October 21, 2002

John Tanno,  
Chair, SOPAG

Dear John:

CDC appreciates receiving the document “Shared Print Journal Collection: Issues” prepared by Cecily Johns in her capacity as staff to CMPG. At the most recent CDC meeting (10/10/02) members discussed this document at length in the perspective of current journal cancellation planning and in recognition of the need for a shared print archive. While a deeper level of planning by various constituent groups on all the issues raised by establishing such an archive is still required, CDC members in attendance unanimously felt that it is imperative to begin the process now. Assurance of a last copy in the system is the needed incentive to allow collection managers to make the journal cancellation decisions required in this challenging period of declining purchasing power and collection budgets. Additionally, developing strategies to relate print to digital contracts will benefit from decisions on print journal archiving.

CDC is therefore recommending to SOPAG that the following plan be initiated to establish this shared collection:

• That we begin with journals that are presently available at no additional cost with the systemwide electronic license (e.g., Elsevier, ACM.) Our expectation is that order and receipt of print counterparts to digital content will broaden to other licenses under CDC's guidance.

• That the print copies (928 Elsevier titles) are used to initiate the creation of a “University of California Libraries” collection, with the moniker UCL.

• That ownership of the content would be collective; all campuses could count the UCL holdings as their own.

• That the appropriate location for the archive be at a RLF, and for the present it is recommended that the UCL would be physically housed at SRLF.

• That initially the one print set would be retained, and that the journal issues remain unbound for both access and preservation reasons.

• That the print holdings would be considered a hybrid of an open access archive and a “Dim Archive” in the following ways: articles can be faxed, photo-copied and desk-top delivered; print issues will not be InterLibrary Loaned outside of UC; issues would be retrieved only if a UC user needs to consult the print artifact in an “in-library” RLF setting.
That a trusted UC processing infrastructure would be required, and that it would not be appropriate to outsource this responsibility.

That the records for the holdings would be given in Melvyl as UCL, and that consultation with HOTS would be required to resolve issues pertaining to record elements, content, and processing guidelines.

CDC is mindful that long range planning still must occur. A full Statement of Intent for a shared print collection needs careful articulation, including the desirability of inclusion of both dim and dark archives and addressing issues of access and preservation. A comprehensive Last Copy Policy needs to be constructed that deals in particular with concerns such as the number and condition of copies in the archive and redundancies and retention of existing campus collections. A secure operational infrastructure must be put in place. Further discussion with RLF managers regarding space and staffing would be critical. As mentioned already, processing and cataloging a shared print collection would need clarification and, certainly, separate funding. If agreement is reached on the initial UCL plan, we recommend that SOPAG charge in the very near future a small task force with members from HOTS and CDC to deal with processing concerns. Funding issues need to be addressed by the University Librarians. As we move beyond the Elsevier/ACM samples, it will be necessary to maintain continued coordination and communication on serial cancellation programs and close consultation on new and renewed print and inter-related digital licenses among campuses and with the CDL. CDC is willing to continue its review of the "Shared Print Journal Collection: Issues" document to identify policy and practice decisions that need resolution to ensure the shared collection's success.

Sincerely,
Christine Bunting
Chair, Collection Development Committee