

Update

Academic Council's Special Committee on Scholarly Communication¹

Whitepaper Series : *Responding to the Challenges Facing Scholarly Communication*

As demonstrated by the Academic Senate's convening in 2004 of a Special Committee on Scholarly Communication (SCSC), the UC Faculty is committed to promoting effective scholarly communication, to articulating and assuming its own role in the creation of healthy scholarly communication systems, and to encouraging its partners to assume a similar commitment.

In pursuit of its charge,² the SCSC is developing a series of white papers for consideration by the Council and Senate in late 2005. The papers will speak to particular audiences seeking a widespread support for evolution of scholarly communication to a more sustainable future of dissemination of new knowledge. The series include:

1. *The Case of Scholars' Management of Their Copyright* – an analysis of and call for the authors' retention of copyright, and potentially of sharing limited non-exclusive rights with UC's Academic Senate, to facilitate the educational use of UC-produced scholarship.
2. *The Case of Journal Publishing* – a call for journal publishing values and practices that promote widest possible use and impact of peer-reviewed scholarship.
3. *The Case of Scholarly Monograph Publishing* – a call for partnerships and innovations to address the problem of scarce opportunities in many fields for publishing monographs, even as they remain critically important to scholarship and advancement.
4. *Scholarly Societies and Scholarly Communication* – a call to societies to examine and, if necessary, rethink their publishing practices to fully align with their singular ability and self-proclaimed responsibility to advance and disseminate knowledge in their discipline.
5. *Evaluation of Publications in Academic Personnel Processes* – an acknowledgement that evaluation processes will increasingly encounter new forms of and new media for scholarly communication and that review processes will therefore need to judiciously extend to innovative forms of publication the same careful evaluation of quality of scholarship upon which the University has traditionally relied to assure the quality of its faculty.

¹ See also the Senate Source, November 2005 (<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/news/source/>)

² See <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/committees/scsc/>