Committee on Academic Freedom
Mohana Amritharajah, MD

MINUTES
Friday, April 5, 2013

PRESENT: Mohana Amritharajah (Chair), Thuan Le, Kit Chesla, Roberta Keller

The Committee on Academic Freedom was called to order by Chair Amritharajah on April 5, 2013 at 3:10pm in MUW 301. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes of the November 16, 2012 Minutes
The minutes of the November 16, 2012 minutes were approved unanimously.

Chair’s Report
Chair Amritharajah had these announcements:

• Since the passing of UCSF’s Open Access Policy, many faculty have indicated trouble understanding how to follow the procedure. Committee members expressed the following concerns:
  o Many journals ask for submission of the copyright transfer and there is confusion on how to fulfill that requirement.
  o Where can faculty download the copyright form?
  o How do faculty deal with the issue of multiple authors?

• Chair of the Committee on Library and Scholarly Research, Richard Schneider will be presenting at the next Coordinating Committee meeting. If those concerns are not addressed at that meeting CAF, will invite Chair Schneider to a subsequent meeting.

• The UCSF Open Access Policy was passed at the May Division Meeting of the Academic Senate. Rich Schneider, Chair of the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (COLASC) reported that implementation of the policy has been going fairly well. Some journals are not as receptive, as expected. COLASC is working with the California Digital Library (CDL) to streamline the process. R. Keller commented that the process is still a little confusing and would like clarification. Chair Amritharajah commented that system-wide has still not settled on a policy, but is favoring and opt-in method as opposed to UCSF’s opt-out method.

Report from the University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF)
Chair Amritharajah had these announcements from UCAF:

• APM 210 was revised several years ago to take into account a faculty member’s efforts towards increasing diversity. There is concern that the language, “research highlights disparities” will unduly influence research paths and potentially infringe on academic freedom. UCAAD and UCAP have been working on alternative language which will likely be filtered through the system later this year. The primary goal will be to soften the language pertaining to research. Analyst Patel commented that the local Committee on Equal Opportunity is not in favor of softening this language; however perhaps dialogue between the two committees can result in a united response
if and when system-wide asks our campus to respond. UCAAD and UCAP are working on the language, UCAF currently has no objections.

- As reported in the last CAF meeting, UC is making a push to delve into online courses. There is some debate about using commercially available online education services. The University is engaging in some trials. The major complication is the lack of consensus over ownership of online content. The University has a standard contract and the controversial clause asserts that if a faculty member has not updated the content within a said number of years, the University can alter that content on your behalf. UCSD indicated concerns with this practice so UCAF was asked to comment. Furthering complicating the issue is that no one really knows much about online education. Chair Amirtharajah also commented that many universities have robust online education programs (Sloan, Stanford) and must have policies in place regarding (1) Who owns the online content and (2) Who provides oversight and accreditation of that content. To date, there is no new information.

**Old Business**
None.

**New Business**
None.

There being no further business, Chair Amritharajah adjourned the meeting at 4:49pm

---

Senate Staff:
Shilpa Patel, Senior Analyst
shilpa.patel@ucsf.edu; 415/514-2696