Committee on Library

Annual Report 2005-2006

Thomas Newman, MD, MPH Chair

During the 2005-2006 academic year, the Committee on Library met seven times and augmented the Committee’s work through numerous email communications. Professor Adele Clarke served as Committee chair from September 1, 2004 through December 2006, at which time she resigned her position as Chair of the Committee. The Committee on Committees appointed Thomas Newman, the Vice Chair, to assume the role of Chair in January 2006. The Committee addressed several significant issues:

- Provided feedback and information related to library space planning;
- Considered proposed budget reductions for the Library and requested Chancellor’s Discretionary Funds;
- Considered changes in policies for scholarly communications.
- Reviewed the University Committee on Library’s proposed bylaw change;
- Convened a subcommittee to review the Fishbon Library at Mt. Zion.

The Committee continued to participate in oversight of the policy on the use of library space including requests by administration to use the library as teaching space, decisions regarding cancellation of journal print titles, and considered many complex issues related to the UC and local campus digital library collections.

Library Space Planning

Background

In early 2005, the Executive Vice Chancellor’s office convened the Advisory Group on Library Space Planning, upon which Chair Newman served, as part of the review of Parnassus Space. The Advisory Group submitted a set of twelve general recommendations in their report titled Report and Recommendations on Utilization of Kalamanovitz Library Space to guide long term space allocation/planning for the UCSF Library on Parnassus. (Appendix 1) Following a discussion with the Parnassus Space Planning Group, chaired by EVC Washington, a Working Group was formed to:

- Review the previous report and recommendations as background information
- Identify specific areas including number of square feet in the Parnassus Library that could be used for other purposes including an analysis of space occupied by current non-library tenants
- Develop detailed plans for materials displaced as a result of repurposing of space and service implications in relocating library functions
- Investigate the impact on library operations in locating new functions in the building
While the Working Group was not charged with programming library space, there were a number of discussions around this issue. For members of the Working Group, the highest priority was classroom space. At the same time, the Working Group recognized that the following issues must be addressed:

- A significant portion of the library collection will not be in digital format for many years.
- There is no long-term preservation plan for digital materials.
- Study space is still valuable for students, faculty and staff.

The Working Group held three meetings to review the findings of the previous Advisory Group, assess library space, discuss space re-use issues, and develop its recommendations. Their report was titled the Report of the UCSF Working Group on Library Space Planning’s Recommendation to Repurpose University of California, San Francisco Library (Appendix 2). These recommendations were then forwarded to the Academic Senate. Along with the Committee on Library’s review of the report, Chair Greenspan convened a Task Force to review on the Working Group’s recommendations.

Report from the Committee on Library
The Committee on Library’s findings and comments in response to the Working Group Recommendations included:

1. Members of the Committee have a passionate commitment to the library and take their roles as advocates for the library’s continued excellence and improvement very seriously. As a center for knowledge and learning at UCSF, dedicated to the entire campus community, the library has a symbolic, as well as a practical significance; it is a sacred space dedicated to serving and assisting further development of all the campus’ intellectual missions. Any repurposing of library space should enhance the library, not just solve the campus space problem.

2. Reprogramming of library space should be consistent with the principles outlined in the Final Report.

3. Library space should be repurposed with consideration as to how the new activities complement and expand existing library programs.

4. The Library, with consultation from the Committee on Library, should maintain control of the space and its use.

5. The Committee supports repurposing some space (up to perhaps 10,000 square feet) on the second floor of the library for state-of-the-art, small group classrooms and interactive spaces with videoconferencing facilities. The Committee also supports creation and enhancement of videoconferencing capabilities at all other UCSF locations as well.

6. The Committee supports creation of new “touch-down” work areas for faculty who have their primary offices on sites other than Parnassus.

7. The Committee concurs with tentative plans for the relocation of bound volumes as identified in the March, 2006 Report of the Working Group on Library Space Planning. Decisions about which bound volumes to keep on site should take into account the availability of the content in electronic
format, as well as the needs and customary use patterns of the different scholarly disciplines represented at UCSF.

8. The Committee is receptive to the following other recommendations/suggestions for alternate use of library space: 1) the possibility of installing a café in the library; 2) creating a “UCSF only” reading area which would be restricted to members of the UCSF campus and 3) improved layout and facilities for computer use, interactive learning, and library staff consultation.

**Report from Task Force Reviewing the Final Report on Library Space Planning**

During its meeting of June 6, 2006, the Task Force Reviewing the Final Report on Library Space Planning met to formally review the Report of the UCSF Working Group on Library Space Planning’s Recommendations to Repurpose University of California, San Francisco Library. The Task Force consisted of one member from each school’s Faculty Council, one member from Academic Planning and Budget, one member from the Committee on Educational Policy, and the University Librarian. Thomas B. Newman, Chair of the Committee on Library, served as Chair of the Task Force. The Task Force’s Recommendations included:

1. The Task Force strongly supports the use of the library for small group spaces which comfortably seat between 15-20 people. These spaces should include state-of-the-art technology and be larger in size and more inviting than the classrooms currently in the basement of the Medical Sciences Building, which are viewed as cramped and undesirable.

2. The Task Force supports creating improved faculty “touch-down space,” with computers, internet connectivity, and telephone connections, possibly on the fifth floor.

3. There is support for the creation of a “UCSF only” quiet study area which would be restricted to members of the UCSF campus, perhaps in the Blumenthal Room (currently housing the Asian collection, but not actively maintained) on the fifth floor.

4. While there was some skepticism over the addition of a café, most members felt that more spaces for meeting and interacting on campus add to a more positive campus environment.

Lastly, the Task Force supported the use of some space for art exhibits, especially rare collections belonging to UCSF, but not occupying so much space that these exhibits displace other potential valuable library functions. Both the Committee on Library report ([Appendix 3](#)) and the Task Force report ([Appendix 4](#)) were transmitted to the Executive Vice Chancellor with Vice Chair Gardner’s endorsement. ([Appendix 5](#))

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During University of California negotiations with publishers of scholarly works in 2004, it became clear to UC faculty that the current models of scholarly communication had become unsustainable. However, as long as library budgets could be managed and access to the most critical work could be maintained, faculty members were largely insulated from the growing crisis. When it became clear that the UC community’s access to new knowledge would progressively be limited, and that the access by others to UC-produced scholarship would similarly be limited, the Academic Council established a Special Committee on Scholarly Communication (SCSC) to consider what role the faculty should take in addressing these important issues.
The SCSC drafted five papers to define and explain the faculty’s view of changes that could improve dissemination of scholarly work to enhance the discovery and communication of new knowledge, and best serve the public interest. (Appendix 6) Chair Greenspan then forwarded the papers to the Committee on Library for their comments.

The Committee enthusiastically embraced open access publication, but was concerned that faculty would be reluctant to submit their work to open access journals because of concerns about measures of academic productivity and promotion. To this end, the Committee discussed working with the Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP) to encourage such publication. Chair Newman discussed this with CAP, who did not feel they could favor open access publication, but agreed that publication in electronic or online journals would not be penalized – i.e., would be judged the same way as publication in a traditional print journal. The Committee on Academic Personnel expressed this sentiment in a communication to the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. (Appendix 7).

**University Committee on Library Proposed Changes to Academic Senate Bylaw 185**

The University Committee on Library (UCOL), in the face of the rapidly evolving nature of scholarly communications and the white papers, has expressed the need for long-term faculty oversight over scholarly communication. Such oversight should be facilitated through a systemwide standing committee of the Academic Senate. It is UCOL’s opinion that because scholarly communication is very germane to the business of UCOL, the Committee is the appropriate location for such faculty oversight. Therefore, recognizing the challenges that scholarly communication raises, which are central to the mission of the University, UCOL proposed 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 requested that this Bylaw be expanded to include oversight over scholarly communication. Second, UCOL requested to change its name from the “University Committee on Library” to the “University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication” to reflect this expanded mandate. The Committee on Library at UCSF unanimously approved this proposed bylaw change and forwarded their approval to Chair John Oakley. (Appendix 8).

**Subcommittee Reviewing the Fishbon Library at Mount Zion**

During the review of the proposed 2004-05 campus budget, the Committee on Academic Planning and Budget (AP&B), requested the Committee’s input on a funding request for the Fishbon Library at Mt. Zion. The Committee, citing special collections, student and faculty use, and the importance of promoting health through preserving, developing, and disseminating the world’s health sciences knowledge base, recommended support for funding for the Mt. Zion Library and formally requested that the Committee on Library Committee be involved in any discussions or planning efforts related to the use of the Library for non-traditional use. In 2005, then Chair Adele Clarke requested a subcommittee be formed to review the Fishbon Library and report back to the Committee.

The Subcommittee, chaired by COL member Ilona Frieden, met on Thursday, May 25th, 2006 at Mt. Zion. The Subcommittee was comprised of Jeffrey Pearl, Associate Dean, Associate Chief Medical Officer, Medical Center at Mt. Zion, Joan Spicer, Director, UCSF Medical Center at Mt. Zion, Gail Sorrough, Fishbon Library, Mt. Zion; Dixie Horning, representing the COE in Women's Health; and Karen Butter,
University Librarian. The group toured the facility and discussed the role of the Fishbon Library, and how it can be associated with the Kalmanovitz Library at Parnassus. The Subcommittee agreed to engage in more fact-finding and have a report ready by September 1, 2006.

### Request for Discretionary Funds

On April 20, 2006, University Librarian Karen Butter presented to the Committee on Academic Planning and Budget (AP&B) a request for support in the amount of $150,000 for augmentation to the Library’s annual budget to cover the cost of inflation for digital materials and to purchase a limited number of new journals and databases for the fiscal year 2006-2007. Chair Newman transmitted a communication to AP&B in support of this funding. (Appendix 9) AP&B moved to unanimously support the request for $150,000 permanent augmentation to the Library annual budget by a letter of support. (Appendix 10)

### Issues for 2006 – 2007 Academic Year

The following are a list of ongoing issues that will be addressed by the 2006-07 Committee:

1. Continue to monitor and evaluate use of Library space to reflect Library and campus needs.
2. Continued evaluation of paper journal and electronic journal needs and costs.
3. Evaluate new methods of scholarly communication that support sustainable business models without compromising quality.
4. Continued assessment of current library use and future needs at the Fishbon Library at Mt. Zion.
5. Addressing issues of security with regards to patrons and their property. The Committee will continue to assist in developing policies related to security.
6. The Committee will begin reviewing library user comments submitted through the website.
7. The Committee will consider a Division name change to keep in line with system-wide’s recent bylaw amendment.
8. Further discussions around the HEAL (Health Education Assets Library) and instigate collaboration between other Divisional committees such as the Committees on Educational Policy and Academic Personnel.
9. Continue working with the Library and possibly the Systemwide Committee on a scholarly communication symposium.

Respectfully submitted,

**Committee on Library**

Thomas B. Newman MD, MPH, Chair  
David Teitel, MD, Vice Chair  
Judith Barker, PhD  
Eberhard Fiebig, MD  
Ilona Frieden, MD  
Nancy Hessol, MSPH  
Thomas Lang PhD  
Geoff Manley, MD  
Ralph Marcucio, PhD  
Richard Schneider, PhD
Appendices to Committee on Library 2005-06 Annual Report


Appendix 3: Communication from the Committee on Library Regarding Library Space Planning, June 16, 2006.

Appendix 4: Communication from the Task Force Regarding Library Space Planning, June 18, 2006.

Appendix 5: Transmittal of Library Space Planning Reports from David Gardner to Executive Vice Chancellor Gene Washington, June 18, 2006.


Appendix 7: Communication from the Committee on Academic Personnel to Associate Vice Chancellor Sally Marshal Regarding Electronic Journals, January 31, 2006.

Appendix 8: Communication from the Committee on Library to Systemwide Regarding Bylaw Change, June 28, 2006.

Appendix 9: Communication from the Committee on Library Regarding Request for Discretionary Funds, April 14, 2006.

Appendix 10: Communication from Academic Planning and Budget Regarding COL Request for Discretionary Funds, April 21, 2006.

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