

Scholarly Communication Officers group conference call

Meeting notes

Tuesday, May 29, 2007

1:30 -3:00

Present: Donald Barclay (UCM), Brad Eden (UCSB), Sharon Farb (UCLA), John Ober (OSC), Margaret Phillips (UCB), Gail Persily (UCSF), Beth Remak (UCSC), Susan Starr (co-chair UCSD), Lorelei Tanji (UCI), Gail Yokote (co-chair UCD)

Absent: Catherine Candee (CDL)

Recorder: Ober

1. Update on OSC faculty survey

Ober reported that doing more extensive statistical analysis by faculty discipline and rank had consumed more time than anticipated. Survey report is expected to be released in mid-summer. Ober will distribute descriptive statistics by campus to SCOs.

2. Campus round robin regarding faculty reaction to proposed UC Open Access policy (all)

SCOs shared informal comments characterizing the discussions of which they were aware. Many campuses reported support for the principles and goals of the policy, and several reported their belief that submitted comments would highlight this support. All campuses reported some concern raised in discussion about aspects of the policy as proposed. Some campus-based discussions seemed dominated by these concerns. Concerns tended to focus on the lack of details about policy implementation, but also included: too little time to respond; confusion about the opt-out options; a sense of incursion of academic freedom, of being told where to publish; the potential for negative impacts on workload for faculty, and of the potential for economic harm to society publishers.

Discussion: Ober conveyed what he knew about the process for review and next steps. There are three streams of comments: from chancellors, from senate divisions which will presumably be summarized by the academic council, and from individuals. Academic council is expected to discuss the policy at their June 27th meeting. Determination of next steps awaits the submission of senate and campus comments. SCOs expressed hope that reports of the policy review and any next steps for the policy continue to show the University commitment to positive change and to be useful in negotiations with publishers.

3. eScholarship updates (Catherine) Deferred due to Candee's absence.

- a) SLASIAC Task Force and collaboration planning
- b) Meeting with COGD and COGD Staff (May 14 and 15) re ETDs
- c) Next version of eScholarship Repository
- d) Launch of Mark Twain Project Online (announcement only)

4. Brainstorming (all)

- a) Under what circumstances would UC provide support to transformative efforts that are not publications, such as DOAJ or community version of Bergstrom McAfee data?
Discussion: The group concluded that the SCOs had adequate representation on the CDC task force (via Gail Y., Margaret P., and Lorelei T) that is re-examining processes for investing in transformative models, to ensure that tools and services that enable transformation but aren't necessarily publications themselves will be included in the task force's deliberations.
- b) John's update on conversation with Bergstrom (deferred; watch for email update)
- c) SCO process to "react" to the proposed FRPAA re-introduction and the NIH policy change.
Discussion: this subject was raised along with the discussion for #4 below.

5. Report on NIH advocacy webcast.

Persily summarized the webcast and shared the link to the materials. Discussion ensued about how and under what conditions the libraries can bring legislation and policies to the attention of UC federal government relations staff and processes. Farb suggested that SCOs attempt to compile the evidence about economic impacts of access policies.

Action: Gail P. will send the paper cited in the webcast; others are encouraged to help compile the list; Margaret P. will check on getting a password protected area of the SCO's website to assemble documents; then we'll consider adding to a toolkit or elsewhere for easy and wider access.

6. Miscellaneous

- a) Attendees to the June 6-8 SSP meeting in San Francisco are asked to collaborate on a report back to the group
- b) The group made a fond, but sad, farewell to Susan Starr who is retiring.
- c) Gail Yokote, who is willing to continue her co-chair duties for one more year, asked about replacing Susan as the other Co-chair.

Action: Please send self-nominations to Gail. Lacking any/enough self-nominees, Gail may solicit interest through individual conversations. and will asks for self-nominees