



Users Council Meeting 4/22/05

Project Name and URL:

1. eScholarship: <http://repositories.cdlib.org/escholarship/>
2. Office of Scholarly Communication: <http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/>
3. Libraries' scholarly communication program & priorities:
<http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly/>

What's new?

In 2004 the UC Provost established the Office of Scholarly Communication (OSC), which:

- Helps UC find ways to make scholarly communication effective and economically sustainable
- Facilitates internal partnerships among the UC libraries, faculty, administration and, where appropriate, in concert with entities outside UC
- Studies and shares new information about the issues (see, for example, a new Mellon report on UC authorship rates and copyright attitudes at <http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/responses/activities.html>)

The OSC also houses the eScholarship program, which supports experimentation in the production and dissemination of scholarship. eScholarship's publications program:

- Partners with UC Press to produce digital books (nearly 1500 titles now available)
- Has added "postprint" and seminar services to the eScholarship Repository
- The Repository has had over 1 million downloads since opening (now at about 30,000 downloads a week)

Who is doing it on the campuses and how?

The UC University Librarians established a group of Scholarly Communication Officers to help form and implement library strategies and actions. These people serve as, or work with, eScholarship liaisons.

Currently the group is:

- Writing a "copyright toolkit" to explain and advise faculty on retaining copyright in their scholarly materials
- Working with collection development officers to assist with strategies for UC to use its buying power to influence the scholarly publishing marketplace
- Advising on UC's investments in things like the Public Library of Science; building expertise; developing and sharing outreach materials for their library staff, faculty, and other campus principals

Why should you care?

Scholarly communication activities may directly affect the academic life of the UC community and its partners by:

- Resisting the hyper-inflated prices of scholarly publications, potentially through actions that could affect the amount of commercially produced content available at UC and/or increase the amount of "open access" content
- Engaging the faculty in the issues to the point that faculty change their behavior, and begin, for example, to publish in new ways and venues, to request or expect copyright advice and other forms of publishing assistance, to rely on new forms of scholarship and access such as through eScholarship and other institutional repositories
- Creating a test ground for new or expanded library and librarian roles as curators, publishers, and caretakers of UC-produced content

Who should I tell when I get home?