



Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

December 18, 2018

Provost and Executive Vice President Michael Brown  
University of California Office of the President  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94607

Dear Provost Brown:

On behalf of the Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC), I write to convey SLASIAC's unanimous support for the UC Libraries' negotiation with Elsevier to improve open access (OA) and reduce costs to levels that the University can sustain. The Libraries' proposal to Elsevier is guided by extensive discussion among UC library, faculty, and administrative leadership, and the Libraries' actions demonstrate their commitment to broad consultation with UC stakeholders.

As you know, the negotiation goals are of great importance to UC's academic community. Our conversations at SLASIAC meetings have demonstrated that a coalition of support for this effort exists across SLASIAC, as well as the Systemwide Academic Senate University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC), which is represented on SLASIAC by the UCOLASC Chair. Faculty interviews and consultation with SLASIAC and UCOLASC allowed the Libraries to refine their OA proposal. To further ensure faculty representation, the UCOLASC Chair and Vice Chair were invited to join the Elsevier Task Force, which the UC Council of University Librarians charged to support and help carry out the negotiation. Additionally, the Libraries and UCOLASC are collaborating extensively on outreach to Academic Council and campus academic senate and administrative groups to raise awareness of the negotiation and to provide forums for discussion.

As outlined in SLASIAC's [Call to Action](#), the Committee believes there is an urgent need to utilize journal negotiations with the goal of reducing licensed content subscription costs and making research outputs openly accessible. We commend the UC Libraries for applying these principles, and are eager to support the Libraries in both current and future negotiations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott L. Waugh".

Scott L. Waugh  
Chair, SLASIAC

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, UCLA

cc: Council of University Librarians  
Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee  
University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication