libraries in decisions about the reallocation of library space, and/or the removal of books, journals, and other materials.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "R. C. May".

Robert C. May, Chair  
Academic Council

cc: UCOLASC Chair Schneider  
Council of University Librarians  
Academic Council  
Senate Directors



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION  
Richard A. Schneider, Chair  
rich.schneider@ucsf.edu

Assembly of the Academic Senate  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

6 December 2018

ROBERT MAY, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

**Re: Faculty consultation regarding library space and removal of print materials**

Dear Robert,

At the October 22<sup>nd</sup> UCOLASC meeting, members discussed a situation that began about two years ago at UC Santa Cruz, which more recently received renewed attention at other campuses via faculty from the Council of University of California Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). Evidently, some UCSC faculty felt they were not properly consulted or sufficiently made aware of plans to remove materials and repurpose space in the UCSC Science and Engineering Library. CUCEA has publicized this [widely](#) and the UCSC Academic Senate passed a [resolution](#) on this issue.

To get appraised of the current status of the situation, UCOLASC consulted with the UCSC faculty representative to UCOLASC and the UCSC University Librarian (UL). I also raised this issue at the November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC) with the UCSC UL in attendance. What UCOLASC gathered was that in the summer 2016, the UL initiated the Science & Engineering Collection Project in support of the [Envision UCSC](#) Goal: Student Success. Documents detailing the history of this project including a task force report, timeline, an FAQ, and other information are all available [online](#).

While the Science & Engineering Library renovation project moves forward as planned, UCOLASC believes there are lessons to be learned from this experience. We understand why those faculty members who have written about this might have concerns and why the experience at UCSC could serve as a cautionary tale. So, to that end UCOLASC requests that Academic Council consider making a statement re-emphasizing the importance of faculty consultation as well as clear and open communication from the library (on any campus) whenever decisions are made about the reallocation of space, and/or the removal of books, journals, and other materials.

As we all recognize, the transformation of libraries is happening everywhere in academia as more and more content becomes available online in digital formats, and space on campuses becomes a premium. Keeping faculty involved in these decision-making processes is imperative.

We thank you, and the other members of Academic Council for your consideration of our request. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Schneider, **Chair**  
Dennis Ventry, **Vice Chair**

Geoffrey Koziol, **UC Berkeley**  
Kathryn Olmsted, **UC Davis**  
Derjung Mimi Tarn, **UC Los Angeles**  
Maria DePrano, **UC Merced**  
Jiayu Liao, **UC Riverside**  
Oumelbanine Nina Zhiri, **UC San Diego**  
Marta Margeta, **UC San Francisco**  
Rene Weber, **UC Santa Barbara**  
Karen Ottermann, **UC Santa Cruz**