

Notes for University Library Council (ULC) Meeting
Friday, November 1, 2019
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Hornbake Library, 4th Floor (meet at elevators in lobby)

1. Hornbake/Special Collections Overview

Doug McElrath, Director of Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA), was a guest of the ULC. He gave a brief overview of Hornbake Library and SCUA, which included comments about SCUA's role in supporting research and scholarship; getting involved in many scholarly initiatives driven by partnerships with different organizations such as MITH, NPR, and the National Diet Library of Japan; and exhibiting materials that might not normally be seen, like the MPT exhibit. SCUA is also very involved in the teaching mission in the university and they have seen growth in that area as they continue to collaborate with instructors. University Archives is positioning itself to reach out to student groups and help preserve the broader history of the university. We are currently working on digitizing the Libraries' seven linear miles of collections to increase discoverability and access, but this has to be done strategically. The nature of research is changing so we have to keep materials that are relevant and accessible, and make them discoverable, usable, and preserve them.

2. Publishing, Access and Contract Terms Group (UMD PACT) Charge, Structure, and Membership (see prework)

ULC members discussed the idea and preliminary draft charge for a new working work that is proposed to address publishing, access, and contract terms for UMD's licensed content. As background, ULC discussed MIT Libraries' new framework and the situation with the University of California and Elsevier. The charge of the PACT group is to review the current situation, consult with faculty and administration, and consider publishing models available and recommend a new framework.

Since the last ULC meeting Adriene Lim met with the UMD Senate chair and director and they suggested working within the ULC structure and making UMD PACT a sub-group of ULC. The proposal is to form this group and produce a report that could be endorsed by the senate, administrative stakeholders, and others.

Nadine Sahyoun affirmed that researchers and faculty need to be involved in this process. Brian Butler agreed – this is getting at dissemination of research, equity, status, ranks and promotion. Mack pointed out that this is not just a money issue, because money cannot solve it. There has to be a fundamental change in the relationship between researchers and the dissemination of research. Members of this committee expressed the need for intense education to learn about the situation, and find people who have special interest and expertise in this.

Brian and others expressed their support for the creation of this subgroup or working group that is composed of members of ULC and others as drafted. A straw poll affirmed that all members present agreed with the creation of the group. Laura Dugan noted her opinion that this needs to

be treated as a crisis, and not acting would be detrimental to the university. We have to act now because the pace of change will never be as slow as it is today. We need representation from faculty affairs on this committee – we could try to get on the January Senate meeting. Dan Mack will give a brief presentation on the collections budget at the next ULC meeting.