UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC SENATE   **MERCED DIVISION**

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Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication (LASC)
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020
9:00 am – 10:30 am
Documents found at UCM Box: LASC AY-20-21

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Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 9:00 am on December 1, 2020 via Zoom, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

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

I.   **Chair's Report** – *Maria DePrano*
    A. UCOLASC meeting November 18

    Chair DePrano summarized the main topics discussed at the November 18 UCOLASC meeting. Her PowerPoint presentation was made available to LASC members prior to today's meeting and was uploaded on Box.

    - Academic Computing Update - Members from the Academic Computing Committee request that local campus LASC committees report about serious academic computing issues. LASC members are to bring any issues to Chair DePrano and she will relay them to the UCOLASC Vice Chair.

    - Consultation with California Digital Library (CDL) – There has been a hiring freeze since April and about five positions have not been filled. There is also concern regarding potential budget cuts in AY 2021-2022. If the budget is cut, individual campuses will be affected. We are hopeful that the CDL budget will not be cut, for it is an important part of UC Merced's Library infrastructure. Chair DePrano asked LASC members how the committee can help. It was suggested that LASC draft a letter of support to send to Divisional Council.

      Librarian Li mentioned that CDL is a part of the UCOP budget that will be severely cut. At this point, nothing is guaranteed. LASC can revisit this issue in the future if campus LASCs are asked to provide their feedback.

    - CDL Licensing Update – The CDL was envisioning budget cuts for AY21-22. As they renegotiate licensing agreements with publishers, they ask for reductions in pricing as renewals come up. They have been able to avoid a cost increase but are still hopeful for actual reductions.

    - Dryad – A curated resource that makes research data discoverable, reusable, and citable. It is a home for various types of data. CDL joined with Dryad to update it and introduced it to the UC system, where it is now free to UC Merced researchers. Chair DePrano asked LASC members their thoughts on how to publicize this resource on campus.

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A LASC member suggested including it on the Library website. It may also be helpful to bring it to the Committee on Research's attention and Interim Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development (VCORED) Zatz's attention, as well as include it in workshops on writing proposals.

- E-Scholarship – A repository for articles. Researchers can deposit their journals before the final version is published as a way of making their articles open access. E-Scholarship is an open access publishing platform, offered free-of-charge to UC-affiliated departments.

- CDL Collections Budget Relocation to UCSD – The CDL collections budget is being permanently relocated to UC San Diego. The campuses are going to have to fund part of the CDL collections budget, for UCOP will no longer be funding it. The campuses are responsible, not the campus libraries.

- SLASIAC (Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee) – The committee was asked by Systemwide Provost Brown how campus libraries collaborate and how their collaboration can be optimized. The libraries have a long history of collaboration and there is a continuum of collaboration on all levels through teaching, research, and public service. The committee found that collaboration amongst the libraries advances the UC mission, furthers its reputation and leadership, and secures cost savings and operational efficiencies.

- HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access (ETA) – A digital repository for publications, which has become an essential service for students and faculty. ETA provides access to digital books and books that have been digitally scanned that the UC system owns, without violating copyright issues.

- Systemwide Integrated Library System (SILS) – There will be an 18-month implementation. It is on target for its budget and timeline, and is scheduled to go live in July 2021.

- Project Transform – A big project to try to negotiate open access contracts with publishers. The idea is to use a multipayer model that allows access to articles as well as publishing. The Library can pay $1000 of the costs and the remaining can be paid with a grant, also by the Library, or the author can request that the article not be published OA. Project Transform also has an agreement with Springer-Nature, which includes three phases: 1) beginning in late 2020, OA publishing at no cost; 2) beginning in 2021, OA with UC Libraries contributing financially to publishing fees; and 3) beginning 2022, OA publishing with Nature-branded journals.

For questions regarding OA, visit https://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly-publishing/uc-open-access-policies-background/.

B. Update on Elsevier negotiations

Negotiations with Elsevier are still ongoing with hopes for an agreement by the end of 2020. They are negotiating for expenditure reduction and OA across Elsevier journals.

C. Introduce UC Merced budget issues

Chair DePrano shared several graphs that were included in the letter written to DivCo regarding the Gallo School of Management pre-proposal. LASC argued that if a spare million dollars was allocated for the new school, then maybe a spare million dollars can be given to the Library. The graphs demonstrated that the Library's purchasing power has declined over the past fifteen years. Also, while UC Merced's budget continues to increase, the UC Merced Library budget has not increased over the past years in proportion to the number of faculty and students on campus. Chair DePrano recommended including this information when reviewing the Academic Planning Targets review item.

D. Brainstorm potential means to communicate about open access and transformative agreements with the university community.
    a. Library Liaisons could make a list of journals that are relevant to each department and let faculty and graduate students know about potential open access opportunities with various journals (if they exist).
    b. It may be useful to have a zoom meeting for Project Transform individuals to speak about open access. Then, LASC can open it up to the UC Merced research community and upload it to the UC Merced Library website as a forum. It would also be helpful to explain the importance of the forum to entice people to join.

II. **Campus Review Items –**

A. Academic Planning Targets
    These are proposed institutional-level targets for a select subset of the Measures developed by the Academic Planning Work Group.

    As part of this review, to inform the development of the campus' strategic plan, the Senate is asked to advise on the following two items:

    1. The proposed targets.
    2. The institutional support and infrastructure that need to be developed for the campus to reach the three, five and 10-year targets outlined in the document.

    Chair DePrano would like to write a memo stating the Library budget needs to be increased if UC Merced wants to reach these targets and become an R1 institution.

    A LASC member noted that it may be helpful to include figures from other campuses. The original plan was that we needed to make investments for UC Merced that were not commensurate with the small number of students at the time. Now, we need to make the case that our current running costs are still less than the number of students we currently

have.

Deputy University Librarian, Donald Barclay, shared a report with Chair DePrano from Clemson University. Clemson University conducted a study of the library budget as part of their drive to become an R1 university and found that their library budget was quite small to be commensurate to other R1 libraries. Unfortunately, UC Merced's library budget is less than theirs.

Librarian Li noted that UC Merced conducted a similar study approximately two years ago when there were ongoing discussions about staffing. After having these discussions, ten positions were approved for the Library. Even after the ten positions were approved and filled, UC Merced was and still is below the national average of R1 institutions.

The Library has been a part of the academic planning process for several years. Librarian Li and his staff have developed the Library's goals based on the indices of success that were determined for the campus; however, they have not had much conversation about obtaining R1 status. Now, the R1 status goal has become more and more prominent in all levels of planning. The Library needs to think about how to fold this into the planning process. In order to achieve R1 status, what does the Library need to support the mission of obtaining R1 status?

A LASC member asked how the Library is doing in terms of space? Does the Library have enough space for students to study? Is it appropriate to include something related to space in the plan?

Librarian Li explained that the Library does not have sufficient space. No space was allocated for the Library within any of the 13 new buildings of the 2020 project. Instead, there was a backfill project to allow the Library more space. This included the west wing of the current Library building. It was previously occupied by administrative offices but the backfill project provided the third floor of the west wing back to the Library to share with the Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning (CETL). Furthermore, as the Library has been working on the research archive project, campus leadership has decided to give more space on the second floor of the Library to house the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park Archive and the Sequoia National Forest Archive. The Library will receive a donation of Yosemite-related materials and will use the allocated space for that.

A LASC member mentioned that we should have a building dedicated to the Library from the 2030 project. Space is very important to house physical books, and we should include this in our plan. Librarian Li noted that these conversations have been held before. Space, budget, and staffing are the three main concerns for the Library and should be looked at closely for the 2030 project.

Action: Chair DePrano will draft a memo on the proposed academic planning targets advocating for space, budget, and staffing. The draft memo will be circulated to LASC members for review and approval over email. LASC's memo is due to the Senate Chair by January 12, 2021. LASC will also respond to the 2030 ideas memo advocating for space,

budget, and staffing as well. LASC will also advocate for a new building dedicated to the Library with added equipment and technology to better serve the students and faculty.
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B. MAPP 025 – Conflict of Commitment and Outside Professional Activities
This section supersedes the current MAPP 1003.

Per APM 025-14, all faculty holding appointments in the following title series are subject to this policy: (1) Professor, including Acting titles, (2) Professor in Residence, (3) Adjunct Professor, (4) Professor of Clinical (e.g., Medicine), (5) Health Sciences Clinical Professor, (6) Clinical Professor of Dentistry, (7) Lecturer with Security of Employment, including Acting titles. The title series currently used at UC Merced which are subject to this policy include: Professor, Adjunct Professor, and Lecturer with Security of Employment (also known as Teaching Professor).

Summarized below are the proposed key policy revisions:
   i.   Renumbered the policy as MAPP 025 to align with the system-wide policy APM 025
   ii. Reformatted the content to align with the system-wide policy outline
   iii. Removed language that is redundant of system-wide policy
   iv. Outlined key responsibilities for Faculty, Department Chairs, Deans, the Associate Vice Provost for the Faculty, and the Vice Provost for Academic Personnel

In light of current Senate activities related to anti-black racism, Senate Chair DeLugan invites committees to review this item with special attention to generating recommendations for ways to intentionally maximize and promote equity, diversity, and inclusion, reduce, and eventually eliminate anti-Black racism and other forms of structural racism and inequities.

LASC members did not have any comments on this item.

Action: the committee analyst will inform the Senate Chair that LASC has no comments.

C. Request from Senate Chair – Bylaw Revisions

Chair DePrano asked for clarification on whether LASC should use a blanket statement that endorses diversity, equity, and inclusion, or if LASC should formulate their own statement.

Action: the committee analyst will ask the Senate Executive Director to clarify whether a general statement that endorses diversity, equity, and inclusion should be used across the entire UC Merced Academic Senate, or if each Senate committee should formulate their own.

III. **Consent Calendar**
   A. Today's agenda
   B. Draft September 16 meeting minutes

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

IV. Consultation with University Librarian – *Haipeng Li*
    A. Access to library materials during COVID-19

Librarian Li informed LASC members about which services are available to UC Merced, with some being in collaboration with systemwide efforts:

- HathiTrust – About 13 million items are available to all UC campuses. These 13 million items are from our systemwide collection sent to HathiTrust and then digitized. Therefore, UC Merced has access to electronic copies of the items in the collection. The UC Merced Library does not have many print volumes (approximately 140,000 volumes) but they have access to about 13 million items that are spread out throughout the UC system.

- JoVE Archives – A peer review scholarly video archive that has over 10,000 lab videos that were made available to the UC system from March – June. After the deal ended in June, UC Merced subscribed individually.

- ILL Materials – Because the operation stopped, materials were piling up in the Library; however, many were slowly processed and sent out during the pandemic to those who requested them. The physical ILL requests are still not back to normal.

- Materials in UCM Collection (not HathiTrust) – The UC Merced Library loans out materials that are not duplicated in HathiTrust electronically. UC Merced is also continuing its online services, curbside pickup service, mail to residence delivery service, digitization service, and the Lantern was open during November as a pilot for students to study.

    B. Update on building the Sierra Nevada/Central Valley Research Archive at UC Merced

The Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park (SEKI) Archive has been relocated to the UC Merced Library. UC Merced is working on an agreement with Sierra National Forest Archive to move their materials to the UC Merced Library as well. They need to move their materials out of their space relatively quickly, but UC Merced would like to have an agreement in place in order to address some specific issues. The UC Merced Library also had several conversations with Yosemite National Park. A few members from Yosemite National Park visited UC Merced to view the space. EVC/Provost Camfield participated in the visit and met with the Park representatives. The UC Merced Library is still in need of staffing, funding, and spacing to house the materials.

    C. Campus and Library Strategic Planning

Campus Strategic Planning is moving forward. Librarian Li is a member of the Strategic Planning Governance Committee, which began meeting over a year ago; however, their work is now delayed due to COVID-19. An outline of the planning targets was shared at the last meeting and it included the support of the Library. The Library unit goals are in place, and the committee is working on organization goals and trying to align them with the

overall university goals.

D. Medical education impact on Library planning

Director of Medical Education Thelma Hurd, shared the following information with Librarian Li:

UC Merced is planning for a certified Medical Education Program in ten years, offered jointly through UC Merced and UC San Francisco (UCSF). There will be a potential impact on Library materials, such as books and journals, data sets, and data bases in the medical field. Director Hurd has been working on ways to collaborate with the UC Merced Library. The Library is thinking of requesting a specialized position to hire an individual with medical library expertise. The other option would be to share with UCSF some virtual online support if the Library is not allocated an FTE. These ideas are still being considered and nothing is confirmed yet. UC Merced is continuing to think of these issues and how to plan accordingly.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 am.
Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair