

Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication (LASC)**Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 2:00 pm on February 10 via Zoom, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, Vice Chair Virginia Adán-Lifante, David Strubbe, Changqing Li, University Librarian Haipeng Li, and Library Consultant Elizabeth Salmon.

I. Chair's Report – *Maria DePrano***A. California Digital Library (CDL) budget**

UC Provost/EVC Michael Brown has written a letter of support for UCOLASC and Academic Council's statement of concern about budget cuts to the CDL. The CDL is a key support base for the UC and it is imperative that it receive adequate funding. The CDL engages in major projects such as Project TRANSFORM (which provided strategic guidance and oversight to the UC Libraries' transformative license negotiations with publishers with which UC has a systemwide agreement, including Elsevier and other publishers) and developing the HathiTrust (a not-for-profit collaborative of academic and research libraries preserving 17+ million digitized items). Chair DePrano pointed out that UC Merced will be more negatively affected by CDL budget cuts than other UCs with large libraries. The equity issue needs to be kept in mind when considering cuts to the CDL. Over the past 15 years, UC libraries have been removing physical copies of books with the goal of making them available digitally. If the CDL's budget is cut, the funding for digitization is also impacted. A reduced CDL budget will also translate to less access to HathiTrust.

Chair DePrano stated that LASC should monitor any developments to the CDL budget. LASC members agreed and praised UCOLASC's statement of concern.

B. Library Consultation for Proposals for New Programs

LASC has been addressing an ongoing issue of the lack of consultation with the Library when faculty members draft proposals to establish new programs. Towards the end of the 2020 spring semester, Chair DePrano met with the chairs of CAPRA, UGC, and GC to discuss this issue. It was suggested that the Library create a list of types of materials frequently requested by new programs so that proposers of new programs will be cognizant of their own possible Library needs. Librarian Li stated that he is working on such a list and it should be completed this week. (Chairs of UGC and GC had said that they would include this list of frequently requested materials on templates for new program proposals that they were intending to write.) Librarian Li echoed Chair DePrano's statement that it is important for the Library to be

consulted when proposals for new academic programs are being developed.

- II. Consent Calendar
 - A. Approval of today's agenda
 - B. Approval of draft December 1 meeting minutes

Action: the Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

- III. Systemwide Review Item – *Chair DePrano*
 - A. Proposed Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-43 Purchases of Goods and Services; Supply Chain Management

This revised policy adds UC's new Small Business First Program into BUS-43. Small Business First requires that all applicable purchases for UC campuses (excluding UC Health and Design & Construction) with the annual value of \$10,000-\$250,000 be awarded to small businesses wherever practicable. The new policy outlines key exemptions from the program along with all necessary definitions and policy requirements to support compliance.

Librarian Li stated that Library procurement practices differ from those of normal campus procurement. Chair DePrano suggested that LASC submit a memo that requests clarification on how this policy would affect Library procurement of collection resources. LASC members agreed.

Action: Chair DePrano will draft a memo and distribute to LASC members for review and approval. LASC's comments are due to the Senate Chair by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, February 16.

- IV. Consultation with University Librarian – *Haipeng Li*
 - A. Merging data services with GIS

The Library proposes a reorganization that will result in two principal outcomes:

- Internal: Combine the Library's Spatial Analysis and Research Center (SpARC) with Library Data Curation Services.
- External: Rebrand the combined operation as the UC Merced Center for GIS and Data Services.

Librarian Li explained that merging SpARC with Library Data Curation Services would streamline the workflow and provide a cohesive, structured service to faculty and students. The complimentary areas of expertise in geographic information systems and data science will allow them to work together to increase the quality and capacity in both areas. The newly combined unit will be housed in the West Wing of the Kolligian Library (KL). Librarian Li has spoken with EVC/Provost Camfield who expressed his support of the merger. Librarian Li will also consult with the Deans Council. LASC members supported

the proposed merger as it will make the services more discoverable. However, a LASC member was concerned whether KL contains enough space for the proposed GIS and Data Services unit. Librarian Li acknowledged that the lack of space is an ongoing problem for the Library, and he continues to speak with the administration about this issue.

B. Elsevier Update

Re-negotiations between Elsevier and the UC continue, and they are making positive progress. Beginning late last year, Elsevier actively re-engaged in negotiations likely because they witnessed the UC making agreements with Springer Nature and other publishers. All UC-authored articles will be open access with Elsevier which is a major victory for the UC. Elsevier is also making some medical journals open access in stages, including some of the Cell Press journals and Lancet. Faculty authors' cost per article will be reduced. Librarian Li has been contacted by several faculty who have asked about access to Elsevier journals. He understands their vexation and hopes the negotiations will result in a positive outcome for the UC. The result of the negotiations should be known within this semester. UCOLASC meets on February 19 and the Elsevier negotiations will be a major topic.

C. Library Budget

The Library submitted a proposed budget that reflects the required 5% cut. They achieved this by using the allotted salaries of four staff positions they had planned to fill. Those positions will therefore not be filled this year. The Library was informed that they will likely receive a 7% across the board budget cut next year on top of the 5% cut this year. The 7% cut is not confirmed, but the Library is planning for it. The Library may have to reduce some of its core services such as hours of operation and the collections. Librarian Li assumes that all UC libraries are facing the same difficult decisions. Chair DePrano stated that LASC is willing to draft a strong letter of objection if the Library receives a 7% budget cut next year.

V. Consultation with Olivia Olivares, Instruction and Outreach Librarian – Re: SILS Project

Ms. Olivares spoke with LASC members about the implementation of the new system UC Library Search which will be launched on July 27, 2021. This new system will replace Melvyl and includes materials from all ten UC campuses, two regional storage facilities, and the CDL.

UC Library Search streamlines library lending:

- Lending/borrowing between UC campuses will be much easier
- Logon to UC Library Search will be much easier
 - Easy access to borrowing records
 - Easy access to library accounts (fines, renewals, etc.)

Users will be able to find materials not held by UCM's Library:

- The library search function will do more
- The new service will allow library users to see the holdings of the ten other UC campuses' libraries + NRFL and SRLF
- Worldcat can be accessed via UC Library Search if campuses choose to enable a Worldcat search API

What is known about UC Library Search:

- Single sign-on – users will not have to enter their account number or user name to request items from other UCs
- Log into Primo to see what you have borrowed
- Third-party databases like HathiTrust and selected OA materials will be searchable in the new system (the Library is still figuring out how to handle OA)

What is unknown about UC Library Search at this time:

- How exactly will Special Collections materials be handled?
- Will some records (like local ebooks) be suppressed for campuses that can't access them?

One of the major changes that the new UC Library Search system will bring is that borrowing policies are being standardized across all 10 campuses (check out periods, fines, etc.).

The Library plans to utilize the following methods of communication to inform the campus about the launch of UC Library Search:

- Campus Notices sent from the University Librarian (all campus)
- Email flyers sent by the Library
- Liaison newsletters
- Digital signage
- Library communications:
 - Instruction
 - Service points
- Campus Communications: Monday Memo & Friday ICYMI
- Social media
- FAQs (systemwide & local)

The communication timeline is as follows:

- News Releases – timeline
 - Initial news release: week of February 16, 2021
 - Additional press releases in March, April, and May

- Each will highlight a new/different feature of the new system
- July 27, 2021- go live
- UC Library Search website: <https://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/uclibrarysearch>

A LASC member asked for the rationale of the press releases issued prior to the launch of the system on July 27. He would prefer to be given a version of the tool immediately so he can log on and familiarize himself with it in preparation for the go-live date. Ms. Olivares responded that in her experience, it is more prudent to issue several communications in advance, so campus users are aware of the impending change. She added that the Library will develop tutorials and guidelines for campus users to utilize. The Library will also conduct workshops after the launch date. Some UC campuses have established “sandboxes” where library users can try out a version of the new system as a trial. UCM library staff is currently determining whether UC Merced will be given a trial tool. A LASC member expressed his hope that the tutorials and guidelines provided to faculty members on using the new UC Library search system will be succinct and useful, unlike the guidelines he and his faculty colleagues receive about using campus purchasing systems.

Ms. Olivares advised faculty to review their teaching materials and revise all references to Melvyl. Library liaisons will also hold conversations with faculty.

VI. Consultation with Derek Devnich, Data Curation Services Coordinator – Re: Standardizing Software Citation and Why it Matters

Mr. Devnich emphasized to LASC members the need to appropriately cite scholarly artifacts. This includes the Digital Object Identifier (manuscripts, raw data, curated data, and software), Research Resource ID (laboratory reagents, cell lines), and Archival Resource Key (physically collections). Mr. Devnich also briefly discussed the software development lifecycle and preparing software for archiving. It is critical for researchers to provide context and not just the code. In order for him to recreate faculty’s work and to guarantee repeatability, the following are required: pre-requisites and dependencies, installation, execution, and verifying correctness. He also explained how to prepare software for archiving: create a version-controlled release (e.g., version tag” in Git), upload to a permanent repository (Zenodo, Dryad, etc.), and create a DOI (typically automatic). Mr. Devnich then explained to LASC members how to cite other researchers’ software using examples for NumPy, Pandas, and dplyr.

Mr. Devnich ended by providing LASC members the link to an article entitled [“Citing Software in Scholarly Publishing to Improve Reproducibility, Reuse, and Credit”](#).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm
Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair

