

Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication (LASC)

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

10:00 – 11:30 am

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 10:00 am on November 17 via Zoom, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, Virginia Adán-Lifante, Chih-Wen Ni, Kenichi Yoshida, Jessica Blois, University Librarian Haipeng Li, and Library Consultant Elizabeth Salmon.

I. Chair's Report – *Chair DePrano***A. UCOLASC meeting November 10**

Chair DePrano provided an update on the November 10 UCOLASC meeting. There was an update on the California Digital Library (CDL) and a discussion of Open Access Pathways. The two big topics of discussion were rebuilding the CDL staff and the CDL Collections budget. The hiring freeze has been lifted since July 2021, and CDL has been working hard to rebuild their staff. Chair DePrano reported that the UC Libraries collectively spent \$50 million on licensed content. A collection of databases, online journals, and ebooks are used over 1 billion times per year. CDL has contributed \$11.4 million to the \$50 million dollars that the UC collectively spent, however it is unclear who is paying the \$11.4 million dollars longterm. Chair DePrano reported that the President endowment paid the one-time fee of \$11.4 million dollars in the fiscal year 2021, but the funding source is unidentified for the next year. There has been a discussion at the UCOP meeting on the funding source. Chair DePrano stated that there are three options for next year: reinstate CDL's Collections budget, punt by utilizing one-time funds, or enact a cost-share outside of the general campus assessment.

Chair DePrano encouraged LASC members to read about open access publishing and UC agreements on the Office of Scholarly Communications website (<https://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu>). The guide regarding how to publish open access on the OSC website was under revision. Data regarding open access adoption rates by agreement showed that the three big agreements are with Cambridge University Press, Elsevier, and Springer Nature. Between 40%-50% of UC published articles are now being published through open access. Chair DePrano briefly shared information regarding Diamond OA, which is an open access publishing model that provides immediate, unfettered access to publications without charge to authors or readers.

Current global initiatives to address diversity equity and inclusion in scholarly communication was also discussed (SFDORA.org and C4DISC (sfdora.org; c4disk.org)). Chair DePrano summarized the different roles, inequities, and potential actions that can be taken to increase diversity equity and inclusion and publishing. LASC will work towards to increase diversity equity and inclusion in publishing this year.

The UCLOASC meeting also addressed an evaluation of the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access (ETAS) and advancing Affordable Course materials.

B. LASC Goals for Academic Year 2021-2022 – priorities and pathways

Chair DePrano reported that there was an agreement among LASC members of what should be discussed as a main priority for LASC. The number one priority for most of the members was to promote the establishment of the Sierra Nevada Central Valley Archival Hub, as the archival hub will provide crucial research resources. LASC members discussed how these goals can be achieved, and how LASC can support the library in terms of budgeting, archive, and space.

A LASC member mentioned that it is unclear how much support is offered when an author decides to publish in the open access journal. Due to the lack of awareness of open access, LASC brainstormed ways to communicate this to the faculty. It was suggested that the Library could join each faculty meetings to talk about the benefits of an article that is published through open access.

Chair DePrano feels that the Library budget should be prioritized and informed LASC members that the Library is closed on Saturdays. A LASC member suggested to survey students on how the Library's reduced service is affecting them. Chair DePrano suggested to write a memo to DivCo and CAPRA to make sure that the committees are aware of the Library closures on Saturdays due to the budget cuts. University Librarian Li suggested to include supporting documents such as messages from students and parents.

II. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of today's agenda
- B. Approval of draft October 18 meeting minutes

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. Consultation with University Librarian – *Haipeng Li*

1. Library Collections Budget 20-21 Update

University Librarian Li reported that the projected collections budget deficit this year was over \$300,000, which was based on the cut that was imposed on the Library and also the increased cost of Elsevier. As a result, the Library made cancellations from the Wharton Research Data Service and The Journal of Visualized Experiments (Jove). The total savings from this cut was approximately \$132,000. University Librarian Li stated plans to work on a funding model that would help the Library cover all the increased costs and the cumulative deficit the Library has had in the past years.

2. Library Support for Medical Education

University Librarian Li expressed that there is a lot of campus wide support for medical education. The Governor agreed to provide UC Merced with state money for the medical building on campus. Last year, a one-time funding of \$250,000 was allocated to the Library for medical education. Half of the funding has been spent on collections, such as medical education related materials. The rest of the funding has been spent towards infrastructure

issues such as GIS support and data services. University Librarian Li reported that the one-time funding caused a lot of problems, as ongoing purchases cannot be made. University Librarian Li shared that Dr. Hurd, EVC/Provost Camfield, and Interim CFO Schnier formed a group to focus on medical education library support. University Librarian Li emphasized the importance of creating a position for a medical librarian that has expertise in the medical field and shared that this will be a priority for the medical education library support group.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am

Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair