

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

Monday, October 17, 2022

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 2:00 pm on October 17, 2022 via Zoom, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, Christopher Ojeda, Jessica Blois, University Librarian Haipeng Li, and Library Consultant Olivia Olivares.

I. Chair's Report – Chair DePrano [2:00 – 2:20pm]**A. LASC White Paper**

It was suggested to LASC last year by EVC/Provost Camfield that the committee should write a White Paper. Chair DePrano met with EVC/Provost Camfield in late August of this year to brainstorm ideas on the areas that the LASC White Paper should address. Chair DePrano shared the areas of focus, which were collections data, space, differential costs for supporting various types of disciplines, projected costs to provide support for data curation, staffing, educational enterprise, and graduate needs. The LASC White Paper will include an executive summary of the core argument, citations of the pertinent data. And appendices with robust data set. The overall concerns that will be addressed are resources, functions, finance, service, who the Library is serving, and impact.

Chair DePrano shared that the first draft of the LASC White Paper will be written by Chair DePrano herself, along with Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Strategy Spitzmueller, Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb, Associate University Librarian for Operations Scott. A discussion on what the LASC White Paper should further entail will be held in person. Chair DePrano shared that there is a need to determine peer institutions and aspirational peer institutions for UC Merced in order to determine benchmarking information.

B. Project Transform update

Chair DePrano shared that the goal for Project Transform is to convert library subscription money to open access publishing. Chair DePrano shared an update from the previous UCOLASC meeting that showed the University of California's fourteen transformative open access agreements.

C. LASC committee appearance at department faculty meetings as OA ambassadors**1. OA ambassador retreat in early January**

One of LASC's goal this year was to promote open access among the graduate students and faculty at UC Merced. Chair DePrano introduced the idea of holding the

Open Access (OA) Ambassadors Retreat in January. The goal of this event would be to deeply learn about Transformative Agreements so that LASC members can explain UC Transformative Agreements to our UC Merced faculty and graduate students. The objective of the workshop would be to brainstorm ways to present to faculty and graduate students the transformative agreements, and how to use the workflows to submit successfully, by making visitations to department faculty meetings. This will allow LASC to address any questions or concerns about open access, transformative agreements, and the multi-payer model.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of today's agenda
- B. Approval of September 12, 2022 [meeting minutes](#)

Action requested: Approval of the Consent Calendar.

III. Campus Review Items – *Chair DePrano* [2:20 – 2:50pm]

A. [Policy on the Establishment and Review of Centers](#)

The policy can be located on page 41 of the Establishment of Centers at UC Merced document, [here](#).

The policy was revised and approved by the Committee on Research (CoR) in response to previous comments by the Chancellor, the EVC/Provost and the CFO.

The policy transmittal to DivCo can be found [here](#), and includes the following documents:

- Revised Centers policy submitted to the administration by CoR in October 2021
 - Appended to that policy is former EVC/Provost Peterson's 2014 original draft policy and the Senate's 2015 comments.
- Comments on CoR's revised Centers policy from the Chancellor, EVC/Provost Camfield, and CFO Schnier received by CoR in fall 2021.
- Revised Centers policy transmitted to the administration by CoR on January 10, 2022. Comments received from EVC/Provost Camfield and CFO Schnier by CoR on January 19, 2022.
- CoR's final Centers policy approved by CoR via email on April 21, 2022.

Action: LASC sent a memo to the Senate Chair on October 21, 2022.

Chair DePrano shared that the proposal for a new center should articulate resources and staffing needs. Chair DePrano suggested in the draft memo to reference the CCGA

Handbook to include the UC Systemwide Senate's definition of Centers.

B. [Creation of a Philosophy Department](#)

SSHA Dean Jeff Gilger issued a [memo](#) on April 20, 2022 in strong support of the formation of a new SSHA Philosophy (Phil) Department. This proposal was endorsed by the SSHA Executive Committee.

The lead reviewer's comments are hyperlinked in the title above.

Action: Members voted to approve the final version of the memo with the changes discussed during the meeting.

The lead reviewer shared that the Library will have minimal impact on this proposal, as it will have more of an impact on the administration. However, a new department would entail adding new faculty members and graduate students. The lead reviewer highlighted the current budget cuts that the Library is facing in hopes to raise awareness of the issue.

C. [Bachelor of Science \(B.S.\) Degree in Chemical Engineering](#)

Relevant documents for the Chemical Engineering proposal are hyperlinked below:

1. [ChemE Proposal Package](#)
2. [Consensus Statement of ExComm \(May 2022\)](#)
3. [Actions Taken Memo \(July 2022\)](#)
4. [MOU between Bioengineering Department \(BMCE\) and Materials Science and Engineering Department \(ChemE\)](#)
5. [Memo of Support from Dean Mark Matsumoto](#)
6. [SoE ExComm Memo - from Vice Chair Florin Rusu and continuing member John Abatzoglou](#)

Chair DePrano shared Undergraduate Council's policy for resource needs. The policy states "Indicate library resources needed and include a statement from University Librarian on plans for providing resources for the program." The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree in Chemical Engineering proposal stated that no additional library or other resources were needed to deliver this program. LASC is strongly in support of the proposed program, however LASC suggested that consulting with the Library would give the Library the opportunity to: 1) opportunity to investigate whether additional acquisitions, resources, or services might be needed to support the proposed program; and 2) introduce Engineering faculty to resources that may benefit students in the program.

Action: Members discussed and provided comments on the proposal during the meeting. LASC approved of the memo and submitted the memo to the Senate Chair on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

D. [Bachelor of Science \(B.S.\) Degree in Biochemical and Biomolecular Engineering](#)

Relevant documents for the Biochemical and Biomolecular Engineering are hyperlinked below:

1. [BMCE Proposal Package](#)
2. [Consensus Statement of ExComm \(May 2022\)](#)
3. [Actions Taken Memo \(July 2022\)](#)
4. [MOU between Bioengineering Department \(BMCE\) and Materials Science and Engineering Department \(ChemE\)](#)
5. [Memo of Support from Dean Mark Matsumoto](#)
6. [SoE ExComm Memo - from Vice Chair Florin Rusu and continuing member John Abatzoglou](#)

Action: LASC sent a memo to the Senate Chair on November 1, 2022. The authors of the program proposal did not consult with the Library as requested by the Undergraduate Councils policies. Early consultation allows the Library to consider whether additional resources may be required to adequately support the new program.

E. [Aerospace Engineering Minor Proposal](#)

Effective 2024, the relevant documents for the Aerospace Engineering Minor are hyperlinked below.

1. [Aerospace Engineering Minor proposal](#) (Please note that the proposal starts on page 3)
2. [UGC approval of undergraduate degree programs approval](#)
3. [Campus-wide Policy on Minors](#)

Action: LASC sent a memo to the Senate Chair on November 4, 2022. The authors of the program proposal did not consult with the Library as requested by the Undergraduate Councils policies. Early consultation allows the Library to consider whether additional resources may be required to adequately support the new program.

IV. Consultation with Vice Provost and Dean, Undergraduate Education – Sarah Frey [2:50 – 3:10pm]A. Open Educational Resources (OER) [charge](#) and affordable course content

Open Educational Resources (OER) are freely available resources distributed under a copyright license that allows users to retain copies, reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute. Under the direction of the Council of the Provost, VPDUE Frey was tasked to Chair a task force that looks into the use of the UC Open Educational Resources. Associate University

Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb is the UC Merced campus representative to the task force committee. The task force committee has been charged to create a UC systemwide plan to increase the adoption of OER resources within undergraduate courses. The ultimate goal would be to lower course material costs for UC students. VPDUE Frey and Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb discussed with LASC members on potential incentives and barriers to the development of new OER content and the adoption of existing OER materials.

One barrier discussed what that new textbooks – such as new OER materials – require all course materials to be updated, that is all slides, all test materials, all question banks, quizzes, exams, etc. This can be a large amount of work. GSR support for courses adopting new OER materials could be ameliorate the enormous time investment.

There was also discussion about whether the Tenure and Promotion system values the time and effort faculty might invest in switching a course over to OER materials. It should be valued because OER materials can be evaluated as an investment in DEI.

V. Consultation with University Librarian – *Haipeng Li* [3:10 – 3:25pm]

1. UC-Wiley Transformative Agreement (Pilot) Implementation

University Librarian Li reported that the UC has signed a pilot transformative agreement with Wiley this year. Five campuses are participating in this agreement, including UC Merced. University Librarian Li would like to spread awareness on this Transformative Agreement to faculty and graduate students.

2. Update on NEH Grant Project

University Librarian Li reported that NEH Grant Project is moving towards the design process and getting accounts to be set up.

3. Indirect Cost Recovery Policy at UC Merced does not include the Library. University Librarian Haipeng Li has brought up this issue with both the Deans Council and the Provost.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair