

Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications (LASC)
Minutes of Meeting
October 2, 2019

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 12:00 pm on October 2, 2019, in Room 275-C of the Kolligian Library, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, University Librarian Haipeng Li, Kathleen Hull, Rowena Gray, Miguel Carreira-Perpinan, and GSA representative Farhana Sharmin.

I. Chair's Report

- Chair DePrano welcomed new and returning members.
- She directed members' attention to the Senate's Guide to Committee Membership & Executive Session.
- She then recommended a set of goals and priorities for LASC this academic year, including LASC's continued support of the Library in terms of advocating for space and resources, keeping abreast of the UC-Elsevier situation, suggesting ways to support the Library it undergoes periodic review, and advocating for the Library in the context of post-2020 campus planning.
- Chair DePrano summarized the status of LASC's request from the last academic year to revise the Merced Division bylaws with regard to LASC's membership model. She explained to the new members that per the current bylaws, LASC is populated by volunteers from CoR, CAPRA, UGC, and GC. LASC proposed that this model be modified so that the Committee on Committees selects LASC members from the faculty at large, similar to other Senate committees. The proposal is currently being reviewed by Senate committees. If endorsed by Division Council, the proposal will be added to the December 12 Meeting of the Division agenda for a vote of the Senate faculty present. If approved at the meeting – or by electronic vote of the faculty after the meeting – the new LASC membership model will take effect for AY 20-21.

II. Consultation with University Librarian

Librarian Li presented a set of slides to LASC members on the following topics:

- Library's periodic review. The Library's self-study is in progress with a planned submission in November. The onsite visit of the review team is anticipated in early spring. The external review report should be issued in late spring. LASC members briefly discussed ways in which the committee could contribute to the review and it was decided that Librarian Li will first consult with PROC.

- The Library is currently engaged in strategic planning for 2020-23. The Library will incorporate periodic review recommendations into the strategic planning process and will develop Library unit goals to be aligned to Library/campus goals.
- Elsevier status and open access. The UC's access to Elsevier was cut off in July 2019. However, the Library provides alternative methods to help faculty and students acquire the journal articles they require such as interlibrary loan request.
- With funds from UCOP, the implementation of the systemwide Integrated Library System is in progress. It will be a systemwide cost share model and Librarian Li has spoken to the EVC/Provost about UC Merced's share. Users will be able to discover library materials easier and faster with the integrated system. Stakeholders are in the process of selecting a vendor.
- The Library is discussing further support of SpARC in terms of faculty research, teaching, learning, and community. Librarian Li mentioned that some faculty are interested in proposing a minor in GIS.
- With funding from UCOP and the Library, and with advocacy from LASC and other stakeholders, the Library has installed additional quiet study seating on the KL's 4th floor.

III. Campus Review Item

- Draft Charge for a Proposed Faculty Advisory Committee for Information Technology

In the last academic year, Division Council submitted a memo to the administration regarding the proliferation of new campus software applications and the administrative burden they place placed on the faculty. This advisory committee is now being proposed by Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Technology & CIO Ann Kovalchick.

LASC strongly supported last year's Division Council memo and agreed that the administrative burden on faculty members is not sustainable. However, it is unclear to LASC members how much control IT had over the decision to implement the applications listed in Division Council's memo and whether the proposed faculty advisory committee for IT would help resolve the problem of the proliferation of new software applications. LASC did recommend that decisions on the purchase of future software applications should occur within the context of integrated campus planning, such as acquiring software that has multiple uses.

LASC members were also concerned that the campus is not appropriately taking into account the security implications surrounding the use and ownership of faculty,

student, and campus data in the campus software applications. Members hoped that the advisory committee will address this issue.

Action: Committee analyst will draft a memo based on today's discussion and distribute it to members via email for review and approval. LASC's final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by his deadline of October 22.

IV. Systemwide Review Item

- Proposed Revised Presidential Policy on Copyright Ownership

The current University of California Policy on Copyright Ownership, the principal policy governing ownership of copyrights at UC, has not been updated since 1992.

Action: LASC members will review the policy via email. Comments are due to the committee analyst by October 17. A draft memo will then be distributed via email for the committee's review and approval. LASC's final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by his deadline of November 5.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm

Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair