Denise Stephens joined University of California, Santa Barbara as the University Librarian in 2011. Her particular areas of experience and research are in organizational and change leadership, program assessment, and digital services. Stephens came to UCSB from the University of Kansas, where she served for many years as Vice Provost for Information Services and Chief Information Officer. Prior to that, she was Acting University Librarian at Syracuse University. She holds a master’s degree in library science from the University of Oklahoma and is an alumna of the Association of Research Libraries Leadership and Career Development Program.

As the University Librarian, she is leading revolutionary advances in information technology as well as the expansion and redesign of the University Library. The expansion will provide critical physical spaces to support professional expertise and state of the art information resources to the new generation of scholars, technology, and the community.

Stephens also served as UCSB’s Interim Chief Information Officer from October, 2013 to September, 2015. In that capacity, she led the transformation of the Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST) and Administrative Services enterprise IT programs into the new Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), a coordinated, broad-based organization delivering enterprise-wide solutions to campus.