

Committee on Library & Scholarly Communications (LSC)
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday November 19, 2025

Present: J. Genereux (Chair)
A. Denny-Brown
V. Saragadam
M. Carreras
A. Bekker
E. Casillas
A. Parra Rios
M. Hosoi, University Librarian

Absent: B. Lattu

Guests: T. Moxham, Interim University Librarian

Discussion & Action:

Chair Genereux called the meeting to order with the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting on Wednesday October 15, 2025. The minutes were approved as presented.

UCOLASC Update:

Chair Genereux provided an update from the UCOLASC meeting that occurred on October 31, 2025. The meeting's agenda included discussion about the California Digital Library, highlighting its recent completion of a 7-month project to create an online archive of California. He noted the library's financial challenges and those across the UC system, which could impact shared resources.

Tiffany (interim University Librarian) and Mihoko (University Librarian) emphasized that cuts are being made carefully to balance budget constraints with maintaining essential resources, while Mihoko noted that UCR's library, despite being ranked 111th out of 118 ARL libraries, has access to rich UC-wide resources. Joseph also shared positive updates about ongoing negotiations with Elsevier, including efforts to make open access the default option for faculty publications. He also shared the establishment of a new director position to oversee system-wide library facilities and coordinate the reduction of redundant materials.

The committee discussed the evolving role of academic libraries in the digital age, with the University Librarian explaining that while libraries are shifting towards digital resources, they still maintain significant physical collections, especially for special collections and course reserves. The discussion highlighted the ongoing challenge of balancing digital and physical resources while managing limited budgets, with the library continuing to adapt by recruiting librarians with diverse backgrounds, including technology and research expertise. The library committee also discussed the importance of physical books, particularly considering AI and ChatGPT's impact on student writing.

Review Item: UCR's WASC Self -Study and Institutional Report for Reaffirmation

The committee discussed the self-study and noted that while the report mentions library hiring, it doesn't adequately highlight student publishing or library contributions to student success. Chair Genereux will prepare the response for the committee to review and edit prior to submission.

Review Item: Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy IMT-1300: Information Technology Accessibility

The committee then discussed the accessibility requirements mentioning the significant impact of needing to make all digital resources accessible by April 2026, with interim and current University Librarian confirming this would require substantial work but was manageable with proper planning. The library's plan is to address accessibility requirements for digital content, with an appointed webmaster and subcommittee to handle web content. The library has already conducted assessments and is working on a system-wide approach with other UC libraries, noting that a dashboard from Little Green Forest will be available in January.

UCR Special Collections Research Director open positions Update:

The meeting concluded with a discussion on the status of Special Collections. It was brought to the attention of the committee that there is a fellowship program currently open until Sunday and a director search closing this weekend. Previously there had been an internship program for graduate students, they now offer a fellowship with an educational component, including CV writing, due to changes in the UAW MOU and employment limitations. The fellowship is funded by one-time funding that could not be used for the original internship program.