

Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication (LASC)**Meeting Minutes**

Monday, September 12, 2022

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Pursuant to call, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications met at 2:00pm on September 12, 2022 via Zoom, Chair Maria DePrano presiding.

Attendees: Chair Maria DePrano, Christopher Ojeda, Jessica Blois, Crystal Kolden, University Librarian Haipeng Li, and Library Consultant Olivia Olivares.

I. Welcome and Introductions [2:00 – 2:05pm]

Chair DePrano welcomed new and returning members.

II. LASC Resources [2:05 – 2:05pm]

- A. Senate website
- B. LASC's website
- C. LASC's Box site
- D. Principles to Guide the Practice of Executive Session
- E. Consultation guidelines

For additional information, members are encouraged to read the Senate Policies and Procedures and Divisional Bylaws and Regulations.

All campus and systemwide review items will be posted on LASC's Box folder and on the Senate website, here: <https://senate.ucmerced.edu/review-items>. Some review items may be assigned to one or more LASC reviewers before each scheduled meeting.

This information has been distributed via email and was included on today's agenda for members' reference. Chair DePrano shared a PowerPoint and briefly reiterated the LASC resources listed above. Members had the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and ask any questions.

III. Chair's Report [2:05 – 2:35pm]

- A. May 20, 2022 UCOLASC Meeting Update

Chair DePrano provided background information on the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC) and California Digital Library (CDL) to new

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members of the committee. In the fiscal year 2020–2021, the CDL collections (open access and systemwide publisher agreements) budget was removed from ongoing funding due to the budget crisis, and it has since been filled with one-time funds. Chair DePrano reported that, per AVP/Executive Director Waibel, the CDL offices at the Office of the President in Oakland have reopened. CDL continues to support remote, hybrid and onsite work agreements with staff. A UCOLASC letter endorsing permanent funding for the CDL was approved by Academic Council and sent to the Provost in April 2022. OP has confirmed one-time funding for CDL’s shared collections in 2022–2023 and is actively working on identifying permanent funds to for 2023–2024.

A working group of the Office of Scholarly Communications (OSC) is working on the creation of a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Scholarly Publishing resource for the OSC website. Work is underway to develop specific recommendations for faculty and others to address equity, diversity and inclusion issues within scholarly communication, to create a more diverse and inclusive publishing environment. This will help enrich the scholarly record.

Chair DePrano also provided an update on the Council of University Librarians (CoUL). There is an ongoing project called the Project LEND. This project is an investigation into expanding digital access to UC’s in-copyright print collections.

B. LASC Goals for AY 22-23

LASC goals have been uploaded on the LASC Box folder for members to view. Chair DePrano explained the importance of each goal and ways LASC members can approach these goals.

C. Debrief Shared Governance Retreat

Chair DePrano gave an update on the Fall 2022 Shared Governance Retreat. The UC System is encouraging campuses to admit an additional ten or twenty thousand students. VPDUE Frey led a discussion on how UC Merced can contribute to the UC Capacity Report. Strategic planning & institutional priorities were presented by Laura Martin. Strategic Planning Teams are being formed to help and contribute to discussions of budgeting, in terms of the strategic plan. EVC/Provost Camfield discussed plans to grow enrollment, in terms of creating more majors to attract students to UC Merced.

D. Open Access (OA) Meetings with Departments – Key LASC 22–23 project

Chair DePrano shared ideas for future LASC visits to department faculty meetings to talk about OA publishing and transformative agreements. This would be an opportunity for LASC members to explain how the multipayer system works and to answer any questions faculty members might have about OA publishing.

- E. White Paper about the Library – Key LASC 22-23 project
Chair DePrano will work with Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb to draft a “white paper” regarding Library budgetary, staffing, space, and collections needs for UC Merced growth toward R1 status, with assistance from Vice-Provost Spitzmueller . This white paper will give a better idea to the administration on the importance of the Library to the campus, and the resources that are needed to function and for the library to support the campus as it works to attain R1 status
- F. Library Budget Challenges
Due to limited time, this item was further discussed by University Librarian Li under item VII.
- G. Review of the Ernest & Julio Gallo School of Management Pre-proposal
Chair DePrano provided background to new members on how LASC responded to the Ernest & Julio Gallo School of Management pre-proposal. LASC was very concerned on how much the new School of Management would cost while the collections budgets for the Library are being cut and the Library was closed during AY 21-22 because of staff budget cuts

IV. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of today’s agenda

Action: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

V. Systemwide Review Item – *Chair DePrano* [2:35 – 2:50pm]

- A. Second Review of Draft Presidential Policy - Abusive Conduct in the Workplace

The proposed policy is responsive to a request from the Regents and the Academic Senate for a systemwide policy that addresses the University’s responsibilities and procedures related to abusive conduct. Background is provided in Vice Provost Carlson’s memo dated May 3, 2022.

The first draft of this policy was reviewed the Academic Senate last year. All Divisions’ comments are available here: https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/reports/rh-sc-abusive-conduct-bullying-policy.pdf (UCM’s January 14, 2022 comments can be found on pages 30-42).

LASC agreed that the Abusive Conduct in the Workplace policy is an important step in the creation of a respectful workplace which will in turn lead to an equitable and inclusive workplace. However, LASC felt that this systemwide policy could more actively support those experiencing abusive conduct and more energetically foster a respectful workplace

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culture. Chair DePrano will work with a LASC member to draft a memo further explaining ways to support a safe workplace culture.

Action: Chair DePrano will draft a memo by early next week.

LASC Analyst will circulate the memo to LASC members asking them for their comments/input. LASC Analyst will finalize the memo and submit it to the Senate Chair by 5:00pm, Friday, September 30, 2022.

VI. Consultation with Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement – Sara Davidson Squibb [2:50 – 3:00pm]

Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb discussed OA and transformative agreements. Publications that are published through OA have the potential to reach more readers because they are not behind paywalls. Transformative Agreements with publishers utilize shared funding between the university Library and research funds. Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement Squibb stated that there are currently many publishers that would like to engage with the University of California to make transformative agreements.

Action: LASC Analyst will invite Associate University Librarian for Research and Engagement, Sara Davidson Squibb, to the October 17, 2022 LASC meeting.

VII. Consultation with University Librarian – Haipeng Li [3:00 – 3:25pm]

A. Library Strategic Planning Update

University Librarian Li provided background to new members: The Library Strategic Plan was launched three years ago and has since been put on hold due to COVID-19. University Librarian Li mentioned that the Library wanted to make sure that the Library Strategic Plan was aligned to the campus strategic plan. The campus strategic planning process has been completed, and now is at the implementation stage.

B. Library Short Term Space Memo

University Librarian Li shared the memo that was sent to Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Okoli and EVC/Provost Camfield on August 16, 2022. University Librarian Li mentioned that this is a short-term proposal. Finding the appropriate spaces to store the collections continue to become a challenge for the Library. The Library plans to renovate the fourth floor over the next two years, as part of the \$1.5 million National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Challenge Grant project. University Librarian Li stated that he has not yet received a response on the memo and will provide any available updates to LASC members.

C. Update on Night & Weekend Services Coordinator Position

University Librarian Li provided an update on the Night & Weekend Services Coordinator position for the Library. Interviews for this position have been completed, and a candidate

will be decided soon. Once this position is filled, the Library will be able to extend their hours of operation.

D. Sequoia National Forest Archives Transfer to UC Merced

The Library has been working with the Sequoia National Park Archives to come up with a funding mechanism to support the processing of the archive materials.

E. Library Budget Challenges

The Library has completed the budget call from last year. Decisions have not yet been made regarding the Library collections budget. EVC/Provost Camfield is fully aware of the Library budget challenges and has offered to help. Arrangements have not been made for the collections budget this year. University Librarian Li will continue the discussion of the Library budget challenges at the next LASC meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

Attest: Maria DePrano, LASC Chair