COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION
2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Legislative Assembly of the Academic Senate, Los Angeles Division:

The Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (COLASC) is the Academic Senate’s primary pathway for communication with the UCLA Administration with respect to the Library and scholarly communication. The Committee takes, as its principal obligation, to reflect and articulate the views of UCLA faculty members concerning the role of the University Library in the acquisition, storage, and provision of scholarly materials. The Committee represents the Division and the faculty in all matters of library policy and advises the Library administration accordingly. COLASC works to forcefully, clearly, and collegially represent faculty interests and concerns in these areas in the spirit of shared governance.

Major topics addressed by COLASC during the 2014-15 academic year included:

Open Access Policy
COLASC discussed the Open Access policy for non-Senate members and expressed concern over the policy statement regarding the university having a right over faculty members producing work outside the university and suggested clarifying the differences between copyright and licensing for a dissertation.

The members of COLASC acknowledged the importance of extending the policy to non-Senate faculty members and recognized that these policies empower faculty as it gives them control to share or to opt out. Some members were uncertain on how the policy affects students as far as them owning their copyright or not. Finally, members expressed unease over the policy statement concerning the university having a right over work produced by faculty members outside the university.

Dissertation and Embargo Process
The Committee welcomed Robin Garrell, Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Education, April de Stefano, Director, Graduate Division Academic Services, Alex Bui, Graduate Council Chair, Sharon Farb, Associate University Librarian, to one of its meetings to discuss the dissertation process and participate in the deliberation about policies that the committee members find controversial.

Committee members agree with the dissertation having to be deposited and made public as this has been its nature and tradition. In the past, students would submit their dissertation and it would be made available in the library. What members found is a problem is the form of the dissemination which involves ProQuest or other systems that allow people to download or make the apparatus fully searchable.
COLASC worked to encourage Graduate Council and the Dean to develop a policy whereby a graduate student can have the option to embargo the dissemination of their dissertation in downloadable form for up to six years, while at the same time making a digitized version that can be read online available through the California Digital Library or the University Library. Members argued that the belief that “one size fits all” does not work for all disciplines. The principle of Open Access is invaluable for dissertations but the format of dissemination needs to be addressed.

**Foreign Visiting Scholars**

UCLA adopted a new policy for foreign visiting scholars as a result of visa requirement changes. This led the committee to study the new visa requirements for visiting scholars and explore alternatives.

Whereas in the past it was possible to host scholars informally, there are new regulations in place which demand a J-1 visa, thus complicating the opportunity to freely invite foreign scholars informally for short periods of time.

Members voiced apprehension over the new policies as it alters customary actions when inviting foreign scholars. Members suggested the letter should propose a new term to be adopted. COLASC sent a letter to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Personnel to address this issue and scheduled an ad hoc meeting with administrators from the Dashew Center and the Academic Personnel Office to discuss this new policy and explore options to grant library access to foreign scholars.

**Library’s Strategic Plan**

The Library began working to develop a strategic plan after key people retired or left the Library. After new people joined the UCLA Library, a consulting company, *brightspot* (www.brightspotstrategy.com), was hired to help develop a long-term plan. The goal is to identify the library’s highest priorities and support needed with the current work structure. The strategic plan development, which started in May 2015, will be a six-month process in which *brightspot* will visit the campus four times. COLASC met with the consultants on May 4, 2015 to reflect on the role and future of the Library at UCLA.

**Rosenfeld Management Library**

The Committee continued the conversation with the Anderson Graduate School of Management’s Dean, Senior Associate Dean and Rosenfeld Librarian to discuss the progress of the accelerator space project.
Members raised several concerns related to the utilization of the space exclusively as an incubator or as a possible study space and the accessibility of non-Anderson students to the space. Second, they were worried about the considerable quantity of books that had been removed from the first floor of the library, which are in the tens of thousands. Third, members brought up the issues raised over a year ago to AGSM administration, since there is a perception that the private sector is unloading costs on the public sector. There is a valid concern over AGSM offloading books and other legitimate costs onto a space-deprived Library. Fourth, the draft governance document developed by AGSM does not have faculty representation outside of AGSM, which raised the question of self vs. shared governance.

Members suggested that the draft governance document should be revised and improved on before starting the program. Members felt that there were many unanswered questions and were disconcerted by how much progress had been made, without their knowledge, since the last meeting in December 2013, which prompted the Committee to reach out to the Executive Vice Chancellor/Provost to discuss this project.

**Space at the Library**

Members agreed that it is important to raise awareness of this pressing issue as the library is running out of space. In consultation with Librarian Steel, COLASC drafted and sent a letter to the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost dated April 3, 2015, addressing the space crisis at the libraries. The main points addressed in the letter are: the relationship between the libraries and undergraduate education, the lack of space for research and special collections, the potential expansion of SRLF.

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**University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication Activity**

In 2014-15, the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication held three meetings, which were attended by John Colicelli, David Sabean and Jean-François Blanchette.

The major issues discussed were as follows:

- California Open Education Resources Council: Development of more affordable textbooks and teaching resources has state and foundation funding, uses peer review boards. There are currently 5 available textbooks and the goal is 50.
- Open Access: from partial rollout (UCI, UCLA, UCSF) to all campuses (announcement coming) Publication “harvester” to begin operating 9/2015
- California Digital Library: Difficulties with journal negotiations.
- Author’s Alliance: “authors who write to be read” helps authors release their copyrighted material withheld by publishers.
o Two new publication projects for UC Press: I) COLLABRA (www.collabraoa.org), which is a mission-driven Open Access journal that shares not only the research but also the value created by the academic community. II) LUMINOS, (www.luminoso.org), described as University of California Press’ new Open Access publishing program for monographs.

o University Librarians: there will be a new fair use document for the university addressing copyright issues and matters such as writing code.

o Expansion of Northern Regional Library Facility (NRLF) in UC Berkeley.

o Report on journal costs: there is currently a project between the University of California, Ohio State and Harvard looking into how Elsevier is pricing journals.

Briefings from the University Librarian
Librarian Virginia Steel reported on the Library’s news and initiatives throughout the year.

o Budget: This year the library has received a 3 percent increase in the EVC’s Budget. However, the library is dealing with considerable staff turn-over and retirements of field experts. It has become difficult to recruit library staff because Librarians are not eligible for certain incentives and benefits that faculty receive upon hiring such as MOP loans.

o Affordable Course Materials: (http://www.library.ucla.edu/about/collections/collection-development-initiatives/affordable-course-materials-initiative) This pilot initiative encourages instructors to use low-cost or free alternatives to expensive course materials; these can include open-access scholarly resources, Library-licensed and owned resources, and learning objects and texts that faculty create themselves. The purpose of this initiative is to encourage availability of low cost or no cost course materials for students. The project received funding from the Executive Vice Chancellor and the California Digital Library (CDL), and $30,000 was offered to faculty. Twenty-seven applications from faculty from twenty-six different departments were received and helped a total of 1500 students who were able to save $161,000 in textbooks. The purpose of this initiative is to raise awareness on the cost of textbooks, where the library is actively exploring options to help students save money.

o Space: The Library is looking to add seating space in Powell Library. It is necessary to analyze facilities, seating, restrooms, etc. The Library is working with Capital Planning and exploring options on how to maximize use of the current space, such as the option of entering the Library through the south side. Undergraduate students are requesting a café in Powell. There are currently 600 seats in Powell, and students are raising awareness of this issue in social media.

Respectfully submitted,
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