

Approved

2007-08 Annual Report **Committee on Rules and Elections**

In fulfilling its charge as established in the Bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, the Committee on Rules and Elections (R&E) carried out the following activities. The chair of R&E during the fall 2007 semester was Professor Gary Holland, Secretary of the Division. The chair during the spring 2008 semester was Professor Daniel Melia, Secretary of the Division.

Note: items are listed chronologically in each section. Dates in parentheses, unless otherwise noted, indicate the date of committee correspondence about the item of business.

I. Division Elections

- The results of the spring 2008 Berkeley Division elections were as follows.
 - ▶ 342 valid ballots.
 - ▶ Senate members elected to Divisional Council:
James Hunt (Civil and Environmental Engineering),
Anthony Long (Classics), and
Oliver O'Reilly (Mechanical Engineering).
 - ▶ Senate members elected to the Committee on Committees:
Steven Justice (English),
Nicholas Mills (Environmental Science, Policy, and Management),
Kurt Organista (Social Welfare), and
Kristofer Pister (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science).

II. Finished Business

A. Completed with Written Comment

- Proposed Amendments to Berkeley Division Bylaws (BDB) to Allow Electronic Elections and Ballots (BDB 4.B, 9, 17, 25, and 161) *Comments forwarded to Division Chair William Drummond (9/10/07).*

- Proposed Amendment to Senate Regulation 636 (University of California Entry Level Writing Requirement)
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (9/14/07).
- Proposed Repeal of Academic Senate Regulation 458
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (11/15/08).
- Proposed Amendments to Berkeley Division Bylaws 5.B (Special Meetings) and 15 (Assembly Representation)
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (12/17/07).
- Proposed Amendments to Berkeley Division Bylaw 30.A (Membership of the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation)
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (2/7/08).
- Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw 140 (University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity)
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (3/17/08).
- Request by Haas School of Business to Grant Honors to the Top 10% of the Graduating MBA Class
Comments forwarded to Senior Assistant Dean Jay Stowsky of the Haas School of Business (3/18/08 and 4/8/08).
- Request for Clarification about Senate Regulation 640 (Honors)
Inquiry forwarded to University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction Chair Daniel Hirschberg (3/18/08).
- Proposed Amendments to Berkeley Division Regulations (BDR) Governing the Haas School of Business and the School of Public Health (BDR 350.A, 352, 353, and A952)
Comments forwarded to Division Chair Drummond (5/5/08).

B. Completed without Written Comment

- College of Letters and Science (L&S) Elections for L&S Committee on Committees
The Executive Committee of L&S confirmed in a letter dated 9/6/07 that L&S would manage its own Committee on Committees elections in the future.
- Implementation of Electronic Voting
Members met with Academic Senate Programmer/Analyst Eric Leland to decide upon a vendor to support electronic voting and to discuss how it will be implemented (11/13/07 meeting).

- **Holding R&E Meetings via Conference Call**
Members discussed conducting meetings via conference call if there is not sensitive business on the agenda (12/6/07 and 1/31/08 meetings). Some members were supportive of allowing members to participate by conference call if it enhanced the quality of discussions, though some members preferred in-person conversations. Generally, members did not think that it was too onerous to attend meetings in person, but they agreed that one member could participate by conference call for the 3/13/08 meeting. Members agreed that it went adequately.
- **Granting Honors to Graduate Students**
In an e-mail dated 3/31/08, University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction Chair Hirschberg confirmed that current Academic Senate Regulations do not provide for honors for graduate students. Chair Melia shared this information with the Haas School of Business in a letter dated 4/8/08 (see item in section above).

III. Unfinished Business

- **Request by the College of Engineering (COE) to Allow Electronic Voting at COE Faculty Meetings**
R&E responded to Executive Associate Dean Fiona Doyle's 11/7/07 request by asking for more information about how the college would maintain Robert's Rules of Order if faculty meetings were conducted electronically. For example, how would quorum be determined, how would motions and amendments be made and endorsed (11/21/07)? R&E is waiting for a response from COE.
- **Request for Informal Ruling on Division Regulation (BDR) A251 (Disposition of Final Examinations)**
At its 5/1/08 meeting, members discussed whether the BDR A251 requires faculty and/or departments to allow students to photocopy final exam questions and answers, versus just answers. While members agreed that the regulation requires faculty and/or departments to allow students to photocopy final exam questions and answers, it was suggested that the final sentence be deleted. Members will discuss proposing an amendment to BDR A251 in the fall 2008 semester.