To: All Senate Faculty (via SBFACU-L)

From: Cindy Doherty, Director
Academic Personnel

Re: System-wide review: Presidential Policy on Copyright and Fair Use

Aimee Dorr, Provost and Executive Vice President, has forwarded for system-wide review a proposed revision of a presidential policy on copyright and fair use. The 1986 Policy on the Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials for Teaching and Research has been totally revamped, and renamed the University of California Policy on Copyright and Fair Use. The policy revision was prepared by the SLASIAC Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy with input from the Office of General Counsel’s informal “Copyright Working Group.” It was approved by the University's System-wide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee (http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/slasiac) on October 24, 2013.

The revision was necessary due to changes in law, technology, and academic practices that make the 1986 policy, which specifically addresses photocopying of copyrighted materials, inaccurate and out of line with current practice. With its long descriptions of copyright law and inclusion of outdated guidelines and appendixes, the old policy no longer conforms to UC’s current policy template. Instead of a multipage document, the revised policy is a brief overarching statement. Non-policy material has been removed from the policy itself and made available on the UC Copyright website, where educational materials and additional guidance can be monitored and updated.

In conjunction with the revised policy, a revamped and updated UC Copyright website (http://copyright.universityofcalifornia.edu/) was launched in mid-February. The website will continue to provide guidance for complying with copyright law and general information on copyright and fair use in the academic setting. As the group in charge of maintaining the site, the SLASIAC Standing Subcommittee on Copyright Policy will continue to monitor the information provided on the website and to update it as needed.

The draft revised policy and all background materials may be found online at: (http://libraries.universityofcalifornia.edu/sscp/resources). Comments on the revised University of California Policy on Copyright and Fair Use may be submitted to my attention at the e-mail below, no later than May 16, 2014.