



Martha Kendall Winnacker, J.D.
Telephone: (510) 987-9458
Fax: (510) 763-0309
Email: martha.winnacker@ucop.edu

Executive Director
Universitywide Academic Senate
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

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CHAIRS OF SENATE DIVISIONS
CHAIRS OF SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

Dear Division and Committee Chairs:

On behalf of Academic Council Chair Bob Anderson I am forwarding for full Senate review a proposed Open Access Policy developed by the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC). The policy would expand open access to research publications by University of California faculty by changing the default relationship between faculty authors and scholarly publishers to one in which authors grant the University a non-exclusive license to the work. The proposed policy would also require that authors deposit a digital copy of the final version of their published works with the California Digital Library. Authors would be allowed to opt out of the license grant at their own discretion. However, publishers that demand exclusive rights would need to ask authors to choose to opt-out. The proposed policy, UCOLASC's transmittal letter, and a paper responding to specific faculty concerns are attached. Additional material will also be made available on the web over the coming months.

Because the proposed policy touches on core faculty concerns, Council encourages every division and committee to engage a broad constituency in discussing it. Representatives of UCOLASC are prepared to offer input into your discussions if this would be helpful, and my office will be ready to assist with the necessary arrangements if needed.

Please provide comments by January 11, 2013. In the meanwhile, please feel free to contact me or 2012-13 Council Chair Bob Powell at any time if you have questions or concerns about how to conduct this review.

Sincerely,

Martha Kendall Winnacker, J.D.
Executive Director, Academic Senate

Encl. (4)

Cc: Division directors
Committee analysts