



OFFICE OF THE LAUC PRESIDENT

President's Year-end Report

August, 2014

I am pleased to report that at the close of my term as President, I find our Association to be active, productive, and capable of fulfilling its mission. The following review of LAUC activities will provide evidence to support this observation.

Spring Assembly 2014 – April 23, UC Davis

In addition to reports from standing committees and representatives, the Assembly included a discussion of LAUC Divisional participation in library reorganizations. Presentations were made by LAUC-B, LAUC-D, LAUC-SD members about their divisional LAUC's formal involvement in planning and implementing library reorganization. More recently, the Southern Regional LAUCs organized a similar program at UC Riverside. Videos from that program are available at <http://laucassembly.blogspot.com/2014/06/lauc-southern-regional-meeting-uc.html>.

The Assembly also included a panel of University Librarians: MacKenzie Smith (UCD), Lorelei Tanji (UCI), Denise Stephens (UCSB) who spoke on their visions of the future of UC systemwide services and collections, the future role the library will play on campus, and the evolving responsibilities of librarians both on campus and systemwide. Videos of their presentations are linked from the Assembly website at <http://laucd.lib.ucdavis.edu/lauc2014agenda.html>.

Finally, a number of LAUC members presented on Best Practices for Promoting the Value of Libraries to Faculty. Materials from those presentations are also available on the Assembly website at <http://laucd.lib.ucdavis.edu/lauc2014assemblydocuments.html>.

The Assembly evaluations were generally favorable, and they included a number of ideas for topics to be addressed at future Assemblies.

At the Divisional level, LAUC is engaged with library administration and faculty. We have voices and make a difference. There are ongoing challenges but we can learn from each other.

Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees

Committee on Professional Governance

The 2013-14 CPG was charged to propose changes to the LAUC Bylaws and Standing Rules to fit current LAUC practices and procedures. Their proposals to revise bylaws were reviewed by the Executive Committee, which recommended that they be submitted to the Assembly. At a Special Assembly held on August 14 via ReadyTalk, the members of the Assembly approved CPG's proposed changes to be submitted to a vote of the general membership.

Our parliamentary mechanism for aligning bylaws and standing rules with the current reality of LAUC is functional. We have tools to advance organizational governance in a timely manner.

Diversity Committee

The 2013-14 Diversity Committee report is available on the Assembly website. A member of the Diversity Committee served as a liaison to a subcommittee of the Executive Committee that made recommendations for a new “Meet Our Members” area on the LAUC website.

Diversity remains an important concern for LAUC. Refreshing the LAUC website will create opportunities to move some activities related to diversity to the online environment.

Research and Professional Development Committee

2013-14 was a transition year as LAUC prepared to implement changes to the research grant program effective July 1, 2014. See below for more information on the new procedures. Because of the changes to the funding calendar, LAUC used the 2013-14 allocation to fund grants recommended by both the 2012-13 R&PD and the 2013-14 R&PD. The allocation was supplemented with funds from the LAUC President.

The 2012-13 R&PD recommended funding 11 grants, including 4 research and 7 presentation grants. All were funded by UCOP for a total of \$29,523.45 out of a total allocation of \$32,400. 6 additional presentation grants were funded by Presidential funds for a total of \$1,751.

The 2013-14 R&PD recommended funding 12 grants, including 3 research grants and 9 presentation grants, for a total of \$12,718.60. 7 grants were funded by UCOP and 5 grants were funded by Presidential funds.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee was chaired by Past-President Keri Botello, and its charge was completed. Diane Mizrachi was elected Vice-President/President-Elect, and Christina Woo was elected Secretary. The committee included Bob Heyer-Gray from Davis and Pauline Manaka from Irvine.

We have excellent new leadership.

Ad Hoc Committee on the LAUC Research Grant Program

The Ad Hoc Committee on the LAUC Research Grant Program completed its work and received UCOP approval for changes to procedures. New procedures became effective July 1, 2014. The new procedures will give LAUC the sole authority to approve proposals, and allow LAUC to solicit, review, and fund proposals within the same fiscal year. The R&PD calendar has been revised such that two calls will be issued, in September and January. These changes will allow LAUC members to more fully utilize the funds available for Research Grants, Mini Grants, and Presentation Grants.

LAUCs relationship with UCOP is positive. Changes to the research grant program will improve access to research funds for our members.

Website Committees

At the Spring Assembly I reported on plans to improve the LAUC website. Several groups have contributed to this planning process. The Executive Board accepted a report by a subcommittee that proposed content guidelines and workflow for a “Meet Our Members” section of the website. This new section is intended to showcase our diversity and to illustrate the work our members do, both within their libraries and beyond.

Concurrently, I charged a LAUC Web Review Ad Hoc Committee, chaired by LAUC web administrator Julie Lefevre, to review the website and recommend changes to improve usability and make the site easier to administer. The Executive Board accepted the Ad Hoc Committee’s report that detailed the deficiencies of the current architecture, platform, and hosting environment. The report concluded by recommending the creation of a Website Redesign Ad Hoc Committee to plan and implement a thorough redesign in Drupal.

With consultation from the Executive Board, I charged the Website Redesign Ad Hoc Committee to plan and manage the development of a new LAUC website, and to oversee engagements with outside vendors or contractors. Matt Conner and I are currently reviewing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc to engage an outside vendor for web development. The work of the Ad Hoc will continue with input from the new Executive Board, with a target timeline of December 1 for launching a new site.

LAUC is capable of undertaking ambitious projects with far-reaching benefits. Ad Hoc Committees continue to be a viable way to pursue LAUC business that doesn’t conveniently fit within the charges of the Standing Committees.

Financial Report

UCOP has informed me that the LAUC budget I submitted will be funded for 2014-15. The budget includes \$32,400 for research grants, \$5,000 for the August 2014 transition meeting, \$10,000 for the Spring 2015 Assembly, and \$2,250 for travel by LAUC representatives and costs of electronic communications.

UCOLASC

As President I served as the LAUC consultant to the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication (UCOLASC). This year UCOLASC continued to provide input on the implementation of the UC Open Access Policy, including the possible addition of a Presidential policy that would apply to UC staff researchers and non-Senate faculty. Members of UCOLASC also expressed concern about the capacity of the Regional Library Facilities.

Advisory Structure

With the establishment of the new University of California Libraries Advisory Structure (UCLAS) in 2013, LAUC took steps to strengthen the role of our representatives and improve communications procedures. UCLAS reports are now routinely distributed to the LAUC President for distribution to all members. In addition, the LAUC representatives to the three Strategic Action Groups report monthly to the Executive Board. Quarterly meetings between LAUC leadership and the UCLAS Coordinating Committee have included discussion of the role of the LAUC representatives in soliciting volunteers for project teams. These discussions will be ongoing as we seek to refine the roles and responsibilities of the LAUC representatives, and provide mechanisms for timely input.

SLASIAC

Cynthia Johnson (LAUC-I) concluded a three-year term as LAUC representative to SLASIAC. Her report to the Spring Assembly is available at <http://lauc.ucop.edu/representatives/>. Susan Koskinen (LAUC-B) was selected as the new LAUC representative.

UCOP Transition to APP

Vice Provost Susan Carlson's leadership and support for LAUC (and other programs) moved from temporary to permanent effective July 1, 2014 as she assumed leadership of the newly created Department of Academic Personnel and Programs (APP). I end my term as President with confidence that LAUC's relationship with UCOP will continue to be collegial and productive.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Robinson
LAUC President, 2013-14