Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC)

Minutes	Chair: Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost Gregg Camfield
March 04, 2020 (10:00 – 3:00)	Note Taker: Danielle W. Westbrook

---

Members in attendance:

Gregg Camfield (UCM, SLASIAC Chair)	Jennifer Chan (UCLA, LAUC rep.)	Angus MacDonald (UCOP)	Günter Waibel (CDL)
Kristin Antelman (UCSB)	M. Elizabeth Cowell (UCSC, CoUL Chair)	Mark Seielstad (UCSF)	
Shaun Bowler (UCR, Grad Dean rep.)	Ted Huang (UCOP)	Tim Sullivan (UC Press)	
Susan Carlson (UCOP)	Gregory Leazer (UCLA)	Dennis Ventry (UCD, UCOLASC Chair)	

Regrets: Kum-Kum Bhavnani (Academic Senate Chair), Susanna Elm (UCB), Deb Agarwal (LBNL), Rita Hao (UCOP)

Guests: University Librarian Jeff MacKie-Mason (UCB, Project Transform co-chair), Erich Van Rijn (Director of Journals and Open Access, UC Press)

Consultants: Ivy Anderson (CDL), John Chodacki (CDL), Catherine Mitchell (CDL), Sarah Houghton (CDL), Ruchi Aggarwal (CDL)

Staff: Danielle Westbrook (CDL)

Agenda Item	Time	Duration	Responsible	Documents	Notes
1. Welcome and opening remarks	10:00 – 10:15	00:15	Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost Gregg Camfield (UCM, SLASIAC Chair)		Updates and establishing the theme for today's meeting.

The SLASIAC Study Group, charged by Provost Brown in the fall and chaired by EVC/P Camfield, has met twice and is working to submit its report to the Chancellors this spring. SLASIAC will be briefed on the group's progress at the April committee meeting.

SLASIAC members and speakers were asked to consider the following during the meeting's various agenda topics: How might the system showcase, through the work of the libraries, how collaboration can balance systemwide and local advancement?

Agenda Item	Time	Duration	Responsible	Documents	Notes
2. SLASIAC Budget Subcommittee update	10:15 – 10:45	00:30	Camfield (SLASIAC Chair), Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director Günter Waibel (CDL)		Update. Opportunity for discussion and questions.

The Office of the President (OP) has requested that all units, including the California Digital Library (CDL), model a potential 20/21 budget cut based on the base state budget. AVP/ED Waibel and Finance Manager Agarwal are working with the OP Budget Office to determine in what area to model the cut. CDL's funding, like other Academic Affairs units, directly supports campus-based services and activities; a cut to the CDL budget brings about increased campus costs and/or a reduction in campus-based services and collections.

The Executive Budget Committee (EBC) and OP Budget Office are discussing approaches to manage the OP budget shortfall. One strategy under consideration is whether certain costs can transition to a fee-for-service model, where campuses are recharged for some costs.

SLASIAC members noted that new budget solutions and approaches, like a fee-for-service model, should have principles upon which decisions are made. For example, new budget approaches should have a clear statement about what the intention is; an MOU where systemwide participation is required; agreement about where and how fee-for-service models are budgeted at the campus level; and a timeframe for re-assessment and termination/phasing out of the approach.

Decision: SLASIAC will draft a letter, outlining expectations for transitions to a fee-for-service model. It will be addressed to the President, with copies also sent to Provost Brown and the OP Executive Director of Budget & Finance. Academic Council and others would be asked to endorse SLASIAC's letter and/or to release their own letters.

Action: Danielle Westbrook will draft the letter, outlining SLASIAC's expectations for any OP activities that transition to a fee-for-service model, to be circulated with SLASIAC members for their review and endorsement.

3. California Digital Library update	10:45 – 11:00	00:15	Waibel (CDL)		Update. Opportunity for questions.

CDL is pleased to welcome two new contract FTE to support UC's transformative open access negotiations: Ellen Finnie and Tran Ha.

4. Project Transform • Transformative open access agreement and negotiation updates • Impacts of Elsevier cutoff on UC	11:00 – 12:00	01:00	University Librarian Jeff MacKie-Mason (UCB, Project Transform Working Group co-chair), University Librarian Kristin Antelman (UCSB)		Update. Opportunity for discussion and questions.

Members of the Project Transform Working Group (PTWG) briefed SLASIAC on the results of the Elsevier Impact Poll, which was co-sponsored by the UC Libraries and University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications (UCOLASC). The informal service improvement poll, which closed at the end of February, was not designed or intended to be scientific. Several SLASIAC members noted that the poll's response rate was very good, as was the respondent representation and distribution. The Council of University Librarians (CoUL) and UCOLASC are determining how and when some of the findings will be formally shared with UC stakeholders.

While formal negotiations stalled in mid-2019, UC and Elsevier have remained in informal conversation. A workshop has been scheduled for March, which will bring together both parties to explore whether negotiations can be reopened within the first quarter of 2020. UC has also discussed a California-wide transformative agreement, a collaborative endeavor with the California State University system and the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCLEC).

UC is negotiating with Wiley and Springer Nature for transformative agreements that combine UC's subscription with open access publishing of UC research. While both contracts expired on Dec. 31, 2019, the publishers have extended UC's access to their journals under the terms of their prior contracts while negotiations are underway. Both negotiations were proceeding favorably at the time of this briefing to SLASIAC.

As of this meeting, transformative agreements have been secured with: Cambridge University Press; the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM); Journals of Medical Internet Research (JMIR) Publications; and the Public Library of Science (PLOS). At an upcoming meeting, PTWG will brief SLASIAC on the ways in which the libraries plan to assess UC's transformative agreements and outcomes.

5. Standing committee/office updates	12:20 – 12:50				Updates. Opportunity for questions.
A. University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications		00:10	Chair Dennis Ventry (UCOLASC, UCD)		
B. Council of University Librarians		00:10	University Librarian M. Elizabeth Cowell (CoUL, UCSC)		
C. Office of Scholarly Communication		00:10	Catherine Mitchell (Director, Publishing & Special Collections, CDL)		

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

UCOLASC will respond to the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Request for Information (RFI) on public access to scholarly outputs from federally funded research.

UCOLASC Chair Ventry and Academic Senate Chair Bhavnani met with Elsevier CEO Kumsal Bayazit, at Bayazit's request.

UCOLASC issued a statement requesting that unspent subscription money budgeted for an Elsevier transformative agreement be invested in open access publishing. UCOLASC recognizes and appreciates the efforts of the UC Libraries and asks that "budget offices keep those funds allocated to the UC Libraries both retrospectively and prospectively, regardless of a contract with Elsevier, so that the Libraries may reinvest these funds in other contracts or activities that support the UC faculty in advancing the faculty's open access goals if an Elsevier contract does not materialize."

B. Council of University Librarians (CoUL)

The council will have its annual meeting with the President, Provost and Vice Provost in April.

The UC Libraries recently signed a contract with Ex Libris to migrate all ten campuses to a shared, systemwide library enterprise system. By migrating together to a single solution, as opposed to separately, the total annual contract cost to UC is significantly reduced, as is the need for

additional systems infrastructure. Project momentum continues to be strong among library employees and the project's principles continue to focus on transparency, transformation and partnership.

C. Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC)

The OSC website was recently relaunched; the website serves as a clearinghouse of scholarly communication, copyright and open access resources and information. In advance of the relaunch, the OSC carried out user testing, which included faculty testers.

SLASIAC celebrated the updated OSC website, and a member recommended that the OSC site be shared with the Vice Chancellors for Research.

6. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)	12:50 – 1:00	00:10	Waibel (CDL)	- OSTP briefing	Briefing and opportunity for questions.

Action: Danielle Westbrook will share the draft systemwide response to the OSTP RFI on Public Access with SLASIAC members for review (the response is currently being drafted by Research Policy Analysis & Coordination (RPAC) and the libraries).

7. UC publishing capacity (continued from winter meeting)	1:00 – 2:15	01:15	Mitchell (CDL), Erich Van Rijn (Director of Journals and Open Access, UC Press)	- UC Publishing Strategy Brainstorming	Opportunity for discussion, questions and feedback.

UC publishing strategy overview (UC Press + CDL)

Representatives from UC Press and CDL spoke about the ways in which their individual and coordinated publishing initiatives fit within UC's broader scholarly communication strategy, and how both organizations might leverage their respective skills and expertise to advance the reach of UC's research and reputation. The reps also spoke to the present opportunity to reimagine and re-invest in "the University as publisher" – including the opportunity to further develop sustainable business models for UC-led open access publishing; to further build academy-owned infrastructure and create viable UC alternatives to commercial publishing; and to establish enhanced services to support new publishing models. In terms of possible paths forward, such work could continue to be an opportunistic collaboration, with use of established programs and resources, or a semi- or fully coordinated publishing program could be established, though such approaches would require resources for business modeling, program development and staffing.

Publishing Inventory Project (UC Press + CDL, managed by OSC)

The UC Publishing Inventory project is ongoing and represents an update to the 2007 SLASIAC commissioned inventory. There are between 400 and 500 UC publishing programs with an online presence (excluding UC Press), representing a wide range of content (books and journals, but also white papers, policy reports, magazines and more). SLASIAC members discussed the opportunity to identify and better support digital

project publishing, including websites, visualizations and virtual reality. The committee commended the project on the work accomplished so far, and several members encouraged the project team to outline ambitious recommendations and proposed next steps in the project's report.

eScholarship OA Journal Fund (CDL, OSC)

A growing number of UC editors have expressed interest in creating new open access journals or flipping existing journals to open access, and many want to do so with UC's eScholarship publishing platform. The CDL and Office of Scholarly Communication are discussing how the UC Libraries might launch a pilot to support such efforts and create pathways for establishing sustainable open access journal business models.

A SLASIAC member reflected that the pilot might attract grant funding or potentially be an opportunity for broader university fundraising, though OP does not participate in fundraising efforts. It was also noted that UC units outside of the libraries may want to participate and/or invest in the pilot, particularly research units. SLASIAC discussed the need for research institutions like UC to invest in scholarship and scholarly publication, acknowledging that it benefits both UC and non-UC authors.

As a next step, the pilot organizers are consulting with campus University Librarians before then pursuing SLASIAC's recommendation to consult more broadly within the institution, including with research and innovation units.

8. How can tenure and promotion (standards and policies) change to incorporate OA scholarship?	2:15 – 2:40	00:25	Camfield (UCM, SLASIAC Chair)		Chair Camfield will join UCAP at their Mar. 11 meeting, where he will speak about OA and the tenure process. This SLASIAC discussion item will help to prepare him.

Note: EVC/P Camfield's item on the Mar. 11 UCAP agenda will be rescheduled (date to be determined).

The topic of open access and tenure/promotion review has been discussed by SLASIAC before (spring 2019 SLASIAC meeting; 2011 SLASIAC white paper on scholarly communication roles and responsibilities); while open access is a widely held value of the University of California, that value is not currently reflected in the Academic Personnel Manual (APM) and UC's appointment and promotion standards. Committee members discussed the broader need for flexibility in tenure and review processes, not only to create space to consider new and emerging scholarly communication mechanisms but also to adjudicate new and emerging areas of research. A member noted that impact factor can continue to be a metric to assess scholarly journal outputs, but it should not be the primary indicator of value.

| 9. Committee updates *(continued)*

    A. Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy (SSCP) | 2:40 – 2:50 | 00:10 | Chair Angus MacDonald (Principal Counsel at UCOP, SSCP Chair) | | Updates. Opportunity for questions. |

The 90-day systemwide review period for the draft Copyright Ownership policy closed at the end of December 2019. The SSCP is meeting regularly to review and discuss the feedback and revise the draft policy and FAQ as needed. The SSCP hopes to present revised Copyright Ownership Policy documents to SLASIAC, for endorsement, at the committee's April meeting.

| 10. Closing remarks | 2:50 – 3:00 | 00:10 | Camfield (UCM, SLASIAC Chair) | | |