This academic year has started with some outstanding news for the UC San Diego Library and faculty members, students, and other members of the campus community who rely on our services and resources.

A few months before the fall quarter began, we announced that San Diego philanthropist, literacy advocate, and longtime supporter of the Library, Audrey Geisel, made a generous $3 million gift to renovate the main (2nd floor) of Geisel Library, the most actively used space in the Library. The gift kicks off the Geisel Library Revitalization Initiative (GLRI), a major initiative to upgrade the interior public spaces of our flagship building, which will enable us to meet the evolving technology, learning, and research needs of faculty, students, and other Library users. While Audrey’s gift will support the revitalization of the main floor public spaces, we hope to raise additional funds to support renovation efforts in the public spaces on the 1st and 8th floors of the buildings as well.

This gift will support the reconfiguration of the building’s entrance and lobby, a significant upgrade to the existing Learning Commons, and the development of a new Research Commons. Upgrades will include technology enhancements, as well as new furniture, carpeting and finishes. The first step in these efforts is the construction of a new café and lounge, which will be located in the east wing of Geisel, north of the existing Learning and Overnight Study Commons. Construction will begin in December, after the close of fall quarter, and we expect that the café’s doors will open in spring 2016. We will be communicating more about the café and lounge in winter 2016.

Another significant and positive change on the horizon is the University’s Teaching + Learning Commons, which will be moving to Geisel Library in fall 2016. Over the last several months, we have been engaged in discussions with Gabriele Wienhausen, director of The Commons, and her staff, about future collaborations, synergies, space and programmatic issues. I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Gabriele on many campus issues over the years. We look forward to partnering with her and The Commons on a variety of collaborative efforts to support teaching and learning. An article about The Commons appears in this issue and I will report more as plans unfold.

With Best Regards,

Brian E. C. Schottlaender
The Audrey Geisel University Librarian

Roger Smith is the director of the Library’s Digital Library Development Program (DLDP), which works in collaboration with others in the Library to develop Library digital collections. These are digitized and born digital materials made accessible to faculty and other members of the campus community, as well as the public: library.ucsd.edu/dc. While the DLDP focuses on digital collections developed from Library holdings, the repository where digitized materials are preserved (known as the DAMS, or Digital Asset Management System) also contains research data curation data sets, faculty research preserved and made available by the Library.

While in the past, the Library was fortunate to have had several significant collections digitized by Google, one focus of the DLDP is the primary resource materials housed in Mandeville Special Collections. According to Roger Smith, more than 200,000 manuscripts, photographs, audio and moving image recordings, posters, ephemera and other unique and often rare items have been digitized and are now accessible online.

“I welcome input from faculty on building digital collections…”

Smith provides project management for these collection-building efforts,” said Smith. “Our work starts at the project proposal stage and support continues through the digitization and description processes, the ingest of the digitized items into our DAMS, and on through promotional activities and use analysis. Digitization includes work done in the Library using expertise for still image, audio, film and video formats, as well as through coordinating outsourcing to vendors.”

As digital technologies continue to advance at a rapid pace, new opportunities and challenges emerge in the Library world. Smith is continuously surveying these advances to determine how best to prioritize and streamline the digitization process, and

Roger Smith
Director of the Library’s
Digital Library Development Program

FROM THE KEYBOARD OF
brian e.c. schottlaender
Among the many positive changes on the horizon for the UC San Diego Library is the relocation of the university’s recently launched Teaching + Learning Commons to Geisel Library, which is planned for fall 2016. Construction for The Commons space, which will occupy approximately 10,000 square feet on the first floor of Geisel West, is expected to begin in the spring.

The Teaching + Learning Commons (The Commons) was established to further UC San Diego’s Strategic Plan goal to become a more student-centered university. UC San Diego is investing $8 million to create a new physical space for The Commons in Geisel Library to provide services for undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral scholars and faculty to enhance teaching and learning.

The Commons comprises two units: the Center for Engaged Learning—which includes the Office for Online and Technology Enhanced Education—and the Center for Engaged Teaching. The two units will work synergistically, integrating existing activities, and launching new initiatives to energize teaching and learning on campus.

Given the central role the Library plays in supporting and advancing faculty and student research, as well as learning, The Commons and Library staff is anticipating a number of collaborations that will further strengthen services and programs for faculty, students, and scholars. “We are very excited about the opportunities to partner with The Commons on projects to maximize the educational benefits to our faculty, students and scholars,” said University Librarian Brian Schottlaender. “The many synergies that exist between the Library and The Commons truly make this new arrangement a win-win for both organizations, as well as for the academic community.”

The Teaching + Learning Commons was established to further UC San Diego’s Strategic Plan goal to become a more student-centered university. We are thrilled that Geisel Library will soon be our home... Collaborating with the Library on some of our initiatives both makes a great deal of sense and it is likely to result in much better and more effective outcomes.”

Gabriele Wienhausen was appointed last spring to serve as the Teaching + Learning Commons’ faculty director by Suresh Subramani, executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs. According to Wienhausen, she envisions a wide range of offerings, such as workshops, training and educational innovation grants, as well as online courses and programs designed to support and increase the effectiveness of all instructors.

While the campus has established The Commons to accelerate and advance teaching and learning among faculty and students, another driving factor is the need to better prepare students for the workplace. This reflects the values expressed in the university’s Strategic Plan, to be “a student-centered, research-focused, service-oriented university” that equips students to become “creative, solution-oriented leaders” adept at innovating in a diverse and interconnected world.

“We are thrilled that Geisel Library will soon be our home,” said Wienhausen. “Our students and faculty will greatly benefit from some of our services and programs being more integrated and centrally located. Collaborating with the Library on some of our initiatives both makes a great deal of sense and it is likely to result in much better and more effective outcomes.”

A faculty member in Biological Sciences since 1987, Wienhausen has held a number of important leadership positions at the University over the last few decades, including serving as founding provost of Sixth College. Most recently, she served as associate dean for education for the Division of Biological Sciences, where, since 2007, she provided strategic leadership on educational initiatives for the division.

For more information about the Teaching + Learning Commons visit: commons.ucsd.edu.
Eric Bakovic is a professor of Linguistics at UC San Diego and has been a member of the Department of Linguistics faculty since 2000. He specializes in phonology and phonological theory, and has presented and published broadly on related topics. He was the recipient of the UC San Diego Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award in 2006, and has also received awards and grant funding for various research projects. Bakovic is also the director of graduate studies for the department, and teaches courses on phonology, phonetics, and sociolinguistics, to undergraduates as well as graduate students.

Bakovic has been a member of the UC San Diego Academic Senate Committee on Library since 2013, and currently serves as Chair (2014–16). He has also been the San Diego representative on the UC Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication since 2013, and now serves as Chair (2015-16) for that systemwide committee. He received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from Rutgers University and his B.A. in Linguistics with Honors from UC Santa Cruz.

Q. Earlier this fall, you sent an announcement to the members of the UC San Diego Academic Senate about a new publication management system (from the UC California Digital Library) designed to facilitate implementation of UC’s Open Access (OA) Policy, adopted in 2013. Can you describe the policy and the benefits of this publication management system?

A. The OA Policy requires that scholarly articles authored by UC Academic Senate faculty be made freely available online. The scholarly articles affected (and legally covered) by the policy are those for which publication agreements were signed after the adoption of the policy on July 24, 2013. (For more details on the policy, please visit uc-oa.info.)

There are essentially two ways to comply with the policy: by publishing in an Open Access journal, or by archiving a copy of the author’s final, pre-publication version (a “postprint”) in an Open Access repository. In either case, the article must be registered in the California Digital Library’s eScholarship repository. This is where the benefits of the publication management system are felt. The system identifies UC faculty-authored articles and sends automated, semi-regular email notifications to faculty to “claim” those articles. This system also provides two mechanisms for registering the article in eScholarship—either provide a link to a published or archived Open Access version of the article, or upload a postprint to eScholarship.

Q. Three of the UC campuses—including UCLA—implemented the new publication management system last year. What can we learn or what should we know based on their experiences?

A. We’ve learned from the other UC campuses that the publication management system does indeed facilitate and increase compliance with the policy. Those campuses (their respective Libraries and Senate Library committees) have made significant efforts to spread the word about the policy and to make additional resources available. Our own Library and Library committee have done the same, so we expect our compliance rates to be at least as good as those of the first three campuses.

Q. This fall, the UC Office of the President issued a “Presidential OA Policy,” which applies to all non-Senate UC employees. How significant a development is this latest OA policy and what do you expect its impact will be?

A. The two policies combined cover nearly all scholarly articles authored by most UC employees, which is a much larger—and more heterogeneous set—than the Senate faculty. Like the Senate policy, a lot will depend on educating the different groups impacted by the new Presidential policy, and on this new policy’s implementation. The good news is that an implementation strategy is already in place for the Senate policy, and it is being adapted to facilitate compliance with the Presidential policy.

Q. How often are articles in eScholarship being accessed?

A. The eScholarship repository has been around a long time, and faculty across the UC campuses have been using it for everything from posting working papers to archiving postprints to managing peer-reviewed journals. Overall, articles on eScholarship are accessed at a very high rate, and—perhaps more importantly—that access is truly global. It may be too early to tell how often articles posted for OA policy compliance are being accessed given that the policy was only adopted just over two years ago and its implementation has rolled out in stages.

Q. You have recently been appointed chair of the UC Academic Senate University Committee on Library & Scholarly Communication. While OA is clearly on your radar screen, what other important issues do you expect the committee might be addressing?

A. One issue that is somewhat related to OA is the increasing costs of journal subscriptions. The costs involved in paying for journal subscriptions—and the electronic access that many of us take for granted—are enormous and ever-growing. Library budgets can’t keep pace with those costs.

Another issue is physical space, as both of UC’s regional Library facilities are nearing capacity. A multifaceted approach to this problem—consolidation, digitization, expansion, etc.—is under development.
In October 2015, our new Digital Media Lab (DML) opened its doors to much applause, and since then has been visited by thousands of students, faculty, and staff wanting to learn about and take advantage of the DML’s services. Located on the main floor of Geisel Library, the one-stop shop for media production was opened in response to student and faculty requests for more digital media services in the Library. DML provides the space and technology tools that students, faculty, and other users need to create and edit projects in today’s digital environment.

Along with free 3-D printing, the DML offers video editing software, image manipulation programs, and sound editing tools, as well as media-rich website creation programs and basic productivity software. Library staff with media expertise are on-hand to provide users with needed support and guidance, in addition to extensive online tutorials. The DML is open to all UC San Diego affiliates.

While there are several other digital media facilities available to the UC San Diego community on campus, the Library’s DML is the first facility of its kind to offer free and accessible 3-D printing. According to Digital Media Lab manager, Scott McAvoy, a number of classes on campus already require students to design a 3-D model and print it out as part of their coursework. This lab provides these services free of charge and gives direct access.

The Lab exemplifies how the Library is evolving to meet the changing needs of Library users in today’s media-rich environment. Further plans to upgrade and renovate the interior public spaces of the Geisel Library building are currently in the works, thanks to a recent $3 million gift from San Diego philanthropist, literacy advocate, and longtime supporter of the Library and the University, Audrey Geisel. The gift kicks off a major initiative to transform and revitalize the most active learning areas in the Library to more effectively support the current approaches to study, research, and learning of today’s students and scholars.

To learn more about the Library’s Digital Media Lab, visit library.ucsd.edu/dml. For further information about the Geisel Library Revitalization Initiative, visit library.ucsd.edu/give or contact Julie Sully, Director of Development for the UC San Diego Library at jsully@ucsd.edu or 858-822-4554.

Four UC San Diego undergraduates were awarded the 2015 Undergraduate Library Research Prize earlier this year, in recognition of their skillful library research skills. The annual award, sponsored by the UC San Diego Library, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and the UCSD Alumni Association, recognizes students who have demonstrated exemplary research skills in mining the Library’s rich and diverse information resources and services. Awards are given in two categories: Social Sciences/Arts/Humanities and Life and Physical Sciences. The awards also include a cash prize of $1,000 and $500 for first and second place, respectively.

In the Life and Physical Sciences category, First Prize went to Tiffany Lee for her research on the role that syndecan-1 plays in lipoprotein binding and subsequent uptake in the liver. She was nominated by Dr. Jeffrey Esko, a professor of Cellular and Molecular Medicine. Nelish Ardeshn, nominated by Dr. Beatrice Golumb at the School of Medicine, won Second Prize for his research on the underlying biological mechanisms of EHS.

In the Social Sciences/Arts/Humanities category went to Nhat-Dang Do for his honors thesis focused on the emergence of martial law in Palestine. His advisor was Professor Michael Provence in the Department of History. Second Prize was awarded to Shayla Wilson, nominated by Sociology Professor Christena Turner, for her analysis of laws and legal practices related to violence against women in India, Japan, and the U.S.

Faculty are encouraged to nominate qualified students. For additional information and the criteria for submissions (due May 21, 2016), please visit: lib.ucsd.edu/undergrad-research-prize-2015.
Q: How has the campus climate for OA changed in the past decade? What do you see as the remaining hurdles or misconceptions that are still bubbling out there?

A: I don’t think that people’s attitudes on campus have changed so much, but the landscape around them has changed dramatically. While physical library spaces are still indispensable to any research and teaching university, more and more of our interactions with the Library are electronic. There is now an expectation that wasn’t there a decade ago: If we need access to something, in most cases we can get it instantaneously from almost anywhere. That kind of access comes at an enormous cost that most users of the Library are simply not aware of, and that cost is increasing at an unsustainable pace. The Library has been doing a number of things to stay ahead of this, but there are budgetary limits to its ability to continue to do so. The increased expectation of electronic access has forced the Library to find ways to meet the demand. Increasing awareness of and support for OA has been one of the strategies to address this.

The main remaining hurdle or misconception, I think, is disentangling publication venue from publication value. People still debate the qualitative merits of OA journals vs. subscription journals, erroneously conflating subscription with peer-review and OA with vanity publishing. Quite apart from the (possibly false) dichotomy of the “journal impact factor” and “article-level metrics,” I strongly believe that the balance of hiring, promotion, and tenure decisions should be shifted toward qualitative as opposed to quantitative measures. Just because it’s unclear how to do that doesn’t mean we should be content with the status quo. It’s a hard problem, but one that’s worth working on.

Q: In late October, the entire editorial board of Lingua, a linguistics journal published by Elsevier, resigned. Why did this happen and what do you think is the significance of their action?

A: There was a time, not too long ago, when a subscription to a journal like Lingua was affordable, even for individuals without institutional access. That is no longer the case. Most if not all readers of Lingua are researchers fortunate enough to have institutional access. Linguistics is a relatively small field, so when library budgets shrink and subscription costs go up, journals like Lingua are the first to be on a library’s chopping block. With each decision to cancel a subscription to Lingua, a proportionally large number of Lingua readers loses access.

The editors and editorial board of the former Lingua, who will be producing a new OA journal called Glossa, felt that their relationship with Elsevier was not worth continuing unless the publisher was willing to meet “conditions of equitable and affordable Open Access,” which Elsevier was unwilling to meet. Within the field of linguistics, this is a hugely significant action. All eyes will be on Glossa (as well as on other linguistics journals that have joined it or will have joined it soon) and on the viability of the fair OA model that they are adopting.

More broadly, the action is also significant because of the press that it has been getting. This isn’t the first time that such an action has taken place, but given the relatively small size of our field and our general attitude toward for-profit publishers, it will be interesting to see whether Elsevier will be able to make good on their intent to continue publishing Lingua with new editors and a newly-formed editorial board. I have written about this elsewhere (bit.ly/1HOydpY): Lingua is dead, long live Glossa!