faculty file

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BIANNUAL UPDATE ON NEW SERVICES AND RESOURCES FROM THE UC SAN DIEGO LIBRARIES
Welcome to the Spring 2010 issue of Faculty File. We are pleased in this issue to bring you an interview with Paul Drake, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and a longtime faculty member and former dean and department chair at UC San Diego. As Paul looks toward a much-deserved retirement in fall 2010, I know I echo the sentiments of many UCSD colleagues when I say I am very sad to see him go. Paul, who has served the university so admirably and in so many important ways, truly understands this institution and the pivotal role of the faculty—as well as the Libraries—in keeping the machine that is UCSD humming. We have all benefitted greatly from his insight, his knowledge, and his support. I wish him the very best as he transitions to a new phase in the coming months.

This issue of Faculty File sheds light on some of the people at the Libraries who are having a major impact in terms of the services and resources the Libraries provide to faculty. Melissa Just, the new director of the Biomedical Library, talks about how the service model is evolving at the Libraries, benefiting the faculty and supporting the academic mission in new and substantive ways. In addition, Robin Chandler writes about the digital library, and our efforts to build and manage our growing digital collections.

This continues to be a very difficult time for the Libraries as we face still another round of budget cuts. Over the last two years, the Libraries sustained permanent and one-time cuts of more than $6 million—or over 20%—to our operations and collections budgets. We have shortened library hours, consolidated service points, and reduced expenditures for print subscriptions. We also slowed down digitization efforts and reduced instruction and classroom support. Unfortunately, we are again facing sizable budget cuts, and will have no choice but to make even more cuts to our hours, collections, and the support we offer to faculty, students, and other members of the scholarly and external communities. As we work through this difficult process with a focus on preserving those services and resources most essential to fulfilling our academic mission, we continue to welcome your feedback.

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The archives were built with a new Web Archiving Service (WAS) developed by the CDL, which has enabled UCSD and other UC librarians to capture, curate, and preserve Web sites for the benefit of faculty researchers, students, and the general public. New archives are continually being developed and will be accessible to the public along with the current archives. The WAS used to create and deliver the archives relies on a number of open-source tools, developed by the Internet Archive, with the support of the International Internet Preservation Consortium.

“The WAS allows scholars and other users to both access the archives and search and analyze the contents in ways they could not do on the live Web,” said Roger Smith, the UCSD administrator for the project and the manager of preservation at the UCSD Libraries. “To date, UCSD and UC librarians, along with other university librarians, have produced twenty-one Web archives on WAS, which include approximately 1020 Web sites, nearly sixty-eight million documents, and 4.2 terabytes of data.”

While the Internet has both revolutionized our access to information and greatly expanded the amount of information that can be accessed, Web sites routinely change, move, or disappear with little or no notice. This means that important information is at risk unless steps are taken to preserve it. This ephemeral quality of the Web poses serious challenges for scholars and researchers.

In the past, a political science professor studying a political campaign or a series of elections might have collected campaign direct mail pieces and other printed literature. With a great deal of political campaign activity migrating to the Web, efforts to capture these materials and their contents on a timely basis can be challenging. The Obama presidential campaign, for example, was
New Director of Biomedical Library Urges More Integrated Library Role

In the academic library of the future, Melissa Just envisions a more embedded approach in which librarians will work much more closely with the faculty they serve to support and advance research, patient care, and instruction. Just, who joined the UC San Diego Libraries in fall 2009 as director of the Biomedical Library, is already working towards that vision as UCSD’s biomedical librarians become more integrated into the curriculum of UCSD’s School of Medicine, which is revamping its curriculum for fall 2010.

“We are really working toward more integration into the day-to-day functioning of the academic units we serve,” said Just. “This includes serving and meeting the information needs of faculty and staff where they work, as well as co-teaching with faculty and providing guidance on critical task teams.”

According to Just, at the School of Medicine, UCSD librarians like Karen Heskett are working closely with the curriculum coordinators to help incorporate information resources and searching skills into the new curriculum. At the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest, librarian Mary Wickline works hand-in-hand with nurses and their research teams to support evidence-based practice, an important component in the Medical Center’s efforts to obtain nursing Magnet status, a highly coveted accreditation. Like many medical centers, UCSD seeks the “Excellence in Nursing Service” accreditation to boost its competitiveness in retaining and recruiting nurses.

At the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS), librarian Sue McGuinness, who holds a Ph.D in chemistry, co-teaches a pharmacy informatics class and has also co-edited the first textbook on pharmacy informatics with SSPPS faculty. McGuinness also serves on the school’s admissions committee.

Before joining the UCSD Libraries, Just worked as the director of the Graff Medical & Scientific Library at City of Hope, a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center. She has also held librarian positions at USC’s Norris Medical Library, Childrens Hospital Los Angeles Library, and UC San Francisco’s Kalmanovitz Library.

UCSD’s Biomedical Library, a designated National Library of Medicine Resource Library, is the largest library of its kind south of Los Angeles. As director, Just oversees the services and collections of the library—known as Biomed—and its branch Medical Center Library, which support the teaching, research, and patient care programs of the University’s School of Medicine, the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the Division of Biological Sciences, and the UCSD Health System. The Biomedical Library also serves as the main intellectual resource for San Diego’s dynamic biotechnology and life sciences hub.

Just, who has authored several peer-reviewed articles, holds a Doctor of Education (EdD) degree from the University of Southern California and a Master of Library & Information Science (MLIS) degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She received a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Psychobiology from UC Riverside. A member of the Medical Library Association and the Special Libraries Association, Just has co-authored a guide for librarians and information professionals on plug-ins and other Web browser tools.

To view the Web archives go to: http://webarchives.cdlib.org

This is really a collection-building opportunity for faculty. Faculty should feel free to meet with the bibliographer for their academic specialty to discuss the possibility of building an archive, just as they might have done to discuss the development of a physical collection.

Melissa Just
Director, Biomedical Library
UC San Diego Libraries

Conducted primarily online, and will go down in history as the first presidential campaign to fully utilize email communications—as well as social network sites like Facebook and Twitter—to connect with younger audiences.

According to Annelle Sklar, who participated in the UC and UCSD Libraries’ efforts to build the 2007 California wildfires archive and is currently building the swine flu epidemic archive, the ephemeral nature of the Web and the staggering amount of data and images that reside on it, poses challenges to scholars as well as consumers trying to conduct serious research. Web sites and other digital information are changed and updated constantly, with the average life span of a Web site estimated to be less than three months. Changing file and hardware formats also render many digital documents obsolete in less than four years.

“Tools like the WAS give us the ability to preserve important elements of our cultural history,” said Sklar. “When important historical events such as Hurricane Katrina or 9/11 take place, we can see public reactions unfold via blogs, personal Web sites, and other Internet outlets, giving us a very valuable window into popular culture. All of these materials will serve as essential resources for scholars and researchers for years to come.”

While faculty can benefit from having access to the archives created thus far, they can also consult with the appropriate bibliographer (subject specialist) for their area to discuss the development of archive projects to directly support their research.

“This is really a collection-building opportunity for faculty,” said Smith. “Faculty should feel free to meet with the bibliographer for their academic specialty to discuss the possibility of building an archive, just as they might have done to discuss the development of a physical collection.”
**Paul Drake**

Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

**Q.** After serving as UC San Diego’s Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for nearly three years, you have announced that you plan to retire in fall 2010. Any thoughts about the Libraries and the opportunities and challenges they face at this point in time?

**A.** I think the campus is really trying to redefine its future, as are the Libraries. How do we continue to be great with fewer dollars? In spite of the budget issues, I think the Libraries are in good shape because they have a strong foundation—thanks to the excellent leadership of Brian Schottlaender—and are already going through a strategic planning process that will help them in rethinking the Libraries’ future.

**Q.** You have known and interfaced with the Libraries in many ways: As a faculty member, a dean, and a senior vice chancellor in a position of authority over the Libraries. Any interesting or surprising experiences along the way or perspectives on how the Libraries do or have done things?

**A.** The Libraries at UCSD are known for their innovative approach and for being on the cutting-edge among academic libraries. In this regard, they very much reflect the university and its ethos. I consider the Libraries to be a model unit at UCSD; their culture is very participatory and bottom-up. What has surprised me is the extent to which the Libraries have become a global enterprise, with international partners and collaborators. What impresses me most is that they are ever evolving, and going beyond the norm by playing a leading role in UC and campuswide initiatives, such as research cyberinfrastructure and digitization.

**Q.** As the Libraries have entered the digital age, how do you think their role has changed as a purveyor of intellectual resources and consulting services to the faculty? Do you think the nature of research has changed and if so, what does that mean for the Libraries?

**A.** While their mission has not changed, the way they provide resources and consult with faculty has changed notably, largely due to the Internet and the availability of digital resources. These factors have also altered the nature of research, in many ways for the better. I remember many years ago when I was conducting research on various countries in Latin America. I would have to personally visit each country in order to obtain the data I needed. Now, I could accomplish the same thing with a few clicks of a mouse. Of course, the Libraries’ role as resource and knowledge experts is probably more important than it ever was because the amount of data out there is mind-boggling.

**Q.** The University of California and UC San Diego continue to be faced with serious budgetary challenges. What do you think this means for the Libraries in 2010–11 and beyond that?

**A.** Unfortunately, we are in a multiyear adjustment in terms of our budget. The bottom line is the state is taking away a good chunk of our funding. Our financial cuts really reflect a twenty-five-year national and California trend in dwindling state resources for higher education. And, the current international economic crisis only exacerbates the situation. The Libraries have already taken some pretty hefty budget cuts so I think we need to do all we can to mitigate future reductions. But, like other units, the Libraries are faced with some tough choices about space, services, and other factors. They are at a fork in the road and are being very strategic about how they move forward. Also, raising extramural funds has become more important than ever, for the Libraries as well as other campus units.

**Q.** Any last thoughts about the academic enterprise at UCSD as you contemplate retirement? What would you like to be remembered for?

**A.** I had hoped to be overseeing the last major stage of growth at UCSD. Unfortunately, I have had to preside over the worst budget crunch in the university’s history. I only hope my guidance and knowledge are helping to cushion things a little bit in what is a very difficult and painful time for UCSD. In spite of our current financial challenges, I am confident that UCSD will emerge as a stronger and even more creative enterprise.

As for retirement, I’m initially looking forward to decompressing, relaxing, and spending more time with my family.
The public access interface, which is built upon the Libraries’ locally developed digital asset management system, will provide Web access to image, text, and video collections for faculty, students, staff, and members of the public through keyword and advanced searching, as well as faceted browsing.

This summer we will be making more than 22,000 digital images publicly accessible from the Libraries’ Dr. Seuss, Baja California, Spanish Civil War, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography collections. We’ve also been working with staff in the Arts Library and our Preservation Department on the digital reformatting of more than 1,500 analog reel-to-reel magnetic tapes from the Center for Music Experiment Archive. This effort will ensure the long-term preservation of these materials and facilitate online access to this rich and unique music collection.

As part of the Libraries’ contributions to UCSD’s 50th anniversary, we have been working with Mandeville Special Collections Library staff on the digitization of photographs and student newspapers from the UCSD Archives documenting the history of UCSD. These materials will also be made publicly available with the release of the public access interface this summer. In addition, DLP staff have collaborated with the Melanesian archivist on the digitization of several collections from prominent anthropologists and physicians documenting the cultures of the Solomon Islands. These materials will be made accessible through several public Web sites, including the Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance Web site, the California Digital Library’s Calisphere site, and the UCSD Libraries’ public access interface.

Robin Chandler joined the UCSD Libraries in 2008 as the Libraries’ director of the Digital Library Program. Previously, she served as manager of the Online Archive of California for UC’s California Digital Library. She has also held archivist positions at UC San Francisco and Stanford. Chandler holds an MA degree in American History from San Francisco State University and received her MLIS degree from UC Berkeley. She earned a BA degree in Art Studio from UC Davis.

The UCSD Libraries’ Digital Library Program (DLP) encourages, facilitates, and supports the creation, management, delivery, and long-term preservation of digital assets—text, images, audio, and video—to support the Libraries’ efforts to advance research, instruction, and public service. As director of the DLP, I collaborate with a variety of library staff who have expertise in legal issues, grant writing, curatorial subjects, preservation, information technology, Web portal development, and usability assessment. We assemble project teams to tap into this expertise, which is essential in building and managing digital collections.

During the past year, the DLP has been focusing on three areas: production of a public access interface for digital collections; preservation and reformatting of audio magnetic tape recordings; and the scanning of image collections in the Libraries’ Melanesian Archive. We’ve also been digitizing portions of the UCSD Archives for a series of online exhibits in the fall to celebrate UC San Diego’s 50th Anniversary.

The public access interface, which is built upon the Libraries’ locally developed digital asset management system, will provide Web access to image, text, and video collections for faculty, students, staff, and members of the public through keyword and advanced searching, as well as faceted browsing.

faculty file can be viewed online at: http://libraries.ucsd.edu/faculty file
Partnership with MCASD Supports Training and Research in the Arts

The UC San Diego Libraries have formed an innovative partnership with the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD) that is expanding student and faculty access to more than 8,000 visual art catalogues and related materials.

“This partnership is a real win for both institutions and a wonderful extension of the collaboration between MSASD and the Libraries,” said Brian E. C. Schottlaender, The Audrey Geisel University Librarian at UCSD. “The synergies between our institutions are evident and our academic community will surely benefit from this partnership.”

The addition of MCASD materials both strengthens the university’s sizable collection of visual art books and image resources and supports teaching and scholarship in the arts. The transfer of art materials to UCSD integrates access to these catalogues and other materials with all the resources—more than seven million print and electronic items—of the UCSD Libraries.

According to Seth Lerer, dean of Arts and Humanities at UC San Diego, while the MCASD materials are of particular value to scholars and artists in visual arts, interest in the materials is likely to go beyond that. “Since the collection crosses over into sound art, installation, and performance, it is also of interest to students and faculty in Music and Theatre and Dance departments as well, further enhancing trans-disciplinary exchange at UCSD.”

While most graduate art history programs at the university level are housed separately from studio programs, UCSD’s Visual Arts has been committed, since the department’s inception, to research across the boundaries of art practice, history, and theory, said Grant Kester, chair of the Visual Arts Department at UC San Diego.

“Our Visual Arts Department has the largest concentration of faculty in contemporary art history and art practice in the nation. In addition, more than 80 percent of UCSD’s Visual Arts Ph.D. students are pursuing research in modern or contemporary art history. Many of our graduate students and faculty work as art producers as well as historians, theorists, curators, and critics,” said Kester. “This partnership with MCASD enhances UCSD’s status as a magnet for scholars, critics, and curators working in the field of contemporary art history and theory.”

According to Hugh Davies, director of MCASD and an adjunct faculty member of the university’s Visual Arts Department, MCASD’s library has become an institutional archive with materials focused on the Museum’s collection—both texts and images—as well as information on the MCASD’s institutional history, including texts, images, oral history audio tapes, lecture audio, and video tapes.

The UC San Diego art collection will grow annually as MCASD continues to produce between one and three scholarly catalogues each year, and will also provide a number of volumes via the international museum library exchange program.

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SETH LERER

Budget Cuts By the Numbers

Since 2008/09, the Libraries have sustained permanent and one-time budget cuts totaling more than $6 million, or more than 20% of the Libraries’ budget. These cuts include:

Services & Operations: $4.81 million
Collections: $1.21 million

Specifically, the Libraries have:
- Eliminated (or held vacant) positions: 43 (14% reduction)
- Reduced library operations funding: 9%
- Cut library hours: 12%
- Reduced Geisel Library service points: 20%
- Cancelled print journal subscriptions: 750

*In addition to cuts in hours, all the libraries are now closed on campus holidays.

Your feedback on faculty file is welcome

Please send your comments and suggestions to: Dolores Davies, editor ddavies@ucsd.edu or 858.534.0667