



December 17, 2014

To: Jose Wudka, Chair
Riverside Division

From: David Lo, Chair
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Lo".

RE: Proposed new UC policy on Open Access

The Graduate Council discussed the implications of extending the open access policy to non-Academic Senate members. In our discussion it was noted that while work performed at the university is a work product that is appropriate for depositing in a digital repository, it might be considered important that all such work be entered under a default category for embargo for a period specifically requested from each scholar upon depositing material. In this way, while all work performed at the university is expected to be deposited in a repository; an implicit assumption is that it would require a conscious decision to release the work for open access. This strategy would help serve two purposes: it recognizes both the scholar's requirements to deposit work in a digital repository, as in the case of work performed as a degree requirement, and recognizes the scholar's control over the release of information prior to publication in an appropriate setting, whether it be as a scientific journal article or as an original independent publication or book. Moreover, this approach would help prevent inadvertent public access of material; the conscious choice to provide open access has to be made at the time of deposit. This may also remind the author that they also have the option to fully opt out of the policy at that time.