

March 1, 2016

LAUC Committee on Professional Governance Report

TO: LAUC President

FR: LAUC Committee on Professional Governance (CPG)

RE: 2015-16 Report on Feedback Review for Position Papers 1-4

Background and General Charge

Since the 1980s, LAUC has published five Position Papers which document our “association’s position on crucial, broad and recurrent issues relating to the work and mission of librarians in the University of California,” (see: <https://lauc.ucop.edu/position-papers>). These papers are subject to review for continued relevance and membership consensus at least every five years. Last year’s Executive Board voted to retire LAUC Position Papers 1-4, but no final status change may be made without input, discussion, and vote by LAUC Assembly delegates. Position Paper 5 discusses the definition of librarians in the UC system, and will not be reviewed until the outcome and implications of any changes to APM 360-4 has been settled.

Over the next few months the LAUC Committee on Professional Governance is charged with reporting to the LAUC Executive Board input gathered from LAUC members on Position Papers 1-4. At the Spring Assembly on March 21, a summary discussion will be held and the Assembly delegates will vote on their statuses: to Reaffirm, Retire, or Replace.

Specific Charges

1. The Position Papers to be reviewed are:
 - a. Position Paper No.1: Criteria for Appointment, Promotion and Advancement in the Librarian Series (Last revised May 30, 2003).
 - b. Position Paper No.2: Development of Effective Communication between Statewide LAUC and Library Council (Last revised April 1989. Library Council no longer exists).
 - c. Position Paper No.3: Documentation Guidelines for the Review of Librarians (Last revised June 1990).
 - d. Position Paper No.4: Review Procedures for Librarians Outside the Normal Campus Peer Review Process (Established August 31, 1977. No revisions).
2. Suggested questions to consider (other questions welcome):
 - a. Does the subject of the Paper continue to have relevance today? Has it been outdated by organizational restructuring? Has it been superseded by common or accepted practice? Is it still relevant to all divisions? Is there a need to retain this as an active statement of LAUC’s position?
 - b. Would a revised or updated version serve the LAUC membership better?
 - c. Are there subjects not covered that LAUC should present as new position papers?

3. A suggestion for reviewing and amalgamating member input for the CPG report to the Executive Board (other ideas are welcome):
 - a. Each CPG member works with their divisional officers/Assembly delegates to hold a series of discussion opportunities (e.g. brown bags, zoom, Hangout...) in which Papers 1-4 are examined and members provide their own ideas and rationale on what should be their fate.
 - b. There are recent precedents for such methods, such as discussions on Bylaws, and on the structure of Common Knowledge Groups.
 - c. The LAUC CPG will create their report from summaries of these discussions. Involving the delegates at the local level is important because they will be voting and should know how their members feel.
4. CPG should submit their report to the LAUC Executive Board before our March 3 conference call so we can discuss it and iron out questions and procedural details before the Assembly on March 21.

Summary

Per the charge, each CPG member requested and received feedback from their divisional members via surveys or meetings during January 2016. The Committee met via a conference call in February to discuss the feedback received from all interested members and came to the following consensus. The current LAUC Position Papers are too procedural and too historical at this point in time. Position Papers should be more philosophical documents and state LAUC’s position, using language that will still be relevant over time. Hence, it was agreed that Position Papers Nos. 2 and 4 be replaced and Position Papers Nos. 1 and 3 be retired.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: The CPG moves to retire Position Paper No. 1: Criteria for Appointment, Promotion and Advancement in the Librarian Series.

Recommendation 2: The CPG moves to replace Position Paper No. 2: Development of Effective Communication between Statewide LAUC and Library Council.

Recommendation 3: The CPG moves to retire Position Paper No. 3: Documentation Guidelines for the Review of Librarians.

Recommendation 4: The CPG moves to replace Position Paper No. 4: Review Procedures for Librarians Outside the Normal Campus Peer Review Process.

Committee on Professional Governance Members:

Chair (Davis)	Deanna Johnson
Berkeley	Lynn Jones
Irvine	Mitchell Brown

Los Angeles	Tony Aponte
Merced	Jim Dooley
Riverside	Michael Yonezawa
San Diego	Adele Barsh
San Francisco	Anneliese Taylor
Santa Barbara	Michael Kim
Santa Cruz	Frank Gravier