MEMORANDUM:

TO: CSU Council of Library Deans (COLD)

FROM: COLD Resource Sharing and Preservation (CRSP) Task Force

DATE: 10/13/2015

SUBJECT: Resource Sharing and the new Unified Library Management System (ULMS)

On October 9th the CRSP Taskforce met in order to offer COLD an additional perspective on ensuring resource sharing functionality within the new ULMS. Prior to this meeting, the CRSP task force was also surveyed and the general opinion of the task force was that the "ULMS has the potential for several new capabilities for CSU resource sharing" and that "one of the reasons to move on to a modern ULMS is its potential for supporting a CSU-wide and beyond resource sharing system."

During the course of the discussion it was additionally noted that in the original case for the ULMS, it was suggested that it would "give libraries the capacity to manage their individual collections and coordinate loans" (<http://libraries.calstate.edu/ulms/>). And then, even more explicitly within the 'request for proposal' (RFP) for a CSU ULMS, one of the requirements would be that it "facilitates the discovery of books across all 23 CSU campuses and enables resource sharing as if each institution were a member of a single, large, multi-branch library system."

 The CRSP task force therefore recommends that resource sharing functionality is enabled within the ULMS for all of the CSUs. Additionally, it is recommended that the ULMS Access Services & Resource Sharing Working Group coordinate with I-SPIE to determine how resource sharing will operate within the new ULMS (i.e. determine structurally how resource sharing will function as a part of the system).

 Finally, we suggest that the CSU consider drafting a policy (or framework) regarding resource sharing within the ULMS. Though we believe that one isn't required for resource sharing to succeed within the CSU; it would be useful to move towards such a framework. The very process of gathering input from each campus with regards to their needs and available resources would likely be a useful exercise, even if a formalized policy is not actually produced. Avenues for the development of this policy currently exist within the scope of CRSP's charges; however, I-SPIE would be an equally appropriate body for the creation of this framework.