

**Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications (LASC)
Minutes of Meeting
December 4, 2019**

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 12:00 pm on December 4, 2019, in Room 362 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, University Librarian Haipeng Li, Kathleen Hull, Rowena Gray (Zoom), and Miguel Carreira-Perpinan.

I. Chair's Report

- Update on Revisions to LASC Bylaws

Chair DePrano announced to LASC members that the proposed bylaw revisions are on the agenda for the December 12 Meeting of the Division and will be voted on by the Senate faculty in attendance. If approved, the revised bylaws will go into effect in 2020, and LASC's new, at-large membership model would become effective for the AY 2020-21 academic year. (The current committee membership will stay in place for the spring 2020 semester.)

- UCOLASC meeting November 14

Chair DePrano updated LASC members on the following topics of discussion:

- Systemwide is conducting an inventory of various publishing enterprises currently in place at all 10 UC campuses. This is proving to be a difficult task, given that many individual departments on campuses across the UC system publish their own journals. It is also unclear whether these various publications have ISSN numbers. UCOLASC is asking committee members to inform their respective campus colleagues of this project so that UCOLASC can draft a comprehensive list of all UC campus publishing enterprises.
- Dryad has launched a repository for UC researchers whereby UC faculty can deposit their data. This service is paid for by the UC and UC curates the data to ensure longevity.
- UCOLASC heard updates from the University Council of Librarians regarding the Systemwide Integrated Library System (SILS). A Request for Proposals was issued to locate a vendor who will link all UC libraries under one catalog system. A vendor has been chosen (identity unknown at this time) and the UC is currently negotiating the contract.
- Discussion on increased funding for Library collections. Librarian Li explained that the California Digital Library (CDL) took the lead on a previous request from the UC campuses for increased funding for Library collections. UCOP offered \$6.4 million over four years. The funds are housed in the CDL. Systemwide Provost Brown approved the allocation of 50% of the funds for licensing and subscriptions and the other 50% for open access costs.
- The UC has been out of contract with the publisher Elsevier for nearly a year. As

a result, the UC has a significant amount of unspent budgeted funding for fiscal year 2018-19 that had been allocated to pay for Elsevier subscriptions. UCOLASC will request to Academic Council that the unspent subscription money be invested in open access publishing. UCOLASC members have informally asked members for feedback on the draft request.

- UCOLASC is drafting a survey that will be issued to all UC faculty in early spring 2020 about the effects of the canceled Elsevier subscription on faculty research. UCOLASC is asking members for feedback on the draft survey questions.
- UC currently has a new transformative agreement with Cambridge University Press whereby all publications will be open access.

Action: Committee analyst will compile any feedback from LASC members on the draft request for unspent Elsevier subscription money and the draft Elsevier survey questions. Feedback is due by 4:00 pm on Friday, December 6. LASC Chair DePrano will then share the feedback with UCOLASC.

II. Consent Calendar

- Today's agenda
- October 2, 2019 draft meeting minutes
- April 24, 2019 draft meeting minutes

Action: Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. Consultation with University Librarian

Librarian Li updated LASC members on the following:

- Library periodic review
 - The chair of the external review committee has been chosen. The site visit will take place in April 2020.
- Library strategic planning
 - Strategic planning for AY 2020-23 is ongoing. The Library is conducting focus group sessions with faculty, and their input will be incorporated into the overall strategic planning discussion. The Library will eventually produce a draft strategic plan which will be shared with the campus including LASC. Librarian Li mentioned that he is working with Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Budget Kurt Schnier on the strategic plan.
- Elsevier status and open access
 - It is uncertain whether the UC and Elsevier will come to an agreement. There is now an issue of backfill archived materials. The CDL is able to obtain data on which publications need to be accessed. Unfortunately, there is a cost associated with requesting even a few journals. The Council of University Librarians is discussing how to spend the backfill money. UC campus libraries are experiencing varying degrees of success with accessing the funds.

- Developing special collections
 - UC Merced has been in discussions with retired Yosemite Park historian Jim Snyder about his substantial collection of books, magazines, microfilms, and maps possibly being housed at UC Merced. If accomplished, it would be the only research-level collection on Yosemite National Park. UC Merced is also in discussions to house the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park archives. The Library is formulating a proposal in collaboration with campus leadership and former Chancellor Dorothy Leland. These collections will require appropriate space, a reading room, and potentially a classroom for students studying the archives.
- Consultation with Library in new program proposals
 - The current Senate policy for the approval of new programs does not include consultation with the Library. The Library wants to ensure it has the appropriate materials and resources it needs to support new programs and faculty. The policy is being revised in the Senate.

IV. Request from Librarians Association of the University of California-Merced (LAUC)

In 2019, LAUC submitted a memo to the Academic Senate requesting participation in certain Senate committees, including LASC. LASC members discussed whether to include a representative of LAUC in future meetings as a non-voting consultant. LASC members unanimously agreed to invite a LAUC representative to its meetings in spring semester. After that time, LASC will decide whether it wants to invite LAUC members to committee meetings as a permanent arrangement.

Action: LASC will send a memo to the Senate that states the committee's decision on LAUC participation.

V. Other Business

A LASC member reported difficulties in using the Interlibrary Loan function on the Library website. Librarian Li will work with his staff and the LASC member on rectifying the issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm
Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair