

LAUC Librarians Association of the University of California

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO • SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

A Message from LAUC President Matt Conner

Greetings LAUC members. We are about to complete half of the academic year, and during this holiday season we would like to pause to update the membership on our many different initiatives, recognize our accomplishments, acknowledge extraordinary contributions, and provide a look ahead into the Spring which will see the completion of some important projects.

Membership Issue

LAUC is assessing its very identity as it considers revising its own membership bylaws. A membership report released in September explained how this has come about from the rapid change in our professional environment. As a result of feedback and historical research by the Executive Board, a strategic vision for LAUC has emerged to frame our membership question. In the beginning, at LAUC's founding in 1968, the librarian series was synonymous with professional library work and constituted the sole source of professional advice. Since that time, changes in demographics, economics, and technology have introduced new types of staff and new types of work, and a gap has opened up between the full scope of library work and the LAUC membership which now represents one part of it. The task facing LAUC now is to address and/or close this gap so that LAUC remains an important contributor to UC libraries. Three directions have emerged.

- Expanding the librarian series by redefining it and/or increasing its compensation to make it the universal library professional class.
- Changing the LAUC membership bylaws to incorporate new staff types (more below).
- Changing LAUC policies to coordinate it with other parts of the library.

Continued, Page 2

Contents

Membership Issue, 2
Position Papers, 3
R&PD Committee, 3
Website Revision, 4
Spring Assembly, 4



System-wide Advising

With the new advisory structure now in its second year of operation, LAUC is expanding its role in system-level advising. LAUC is working collaboratively with the University of California Libraries Advisory Structure (UCLAS) Coordinating Committee to keep LAUC updated on system-level activities

1. LAUC will be proposing topics for the UCLAS webinars series (underway)
2. Strategic Action Group (SAG) LAUC representatives will be contributing monthly blog posts to the new UCLAS blog (to begin in the spring)
3. LAUC will facilitate distribution of UCLAS meeting minutes and bi-monthly reports (continuing from last year)

The Coordinating Committee has recently posted, "[UC Libraries Advisory Structure: September–December 2014 Highlights](#)" which includes updates from all Strategic Action Groups and the Collection Licensing Subgroup.

Continued, Page 2

Membership Issue, Continued from Page 1

LAUC By-Laws and the Committee on Professional Governance (CPG)

The CPG has been charged with drafting recommendations on change to the bylaws. Special thanks is due to Mitchell Brown (UCI) Past President of LAUC who continues his extraordinary service as Chair of the CPG, leading it in this challenging and crucial task. The CPG presents the following summary of its work:

Committee on Professional Governance (CPG) Report

Submitted: Mitchell Brown (chair)

The Committee on Professional Governance (CPG) is in the early stages of meeting to implement its charge, which was received on November 7. The discussions on the LAUC Executive Board list have encouraged the CPG members to discuss the membership report and language in the LAUC bylaws for definitions of membership and aspects related to the organization.

CPG is currently looking at the title of new or reconfigured positions in the UC Libraries and affiliated units that are currently not covered in the LAUC bylaws. This will involve gathering job titles and associated job duties or work activities.

Another aspect under review is the types of new job duties being recruited and filled in the UC Libraries that extend beyond language in the LAUC bylaws. These positions include work by computer analysts, hands-on production facilities (e.g., 3-D printing, on-demand printing), data, digital projects, GIS, assessment and evaluation, planning and development (fundraising), and marketing/advertising. In consultation with Dean Rowan, LAUC Parliamentarian, the CPG will consider the feasibility of changing the membership bylaws.

Timeline

*February - A draft of the CPG's recommendations will be circulated for the membership's feedback.

*March - The revised recommendations will be discussed by the LAUC Assembly, consisting of campus delegates in a series of virtual meetings.

*April - Discussion continues during the Annual Assembly at UCSD.

*May - Membership votes to adopt the recommendations during our annual vote. Approval of the recommendations requires a 2/3 majority.

Advising, Continued from Page 1

In September, LAUC responded, along with all the campuses and existing collection groups, to a call for input from UCLAS Strategic Action Group 3: Collection Building & Management (SAG3) on a proposal to consolidate bibliography groups into topic areas. LAUC resisted the idea, citing the efficiency of the old system and potential problems with the new system, and the proposal is being reconsidered. Read the recent [UCLAS blog](#) for the latest on the Bibliographer groups.

In November, LAUC sent feedback to UCOP on a draft of revisions to the Academic Personnel Manual (APM) sections that had to do with libraries. UCOP restricted the draft to the LAUC Executive Board, but a revised draft will be made available to the entire membership in the Spring. Special thanks to Adam Siegel (UCD), Miki Goral (UCLA) and Lise Snyder (UCLA) for their expert advice to the Board for this report.

At the request of UCOP, LAUC is preparing comments on the Open Access (OA) Policy for University Authors. This new policy, which covers publications by librarians, closely matches the one passed for members of the Academic Senate last year. Like its predecessor, the new policy requires publications to be sent to public depositories but allows waivers of the policy and embargoes on publication. No significant problems have been found yet with the policy. The draft with the comments of the LAUC Executive Board have been transmitted to the membership. Comments are welcome to be sent either to Division Chairs or the LAUC President, Matt Conner, at mconner@ucdavis.edu by January 7. The Executive Board will send a final report to UCOP by January 15.

Position Paper

LAUC has five position papers that are long overdue for update after 12 years.

<http://lauc.ucop.edu/about/>

Of these, number 5, which discusses the academic librarian, is being studied as germane to our membership issue; the remainder will be considered after the issue has been resolved. Guidelines sent to the membership in the Fall suggest that Position Paper 5, reflecting an earlier era, successfully defines librarianship as a profession different from staff work. But the paper does not speak to the presence of other types of professionals working in the library and their relationship to librarians. This is the major issue to be addressed in a revision of the paper as well as our membership discussion. LAUC hopes to discuss this matter with CoUL in the Spring.



*Production of the latest edition of LAUC
Position Paper No.5, circa 2002*

Research & Professional Development Committee (RPD)

This year of grant funding represents a new epoch due largely to the efforts of Past President Nick Robinson (UCB). Two years ago, Nick chaired a committee which recommended two changes: Funds would be transferred from UCOP to LAUC for direct disbursement and rather than one call for the academic year in January, there would be one call in September and one in January. UCOP approved, and the changes go into effect this year. The response in grant applications has been exceptional, and the RPD is in the process of awarding grants for much of the available funds. Thanks to the Chair of RPD, Vice-President Diane Mizrahi (UCLA), for guiding the committee through this inaugural year of change and doing approximately double the work of previous committees with two calls. And thanks to all applicants for grant funding. This is an affirmation of LAUC's academic character that we are deliberating on now.



The home of research!

Website Revision

LAUC is in the final stages of completing a brand new website. The groundwork was laid in the previous academic year when LAUC agreed with CoUL on the importance of finding new ways to support librarians. The website was identified as a tool for communication outside of LAUC to other parts of the profession and inside to share information about new programs and exceptional LAUC members. Special thanks is due to Julie Lefevre (UCB), the LAUC webmaster, who has worked across two LAUC Boards on this project. She produced a report outlining the need for a new website that is more interactive with its audience and more capable. She and her Ad Hoc committee on the website have found a site designer and are working on building the new site which may include the following features.

- Meet the Members: profiles of exceptional members
- Membership lists by campus
- Links to other professional organizations
- Section for UCLAS communication

The new website is scheduled for release in February

Spring Assembly

The annual LAUC Assembly, which rotates among the 10 UC campuses, will be held this year at UCSD on Friday, April 17. Thanks to Penny Coppennoll-Blach, Chair of LAUC-SD, for making the arrangements on campus. The tentative agenda is as follows.

10-11am LAUC Business meeting

11-12pm Delegate discussion of CPG Recommendations on membership

12-1pm Lunch

1-2pm Topic of interest

2-3pm Topic of interest

Topics for the afternoon session are currently being considered from suggestions from the evaluation of last year's Assembly and some others. Members may suggest topics to their Division Chairs or to the LAUC President, Matt Conner, mconner@ucdavis.edu. Topics should be sent by the next LAUC Exec Board meeting on January 15, and the selection will take place shortly after.

In Closing:

Again many thanks to all the contributors to LAUC's work this quarter which include too many individuals to mention here. The LAUC Executive Board sends its sincere wishes for an enjoyable holiday season to the membership. We look forward to a productive spring where LAUC will assess itself to build on the strengths of the past and point to the future.

The LAUC Newsletter
Written and compiled by Matt
Conner, LAUC president
Design by Carla Arbagey, LAUC-R



Visit LAUC Online
<http://lauc.ucop.edu>