December 9, 2014

To: Joel Aberbach, Chair
    Academic Senate

From: Alex Bui, Chair
    Graduate Council

Re: Proposed New UC Policy on Open Access

At its meeting on November 14, 2014, the Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the proposed new UC policy on Open Access for UC authors, who are not members of the Academic Senate. Although not specifically asked to opine on this proposal, the Graduate Council hopes that its opinion on the matter is taken into consideration given the potential impact of the policy on graduate students and postdoctoral scholars in the UC. While supportive of adopting a clear and inclusive open access policy for all members of the UC, Graduate Council members consider this draft policy to be problematic and premature given inconsistencies in the policy itself and additional system-wide efforts that are taking place to implement a universal policy on copyright.

Doctoral students produce dissertations, which demonstrate the student’s ability to perform original, independent research, and which constitute a distinct contribution to knowledge in the principal field of study. Graduate students in general, as well as postdoctoral scholars, are major contributors to research projects and scholarly publications that stem from them. However, the proposed policy does not explicitly address whether it applies to theses/dissertations and it is far too general with respect to identifying the constituents to whom it applies.

In her introductory memo, Provost Dorr acknowledges scholars at UC as “ladder-rank faculty, faculty in other title series, postdoctoral scholars, students and academic researchers.” The policy itself proposes to cover two classes of University Authors: those who own the copyright to their work, and those who do not own the copyright. It defines University Authors as non-Senate employees and students of the University of California who author scholarly articles while employed by the University of California. Such a definition is confusing given that not all graduate students and postdoctoral scholars are employed by the UC. Several, in fact, are funded by sources that prohibit an employer-employee relationship (i.e., individual fellowships and institutional training grants). If this category is excluded, problems will also stem from the fact that these sources regularly change throughout the student’s and postdoctoral scholar’s careers at UCLA.

Additionally, Vice Provost and Dean for Graduate Education Robin Garrell, who sits ex officio on the Graduate Council, informed the members of her involvement on the System-wide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee’s Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy, which is developing a universal copyright policy for the UC. Members inquired whether UCOP coordinated this draft policy on open access in cooperation with this subcommittee and whether the new policy should be adopted when others are in development. At the very least, the members felt that some background should be provided about how these developments may influence each other.

Of course, in principle, members endorse an open access policy and making scholarship available world-wide, but with respect to implementing new policy, we feel that there should be clearer definitions and guidelines, and some level of coordination between offices and committees. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me via the Graduate Council’s committee analyst, Kyle Cunningham, at ext. 51162 or kcunningham@senate.ucla.edu.

Cc: Serge Chenkerian, MSO, Academic Senate
    Kyle Cunningham, Principal Committee Analyst, Graduate Council
    Linda Mohr, CAO, Academic Senate
December 16, 2014

To: Joel Aberbach, Chair
   Academic Senate

From: Council on Academic Personnel

RE: Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access

We thank you for the opportunity to opine on the Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access. CAP has no comment at this time.
December 8, 2014

Joel Aberbach
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Re: Proposed Open Access Policy for Non-Senate University of California Authors

Dear Professor Aberbach,

The Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) discussed the Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access, at its meeting on December 1, 2014. After an opening discussion, the council expressed a few concerns.

Members of the Council already place most of their research articles into various open access repositories due to federal funding requirements, so the Council supports greater open access to include non-Senate members. The plan provides a relatively simple opt-out procedure, which will permit publication in journals not willing to permit free access for limited periods of time.

The concerns expressed by CPB members were, first, that the definition of the embargo period needs to be more specific as to what types of publications it pertains to and how it affects publishers, and, second, it needs to address if there are any differences within the policy for diverse patentable products such as articles, textbooks, videos, etc.

Additionally, while we recognize that the policy extends open access rights to a broader population, some members expressed unease over the potential drawback this policy would have on our ability to attract top scholars, hence being possibly limiting.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. If you have any questions for us, please do not hesitate to contact me at sears@issr.ucla.edu.

Sincerely,

David O. Sears, Chair
Council on Planning and Budget

cc: Leo Estrada, Vice Chair, Academic Senate
Jan Reiff, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate
Linda Mohr, Chief Administrative Officer, Academic Senate Office
Elizabeth Feller, Committee Analyst, Council on Planning and Budget
Members of the Council on Planning and Budget
TO: Professor Joel Aberbach  
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate  

FROM: Earl Freymiller  
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee  
School of Dentistry  

RE: Review of Proposed Amendment to Academic Senate Regulation 682  
Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Non-Academic Senate UC Authors  

The Faculty Executive Committee of the School of Dentistry met to discuss the two above-listed proposals.

The proposed amendment to Senate Regulation 682 would eliminate the requirement of a minimum of one term between advancement to candidacy and conferring the Master’s degree. The Dentistry FEC strongly supports this proposal.

The Dentistry FEC also is in full support of the proposal to extend the Open Access Policy for UC Authors to include non-Academic Senate faculty members.

No concerns were expressed with respect to either proposal, and all Dentistry FEC members were in favor of the proposed changes.

Thank you for allowing our committee to opine on these proposals.
Hi Linda,

The DGSOM FEC met yesterday evening (12/3) and discussed the "Proposed New UC Policy on Open Access".

The DGSOM FEC requires clarification on the extent of the policy and the potential consequences to faculty publishing research findings. It was not clear how the UC Open Access policy would interact with the NIH mandated open access policy through the PMC site for all NIH sponsored research that is published.

If an Academic Senate action is required before our next FEC meeting on January 7, 2015, then the DGSOM FEC has no position on this due to complexity of the issue and lack of clarity on limitations of the policy. If however, it would be possible to be given an extension on submitting our response, the committee could further discuss this in January. If so, might it be possible for someone from the Academic Senate to provide a brief overview of the policy to our committee on 1/7/15?

Thank you,

Roberta

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Roberta A. Rey, Ph.D.
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Please consider the environment before printing this email... BLUE + GOLD = GREEN

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mohr, Linda" <mohr@senate.ucla.edu>
Subject: Senate Item for Review: For Systemwide Review: Proposed New UC Policy on Open Access
December 10, 2014

Joel Aberbach, Chair
Academic Senate

Re: Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access

Dear Professor Aberbach,

At its Faculty Executive Committee meeting on December 10, 2014, the School of Theater, Film and Television reviewed the Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access, and upon the most careful perusal of the documents on Open Access the committee still objects to the fact that the Task Force continues to recommend the opposite of what we prefer regarding for the Waive/Opt out option. We propose that it would better serve the academic population to Waive/Opt in instead of Waive/Opt out as it relates to section III. B. 1 (page 3)

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chrisi Karvonides
FEC Chair, School of Theater, Film and Television

Cc: Linda Mohr, CAO, Academic Senate
    Serge Chenkerian, MSO, Academic Senate
December 18, 2014

To: Joel Aberbach, Chair
   UCLA Academic Senate

From: Miguel Unzueta, Chair
      Council on Research

Re: Proposed New UC Policy on Open Access

Dear Joel,

At its meeting on December 12, 2014, the Council on Research reviewed and discussed the Proposed New UC Policy on Open Access. Members did not find any objections or concerns regarding the proposal based on their purview within the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and opine on the issue. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (x66570; miguel.unzueta@anderson.ucla.edu) or Academic Senate MSO|EA, Serge Chenkerian (x63802; schenkerian@senate.ucla.edu).

Sincerely,

Miguel Unzueta, Chair
Council on Research

cc: Serge Chenkerian, MSO|EA, Academic Senate
    Linda Mohr, CAO, Academic Senate
January 9, 2015

Joel Aberbach
Chair, Academic Senate

Re: Proposed Open Access Policy for Non-Senate University of California Authors

Dear Professor Aberbach,

At its meeting on December 8, 2014, the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (COLASC) was presented with an overview of the Proposed Open Access Policy by Associate Professor, Chris Kelty. After the presentation, members expressed a few concerns.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal.

Sincerely,

David Sabean
Chair, Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication

cc:   Leo Estrada, Vice Chair, Academic Senate Office
     Jan Reiff, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate Office
     Linda Mohr, CAO, Academic Senate
     Elizabeth Feller, Committee Analyst, Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication
     Members of the Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication