UCSF Academic Senate

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

ANNUAL REPORT
2018-2019

The 2018-2019 term saw a renewed commitment from the campus' leadership to rebuild Parnassus Heights, which went from a 'Vision' to the development of a comprehensive plan for Parnassus with both research and education components (Education Space Working Group). UL Shaffer's vision of creating synergy between UC's teaching mission and realignment of existing library space emerged as the primary driver in planning the library's future. In addition, the Elsevier negotiations consumed a significant amount of COLASC's time, including consultation over the implementation of alternative strategies for the eventual failure to reach an agreement. Activities in shared governance between COLASC and library administration included the following:

- Secured funding from the Chancellor's Fund to expand the open science initiative; and
- Hosted a town hall on the goals of the systemwide Elsevier Publishing Task Force and possible impacts to faculty.

2018-2019 Members

Diana Laird, PhD, Chair
Marta Margeta, MD, PhD, Vice Chair
Annette Carley, RN, DNP, NP
Cristin Kearns, DDS, MBA
Bridget O'Brien
Irina Strigo, PhD

Ex-Officio Members

Chris Shaffer, University Librarian
Kate Tasker, LAUC-SF
Bryan Marsh, Student Representative

Number of Meetings: 6
Academic Senate Staff: Todd Giedt, Executive Director
415.476.1307

Elsevier Negotiations & Open Access
Throughout the 2018-19 academic year, COLASC concentrated its attention on open access more generally, and UC's negotiations with Elsevier more specifically. Toward this end, COLASC benefited from the participation of Rich Schneider on UC's Elsevier Negotiation team. In brief, UC sought a new, transformative contract with Elsevier that would move scholarly journal publishing much closer to an open access (OA) journal subscription model. UC's goals in these negotiations revolved around the establishment of a new OA model: 1) Eliminating the double payment, using reading (i.e., subscription) and OA publishing fees instead to offset one another; 2) Negotiating a discount for author publishing fees/costs (APCs), which will lower the cost to publish OA; and 3) Further lowering APCs, or making it free for UC authors to publish in OA because of library contributions. The negotiations were distinguished by the fact that faculty were an integral part of the UC negotiating team, which recognized the fact that faculty have a tremendous amount of leverage in this process because of the content they provide to publishers. One area of negotiations is controlling publisher double dipping: charging journal subscriptions to campuses and charging authors and users fees to submit and access the content.[1]

In the end, Elsevier's contract with the UC system, which was originally due to expire on December 31, 2018, was postponed by a number of months while UC tried to reach agreement with Elsevier. The negotiations ultimately failed, and Elsevier cut off UC from all new and unsubscribed content after 2019 in July. During this time, some faculty independently pursued a faculty boycott of Elsevier journals; the Academic Senate did not take an official position on this boycott.

In addition to the Elsevier negotiations, COLASC followed and supported a number of new developments in the open access movement. These included:
- Hungary's Electronic Information Service National Programme and Germany's Max Planck Society were among several European institutions that did not renew journal subscription contracts with Elsevier in 2018.
- In spring 2019, UC signed a transformative open access agreement with Cambridge Press, which allowed all UC-authored Cambridge Press journal articles to be immediately published as open access. The agreement also lowered UC's subscription price to Cambridge Press journals, and offered a discount to UC authors on their open access article processing charges (APCs). In addition, UC will provide subventions ($1,000) for those who cannot afford them.
- Wiley Press signed an open access agreement (similar to the Cambridge Press/UC agreement) with German universities. In the meantime, UC signed a one-year extension with Wiley, with plans to pursue an open access agreement next year.

Draft Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations: second review
For its second review, the Senate was asked to address concerns about dissertation embargo periods, given the fact that many graduate students may ultimately publish parts or all of their dissertations. While COLASC agreed with the Policy's inclusion of theses and dissertations in open access publishing, members also felt it sensible to add embargo periods to safeguard content. Towards that end, the Committee made the following suggestions to this review:
- Allow students to request extensions on the embargo period directly from school Deans.
- Include a multi-year embargo menu option (1 year, 2 years, 6 years, etc.)
- Encourage closer alignment on embargo period between advisors and students
- Allow option to have no embargo period / make a thesis available immediately.
- Discourage advisors from authorizing indefinite embargo extensions.
- Link the theses with subsequently published manuscripts to provide insight into research project evolution.

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[1] UC faculty contribute approximately $20 million to Elsevier each year in pro-bono work serving as editors, on advisory boards, and as peer reviewers.

Proposed APM 011

A systemwide working group developed APM 011 which would provide academic freedom for non-faculty academic appointees, including librarians, post-docs, and academic specialists. If there are issues of academic freedom concerning these classes of employees, the policy ensures that the reviewer of the grievance will be of the same job series as that of the person bringing the grievance forward. COLASC members supported the new APM 011 as written.

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Divisional Business

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This year, COLASC took action on the following issues related to the San Francisco Division:

Elsevier Publishing Town Hall

A town hall was held in December to focus on accelerating open access publishing through UC negotiations with Elsevier. There was a greater turnout than usual with approximately 98 individuals joining the town hall in Mission Bay, via Zoom or live capture.

Chancellor's Fund

The Academic Senate voted to continue supporting open access (OA) publishing by awarding $120,000 to the UCSF Library to promote open science. Through this mechanism over the past three years, the Chancellor's Fund has helped numerous faculty members who lacked other means of paying for their OA publication costs. A portion of the funds this year went to the library's Data Science Initiative which used the money to pay for a part-time member of the team dedicated to developing new curriculum and teaching an expanded portfolio of bioinformatics and programming workshop. This effort aligns with the increasing amount of genomics and proteomics data in public repositories, the need to acquire skills for managing and analyzing large data sets, and provides faculty without research grants the opportunity to make new discoveries from shared data. Together, this larger effort will drive the movement toward more reproducible Open Science. A report from the library's data science team is due in early 2020.

Faculty consultation on the selection and process of relocating books and collections

UL Shaffer solicited the committee's feedback on how library administration can be proactive with the faculty about prioritizing, selecting, and reaching consensus on relocation procedures for books and collections. The Committee's suggestions to UL Shaffer included:

1. Consider placing the communication to faculty in the EVCP's Expresso, or dedicating space on the campus' communication channels so that the announcement is not buried among competing UCSF news.
2. Consider creating an electronic list of books and allow faculty an opportunity to tag books they want to retain.
3. Consider the value of shifting important books and collections to departments.
4. Consider creating an inventory that is broken up into subject areas, as there are thousands of titles. Department chairs could present the inventory to their faculty.

Author Disputes

The Senate recently received a query from a UCSF faculty member who would like to be removed from the authorship of an article manuscript for non-disclosed ethical reasons. However, the lead author is refusing, claiming that his/her University does not allow it. The UCSF faculty member has asked if UCSF has a policy or guidance on dealing with a problem with a co-author. After additional correspondence with the faculty member, it was determined that the article has not yet been submitted to the journal. In addition, the faculty in question noted that this phenomenon seems to be a trend in which relatively unknown researchers are looking for well-known faculty at prestigious institutions to include as co-authors (including adding them without permission).

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Task Forces and Other Committee Service

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The following members of the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication served on campus and systemwide committees (partial list):

- Diana Laird: Parnassus Master Plan Steering Committee
- Marta Margeta: Systemwide Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication, UCSF School of Medicine Faculty Council
- Chris Shaffer: Chair, Parnassus Master Plan Steering Committee Education Space Working Group; Co-Chair, Systemwide Integrated Library System Working Group; IT Governance Steering Committee; IT Governance Enterprise Information and Analytics Committee; Council of University Librarians; and Executive Co-director, UC Office of Scholarly Communication

Going Forward

Ongoing issues under review or actions that the Committee will continue into 2019-2020:

Open Access & Elsevier
- As UC's direct access to new Elsevier articles has been discontinued, UC is entering into new open access arrangements with other publishers; the future Elsevier relationship is uncertain.
- Information will be communicated to the faculty on the integration of Cambridge Press catalogue.

Library Space
- Most print journals and monographs will be moved out of the Parnassus Library; COLASC will be proactively involved in this process.
- Parnassus Educational Space Programming Task Force
- Conversion of FAMRI Library (MB) into data science center (January 2020); remodeling of the ZSFG Library

Super CORE (COLABS) & BIOS Facilities
- COLASC will remain engaged around the planning and use of these facilities for UCSF faculty.

Appendices

Appendix 1:   Letter for systemwide review of new Academic Personnel Manual Section 011 (APM-011)