

November 2, 2002

TO: University Librarians

FROM: John W. Tanno
Chair, SOPAG

RE: Shared Print Journal Collection and SIP TF Report

Distribution: CDC, SOPAG, Gary Lawrence

At its October 25th meeting SOPAG engaged in wide ranging discussion on the issues surrounding the management of print collections in a digital age. SOPAG is aware of continuing discussion among the University Libraries about the concept of a shared print archive and the need to address the concern that some print materials may be inadvertently lost to the University of California as campus libraries make individual decisions about what to retain and what to cancel in the face of severe budget constraints. The Collection Development Committee (CDC), at its October 10th meeting, developed a set of recommendations for managing a shared print archive for the journal titles represented by the CDL license agreements with Elsevier and ACM. These two publishers were viewed as only the first to be addressed, but can used to establish policies and procedures to handle an archival print copy of journal titles for which online access is also available.

SOPAG endorsed the following recommendations made by CDC:

1. To establish a shared print archive, it is recommended 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.
2. That the print copies (928 Elsevier titles) are used to initiate the creation of a "University of California Libraries" collection, with the moniker UCL.
3. That ownership of the content would be collective.
4. That the appropriate location for the archive is at a RLF, and for the present it is recommended that the UCL would be physically housed at SRLF.
5. That initially the one print set would be retained, and that the journal issues remain unbound for both access and preservation reasons.
6. 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 Inter-Library 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.
7. That a trusted UC processing infrastructure would be required, and that it would not be appropriate to outsource this responsibility.
8. 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.

SOPAG is asking CDC to follow up on its recommendation to create a small working group, with membership from CDC, HOTS, and the RLFs, to address the processing issues. CDC should also continue to refine the model proposed. CDC, or its working group, should not concern itself with the issue of how materials held in the University of California Libraries (UCL) collections should be "counted" at this time. In addition, SOPAG would like to confirm and encourage communication among bibliographers regarding cancellations.

SOPAG also had a preliminary discussion of the draft report of the Scholarly Information Task Force, a sub group of SLASIAC, and how it might participate in the continuing development of the report. This document responds to the Task Force's charge to advise SLASIAC on new strategic directions for planning, by defining and articulating a structure consisting of a vision, goals, and strategies for post-Partnership policy and resource development for management of scholarly information, including libraries. SOPAG thought that this document was an excellent summary of the issues facing the libraries of the University of California, and the actions which have been taken to address these issues. We thought that the document could be enhanced if it were more forward looking and posited some initiatives which might be helpful in garnering additional, and badly needed, resources, for example:

1. Call attention to the role of the UC Libraries play in undergraduate education.
2. Articulate the role of the UC Libraries in the delivery of information, i.e., go the "last mile" by connecting the user to the collections and services of the UC Libraries, including the CDL.
3. Emphasize the Library's future role in the generation and creation of knowledge, in addition to its role as a repository and pathway to information.
4. Call attention to the public good that the UC Libraries provide and the public role of the CDL in making the resources of the UC Libraries broadly accessible to California and beyond.

The various All Campus Groups have also sent in their comments regarding the document and have copied Gary Lawrence. We recommend that this discussion continue at the Joint UL's/SOPAG meeting in December.