

Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication
Diana Laird, PhD, Chair

March 9, 2018

David Teitel, MD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate
University of California, San Francisco
500 Parnassus Ave., Millberry Union East 231
San Francisco, CA 94143

RE: Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations

Dear Chair Teitel,

At its January 18, 2018 meeting, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (COLASC) solicited comments from its members on the Proposed Draft Presidential Policy (Policy) on Open Access (OA) for Theses and Dissertations. COLASC supports the inclusion of student theses and dissertations in the proposed Policy, as it builds upon UCSF's role in pioneering OA policy on its campus and informing systemwide OA Presidential policy.

The Policy proposes that theses or dissertations authored by graduate students while attending the University, be (1) "deposited into an open access repository, and (2) freely and openly available to the public, subject to a requested delay of access ("embargo") obtained by the student." The Policy allows students' to retain copyright ownership rights to their theses or dissertations.

COLASC agrees with the recommendation from the Electronic Theses and Dissertations Task Force that implementing a uniform repository for student theses and dissertations provides each of the campuses a consistent and cohesive process for managing its published research. Further, COLASC affirms the opportunities for faculty to efficiently support early investigators and improve research collaborations across UC, through easing access to student-driven research. Finally, COLASC commented that searching for relevant material deposited into lesser-known repositories might present difficulties for investigators submitting their work to a variety of digital repositories.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations. We look forward to working with UCOLASC and the Academic Senate's leadership on local implementation.

Sincerely,



Diana J. Laird, PhD
COLASC Chair
2017-2018

c: Todd Giedt, Executive Director, UCSF Academic Senate