

Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC)

Minutes
May 21st, 2019 (10:00 – 3:00)

Chair: Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost Scott Waugh
Note Taker: Danielle Westbrook

Agenda Item	Time	Duration	Responsible	Documents	Notes
1. How has UC transformed scholarly communication since the 2011 SLASIAC White Paper?	10:00 – 10:30	00:30	Vice Chair Kum-Kum Bhavnani (Academic Senate), Chair Rich Schneider (UCOLASC), Professor Eric Bakovic (former UCOLASC chair, UCSD linguistics department chair)	- 2011 SLASIAC white paper on scholarly communication roles and responsibilities	What are the roles and various efforts needed to change the scholarly communication landscape? Where are we now? What is the role of prestige in publishing?

Committee members reflected that the [2011 SLASIAC white paper](#) on scholarly communication roles and responsibilities rightly acknowledges that the transition to a sustainable model is a comprehensive issue, involving the Academic Senate, authors, administrators, libraries, funders, publishers and scholarly societies. Several committee members noted that while the university has accomplished a great deal since 2011 (including multiple open access policies and the SLASIAC [Call to Action](#)), there remains a great deal still to do. Activities like the upcoming UCSC Academic Senate forum on open access publishing, prestige and tenure aim to better engage faculty on this facet of the transition to an open and sustainable scholarly communication model. Faculty members in attendance agreed that the systemwide Committee on Academic Personnel might also be asked by Academic Council to consider the ways in which current tenure and promotion policy might be revised to better reflect open access publishing activities, and campus-based Academic Senate symposiums, potentially based on UCSC's, are opportunities to engage and seek input from faculty. There was agreement that further discussion and guidance on this topic from the Academic Senate would be of great benefit to the university.

Committee members discussed the three major areas of action currently underway at UC: transformative open access agreements, leveraging our publishing capacities; and examining the role publications play in the context of open access and promotion/tenure. Committee members commented that the 2011 white paper might be revised to highlight UC's progress and outline UC's current multi-approach strategy to establish a diverse and sustainable scholarly publishing ecosystem.

2. Choosing Pathways to OA (CP2OA) Forum report and what CoUL is considering for 2019/2020 strategic priorities	10:30 – 11:00	00:30	University Librarian and Chair M. Elizabeth Cowell (CoUL), Rachael Samberg (scholarly communication officer, UCB, CP2OA)	- CP2OA blog post and forum report	Report and discussion.
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Committee members noted that while many of the CP2OA recommendations are underway to varying degrees, identifying resources to support further action in a resource constrained environment is a challenge.

Decision: SLASIAC commends the CP2OA planning committee on the success of their forum and impressive report and recommendations. As the Council of University Librarians (CoUL) considers the CP2OA recommendations, SLASIAC will discuss how to build additional awareness and support for the work that remains around transitioning to a sustainable and open system of scholarly communication.

3. UC’s relationship with publishers and reaching our OA objectives.	11:00 – 11:45	00:45	University Librarian Jeff MacKie-Mason (UCB, ETF co-chair), Associate Executive Director Ivy Anderson (CDL, ETF co-chair)		Update on publisher negotiations and OA objectives. Opportunity for discussion and questions.
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Elsevier has floated a framework for returning to the negotiating table that does not meet UC’s cost or open access goals. While the UC negotiation team would like to re-enter negotiations with Elsevier, they want to do so with terms that reflect UC’s needs and when there is an opportunity for substantive progress. The UC negotiation team and publisher task force are establishing new models and scenarios to determine how UC might revise or alter the framework for returning to the negotiating table; while that work is being done, the libraries and Academic Senate will continue to engage UC authors and readers around open access. Representatives from the negotiation team noted that although UC has been out of contract since the end of 2018, Elsevier has not yet turned off access to new journal content or the subset of Elsevier journal backfiles for which UC does not already own perpetual access. The libraries suspect that Elsevier will turn off access in June and have prepared [alternative access mechanisms](#) so that UC can continue to access journal content no longer available through Elsevier subscription services.

Decision: SLASIAC supports the UC negotiation team and task force and their decision not to return to the negotiating table. SLASIAC is confident in the ability of the libraries to provide and support alternative access, should Elsevier discontinue access to new journal content and the backfiles for which UC does not own perpetual access rights to.

Action: SLASIAC will write a letter of support for UC’s approach to the negotiation with Elsevier and the UC Libraries’ ability to provide alternative access methods.

The committee also discussed the numerous transformative open access negotiations and discussions underway with various publishers, including native-OA, society, commercial and university presses. Library representatives at the meeting noted that with the various systemwide and campus-based initiatives, including the Elsevier negotiation and the Systemwide Integrated Library System (SILS) project, the libraries need to continue to carefully monitor staff resources and overall capacity. Committee members agreed that it might be helpful to compare UC’s resourcing for activities like transformative open access with peer organizations.

Action: Chair Waugh and AVP/ED Waibel will discuss how SLASIAC might support future library requests for additional FTE and whether the topic of scholarly communication transformation and staffing might be a topic for the UCLA Business Transformation group.

4. How does our own publishing capacity help us reach our OA objectives?	12:30 – 1:30	01:00	Erich Van Rijn (director of journals and open access, UC Press), Catherine Mitchell (director of publishing & special collections, CDL)	- Rationale and Statement of Work for Completing an Inventory of Publishing Activity	Discussion of the proposal and next steps.
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CDL and UC Press propose a SLASIAC-charged inventory of UC publishing activities. The project will revisit the 2006/07 publishing inventory carried out by the Task Force on University Publishing under the auspices of SLASIAC, and will highlight potential areas for coordinating publishing support from CDL and UC Press, and articulate the need for institutional investment (both in terms of will and finances) to establish and maintain a coordinated university publishing effort. The inventory will include UC Regents-owned journals with external publishers, commercial journals with UC faculty serving in editorial capacities, department-based publishing, and non-traditional digital publishing projects.

A committee member recommended, and others agreed, that the proposed inventory include an assessment of potential obstacles to maximizing our publishing capacity (both from the publishing service and user perspectives) and how UC might overcome those obstacles. Members also recommended that the inventory consider disciplines and demographics as they relate to various publishing activities and how a broader range of publishing alternatives can better support a diversity of disciplines and authors. Several faculty representatives on the committee encouraged Mitchell and Van Rijn to consult and collaborate with faculty on this project. Committee members agreed that this inventory will greatly inform UC’s work to transform scholarly communications.

Decision: SLASIAC endorses the CDL and UC Press inventory of systemwide publishing activity and is eager to use the findings of the inventory to inform the committee’s work in the coming years. SLASIAC will oversee the project and adjudicate outcomes and next steps.

Action: Academic Council Vice Chair Bhavnani will connect Mitchell and Van Rijn with the systemwide Committee on Research to discuss this inventory and how the Academic Senate might support this work and help engage various campus stakeholders.

Action: Chair Waugh and AVPED Waibel will discuss further the work that might be carried out in parallel with the inventory project, such as a follow-up to the 2011 white paper, to raise awareness of UC’s multi-approach strategy to establish an open, diverse and sustainable scholarly publishing ecosystem.

5. CDL update	1:30 – 1:45	00:15	Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director Günter Waibel (CDL)		Update. Some opportunity for questions.
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CDL opted to forego its update so that the committee had more time to discuss other agenda topics.

6. Standing committee/office updates	1:45 – 3:00				Updates. Some opportunity for questions.
A. ETDs OA Policy Task Force		00:20	Dean Tyrus Miller (UC Irvine, School of Humanities, ETDs OA Policy Task Force chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ETDs OA policy: Results from second systemwide review & potential updates - ETDs OA policy comments from second systemwide review - ETDs OA policy drafts distributed for second systemwide review 	Request for feedback and guidance from SLASIAC to the task force.
B. Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy (SSCP)		00:25	Angus MacDonald (SSCP Chair, UCOP)	- Policy on Copyright Ownership cover letter, revised policy, and FAQ	<i>Decision item:</i> SLASIAC endorsement of the copyright ownership policy for systemwide review.
C. University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC)		00:10	Chair Rich Schneider (UCOLASC)		
D. Council of University Librarians (CoUL)		00:10	University Librarian and Chair M. Elizabeth Cowell (CoUL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NRLF ground-breaking update - SILS project update 	
E. Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC)		00:10	Mitchell (OSC operations director, CDL)		

A. ETDs OA Policy Task Force

A second round of systemwide review was recently completed for the Electronic Theses & Dissertations (ETDs) Open Access Policy. The ETDs OA Policy Task Force disclosed that among certain disciplines there remains significant concern around the embargo period. Task force representatives noted that all campuses now have a local ETDs policy, which was not the case when work began on this systemwide policy. In response to committee members questions around whether UC should still pursue a systemwide ETDs OA policy, a task force representative

noted that even when local policies are in place, a systemwide policy can help reveal where local policy might be out of alignment. Systemwide policies also leave flexibility for localized implementation.

B. Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy (SSCP)

The Copyright Ownership Policy recently completed Management Consultation Review. As a result of the feedback provided through the review, the SSCP made minor changes to the policy (to remove an instance of circular language, to clarify that “regular salary” is not a significant university resource, and to correctly name the Industry Contracts Office) and more substantive changes to the FAQ.

Decision: SLASIAC endorses the Copyright Ownership Policy and accompanying documents. The policy is ready for systemwide review.

C. University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC)

UCOLASC endorsed co-sponsoring the Open Access Tipping Point workshop with the UC Libraries. UCOLASC will present the workshop to Academic Council and seek their endorsement as well. UCOLASC also signed a statement of unanimous support for the libraries and their ability to provide alternative access (to be distributed should Elsevier turn off access) and will request Academic Council’s endorsement.

D. Council of University Librarians (CoUL)

The council will meet for two days in June to discuss the various systemwide initiatives underway and to plan the UC Libraries 19/20 priorities. The libraries are also pleased to announce the ground-breaking for NRLF4 and the successful OP funding request to implement a systemwide Integrated Library System (SILS). The UC Libraries greatly appreciate SLASIAC’s support for both NRLF4 and the SILS project.

E. Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC)

The OSC recently published documentation to support editors wanting to “flip” their journals from being subscription-based to open access. The OSC has also posted documentation for how to host a roundtable for editors on journal flipping.