March 14, 2014

To: Jose Wudka, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: James Baldwin, Chair  
Committee on Physical Resources Planning

Re: Library Strategic Plan

The Committee on Physical Resources Planning reviewed the UCR Libraries Strategic Plan at its meeting on March 12, 2014. The strategic plan addresses themes pertinent to the Academic Senate Physical Resources Committee with regard to a proposal for improved learning spaces intended to promote greater interdisciplinary interaction. The committee supports these improvements but felt the plan did not explain to what extent availability of existing meeting space is currently limiting fostering such interdisciplinary interaction. The committee notes that there is a lot of existing physical space available which is rarely used, for example in the Orbach Library. The strategic plan does not address how to most effectively utilize or repurpose these existing space to meet the strategic goals.

While not specifically physical, the library proposal to be a centralized resource to aid in data management relevant to museum and specimen curation is considered a positive step that will impact a number of collections across the campus. In some cases improved database resources and expertise on this campus will support such collections to be more competitive for national funding.