

Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications (LASC)
Minutes of Meeting
April 24, 2019

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 1:30 pm on April 24, 2019 in Room 275-C of the Kolligian Library, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, University Librarian Haipeng Li, Steve Wooding, Kathleen Hull, Justin Cook, and GSA representative Katherine Shurik.

Guests: Director of Space Planning & Analysis staff Maggie Saunders and Allison Costa, and Associate Librarian Eric Scott.

I. Consultation with Office of Space Planning & Analysis

Director Saunders and Allison Costa provided an update to LASC on the KL furniture plan. The plan includes additional tables, study pods, and power sources, and the overall total of new seats in the Library is 217. The installation will be completed in June, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held by the Library on August 27. LASC members are invited. The furniture plan was funded through Liberty Bonds via UCOP and the cost was nearly half a million dollars.

The Library is currently discussing how to configure the KL fourth floor collaborative rooms as they try to establish quiet study space. Some on campus have requested space for graduate students who are nearing degree completion where they can leave their materials; but, the Library noted that they do not have a policy of reserving space to specific student populations. However, Director Saunders stated that the campus recognizes that graduate student space remains a serious issue, as graduate students continue to have to share desks and have space in labs. Additional space will be provided in the new, science 2020 buildings.

II. Chair's Report

Chair DePrano updated LASC members on the April 15 Meeting of the Division. This is the first time since LASC was empaneled as a Senate standing committee that the committee has been invited. The Chancellor and the EVC/Provost each made announcements and reported on various campus developments. Each Senate committee chair then provided a brief summary of their committees' business over the academic year. After Chair DePrano reported on LASC's activities, the EVC/Provost commented on Elsevier and the new Cambridge University Press agreement with the UC. Chair DePrano stated that the EVC/Provost's interest in these issues is very positive for the Library and LASC's work.

III. Consent Calendar

Action: today's agenda was approved as presented. The February 25 meeting minutes were approved with one correction.

IV. Library Funding Model Presentation

Librarian Haipeng Li and Associate Librarian Eric Scott presented the Library funding model that was part of the presentation made at the March 18 meeting of the campus Budget Working Group. (The presentation was generated by Senate Chair Schnier in his role as a member of the Budget Development Team.)

Funding received by the Library per student has declined precipitously through about AY 2011-12 and is holding steady. UC Merced's Library currently has the second lowest per capita student funding in the UC system; additional funds will put the Library in the middle of the campuses for per capita student funding (includes undergraduate and graduate students).

In response to a LASC member's question about other comparison points, Associate Librarian Scott stated that he had examined graduate student funding, collections, among other points. Our student population requires different support that redirects funding relative to other campuses. A LASC member pointed out that per capita graduate student funding and our ranking with respect to sister campuses is an important metric given our need to grow our graduate student population. With regard to per capita faculty spending, UC Merced is the second lowest, and will continue to be low in this area even with additional funding. If UC Merced wants to reach R1 status, per capita faculty funding for the Library needs to be addressed.

A LASC member inquired about funding for subscriptions. Associate Librarian Scott answered that the collections budget is \$1.75 million. A fraction of that amount is spent on California Digital Library collection access and the remainder is devoted to local subscriptions, books, and e-books. A LASC member asked whether books can be checked out at a CSU campus. It was explained that CSU libraries are not centrally coordinated so UC Merced would have to negotiate borrowing privileges with each CSU campus independently. (Merced does have a partnership with Stanford University.)

Riverside, Irvine, and Santa Barbara are the campuses closest to UC Merced in comparison points. However, none of the other campuses are facing the growth and development that UC Merced's library will need to undertake to keep in step with the campus's growth. Looking ahead, the Library needs an increased budget to address student worker pay, collections, and operational funding (the latter includes professional development, technology, and facilities maintenance). The Library funding model has these gaps. Annual

increases to the budget of 5% would mean the Library would not have to cannibalize other funds and would hold us in position relative to comparator institutions. However, that percentage of increase doesn't cover all funding needs.

LASC members asked how they can advocate for increased funding for the Library beyond 5%. Options include sending a memo to the campus Budget Work Group with an entreaty to increase the Library's funding in the context of reaching R1 status. There is some uncertainty among LASC as to whether the Budget Work Group is submitting recommendations for Senate review.

Action: the Senate Executive Director will clarify the process with the Senate Chair. The LASC chair will then be informed.

V. Consultation with University Librarian

- Memo from Librarians Association of the University of California-Merced (LAUC), requesting participation of Library staff in some Senate committees.

Action: Chair DePrano will solicit feedback from LASC members via email. That feedback will be transmitted to the Senate Chair.

- UC-Cambridge University Press contract.
The UC has negotiated an agreement with Cambridge University Press (CUP). CUP agreed it would not increase the UC's costs for the journals (about 400 in the package) but every UC faculty member who publishes in these journals will have immediate access. This is a two-year pilot.

Recently, Elsevier and Norwegian institutions and universities have signed an agreement that includes some level of open access and involved a cost increase.

VI. Systemwide Review Item

- Proposed New APM 011 - Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of Non-Faculty Academic Appointees.

Currently, APM - 010 (Academic Freedom) defines academic freedom as it pertains to faculty and defines the freedom of scholarly inquiry for students, as it derives from the faculty's academic freedom. APM - 015 (The Faculty Code of Conduct) defines the corresponding responsibilities as it pertains to faculty only. Although APM - 010 states that it is not intended to "diminish the rights and responsibilities enjoyed by other academic appointees," APM - 010 and APM - 015 do not address how these concepts apply or do not apply to non-faculty academic appointees. The

proposed new policy is intended to address the academic privileges, rights, obligations, and responsibilities of non-faculty academic appointees.

Action: Chair DePrano will draft a memo and distribute to LASC members for review and approval via email. A final memo will be transmitted to the Senate Chair by his deadline of 5:00 pm on Monday, May 6.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm

Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair