



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT --
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 FRANKLIN STREET
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94607-5200

January 21, 2005

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR GOTTFREDSON

Dear Mike:

Your letter of December 20, 2004, conveying the Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (SLASIAC) Resolution H on Library Facilities is most timely, as library facilities have been a subject of recent discussion within my office. Your letter describes well the two major issues that stand in the way of a rational consideration of the facilities component of the University's library strategy: the continued pressures of enrollment growth, which will demand the highest priority for limited capital budget resources at least through this decade, and the implications for facilities planning of the UC Libraries' past collaborative accomplishments and current strategies, which are not well understood by campus leaders and constituencies who must make or advise on capital budget priorities. In other words, as long as campus decision-makers, preoccupied with accommodating growing enrollments with inadequate capital resources, are asked to view requests for library facilities through the lens of their current understanding of the library program, the facilities component of the library strategy will not make much progress.

Consequently, I have asked Vice Provost Zelmanowitz and Associate Vice Provost Greenstein, in collaboration with Vice President Hershman and his staff, to take the lead in:

- Developing a programmatic description of the UC Libraries that documents past and prospective economies achieved through collaborative cost avoidance and leverage, and characterizes anticipated needs for library facilities as a result of these initiatives.
- Preparing clear and compelling presentations of these findings and projections that can serve as the basis for discussion with Chancellors, Vice Chancellors, Budget and Planning Officers, faculty leaders, and other key constituencies.

In addition, in view of the short-run constraints on State capital funding and the opportunity for the University to showcase its library initiatives and provide leadership to the national academic community in this area, I have asked Associate Vice Provost Greenstein to accelerate his efforts to engage peer institutions and national organizations in discussions that might lead to inter-institutional collaborations.

I have asked that SLASIAC, the University Librarians, and the new Shared Library Facilities Board be closely consulted in this process, and that the first steps be completed before the end of this academic year, so that discussions can begin as soon as reasonably possible. SLASIAC's Resolution H provides a good foundation for this work. The Committee has provided effective

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leadership and advice in the ongoing development of the University's highly successful library strategy, and I look forward to your continued guidance as we begin to articulate the previously-unexamined facilities implications of the current library program.

Sincerely,



M.R.C. Greenwood
Provost and Senior Vice President
Academic Affairs

cc: Vice President Hershman
Vice Provost Zelmanowitz
Associate Vice Provost Greenstein
Members of SLASIAC
University Librarians