May 10, 2018

To: Henning Bohn, Chair, UCSB Academic Senate
Cc: Werner Kuhn, Chair, CLIIR
Fr: Kristin Antelman, University Librarian

Re: OA2020

In response to the need for reduced barriers to accessing and reusing knowledge, as well as the untenability of subscription journal costs, the Max Planck Library is coordinating an alliance of universities and research institutes called OA2020. OA2020 is an international initiative with the goal to accelerate the transition of traditional subscription publications to open access.

As of May 2018, six UC campuses\(^1\) have signed the OA2020 Expression of Interest. They join 100+ institutions worldwide that have signed the EoI to date. The expression of interest affirms an institution’s commitment to work toward transforming subscription journals to open access with sustainable business models. Within UC, we are also guided by the Pathways to OA vision, which states UC’s commitment to developing shared strategies to advance open access publishing across all disciplines, through the piloting and adoption of a variety of approaches and campus-specific strategies.

The Committee on Library, Information and Instructional Resources (CLIIR) discussed OA2020 at its May 4 meeting and gave their support for UCSB signing the OA2020 Expression of Interest. By means of this memo, I am requesting that you advance this proposal to the other relevant Senate Councils and Committees to review and discuss. The goal would be to determine whether the Senate is willing to lend its support to UCSB signing the Expression of Interest. What “signing” looks like has taken a variety of forms across UC campuses but typically includes a statement from individuals in one or more of the following roles: the EVC/provost, University Librarian, and Academic Senate representative.

I would be happy to provide any additional documentation or attend Council or Committee meetings where the topic is discussed.

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\(^1\) UCB, UCD, UCSF, UCM, UCR, UCLA