



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY (UCOL)  
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The Academic Senate  
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CLIFFORD BRUNK, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL

**RE: UCOL Bylaw Amendments**

Dear Cliff,

As part of its discussions regarding the White Papers from the Special Committee on Scholarly Communication (SCSC), the University Committee on Library (UCOL) has held substantive discourse on its charge in the face of the rapidly evolving nature of scholarly communications. It is clear that scholarly communications is not only complex, but also quite broad. It encompasses a wide-range of subtopics, including escalating journal and monograph prices, faculty copyright, electronic communications, technology, and new venues for electronic publications. While UCOL commends the SCSC for its excellent work in bringing faculty attention to these issues, their white papers have also illustrated the need for long-term faculty oversight over scholarly communication.

Such oversight should be facilitated through a systemwide standing committee of the Academic Senate. The University Committee on Library (UCOL) is the appropriate location for such faculty oversight, as scholarly communications is very germane to the business of UCOL. As the introduction to the SCSC's white papers aptly notes, UC librarians have been involved in the management of scholarly communication from the beginning. UCOL has subsequently not only become familiar with these issues, but more importantly, it has gained a significant body of expertise in this area. Quite simply, the committee believes that scholarly communications cannot be divorced from faculty oversight and governance of the UC library system. While UCOL members would welcome the establishment of a special administrative task force to implement the work of the SCSC, they also feel that there is a need for long-term faculty oversight of scholarly communications, which UCOL is best equipped to handle.

Recognizing the challenges that scholarly communication raises, which are central to the mission of the University, UCOL proposes both a change to its charge as well as its name. Senate Bylaw 185, which governs UCOL, stipulates that the committee "advise the President concerning the administration of the libraries of the University in accordance with the Standing Order of the Regents." UCOL requests that this Bylaw be expanded to include oversight over scholarly communication. Second, UCOL would like to change its name from the "University Committee on Library" to the "University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication" to reflect this expanded mandate.

Thank you for considering this request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Crow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and the last name "Crow" clearly distinguishable.

Ben Crow  
Chair, UCOL

cc: UCOL  
Executive Director Bertero-Barcelo