

APPROVED

**2003 - 2004 Annual Report of the Committee on Student Affairs (STA)  
Sanjay Govindjee, Chair**

*"This Committee shall act as a forum for the exchange of views among faculty, students and administrators in order to enhance the quality of student life, thereby strengthening the campus community. Accordingly, this Committee shall address issues pertaining to social welfare (e.g., health, safety), intellectual growth (e.g. academic support), and ethical development (e.g., community service, student and faculty conduct)." (Am. 10.25.94)*

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Graduate Admissions Task Force Report

STA reviewed the report at its 29 September 2003 meeting and had no comments on the report.

SARS Prevention and Response Plan

STA reviewed the plan at its 29 September 2003 meeting. Chair Govindjee drafted a memo to Academic Senate Chair Ronald Gronsky (9 October 2003) to commend the proposal on its non-discriminatory plan.

Final Report of the USA PATRIOT Act Steering Committee

STA reviewed the report at its 23 October 2003 meeting. The Committee was concerned with the steering committee's recommendation to take classified research off-campus, as that may be discriminating toward certain student populations and limit their possibility for research.

Code of Student Conduct – Phase I Report

STA reviewed the Phase I report at its 23 October 2003 meeting. The Committee had many comments and concerns regarding the report, but was unsure about the status of the report and whether the policies were already implemented. STA took notes of the comments they had and would pass on these comments after the completion of the Phase II report to the Steering Committee of the Student Judicial Affairs – Code of Student Conduct.

### Berkeley Campus Policy Governing Disclosure of Information from Student Records

STA reviewed the proposed policy at its 23 October 2003 meeting. The only comment the Committee made informally was to suggest that a better method of notification would be through registered e-mail, rather than the proposed publication in *The Daily Californian*.

### Proposed Revised Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures

STA reviewed the proposed revision at its 23 October 2003 meeting. Chair Govindjee recommended further clarification of the last sentence in section I.E. on page three of the revision. The sentence is too muddled. Chair Govindjee e-mailed the comment to Executive Director Maureen Morley on 30 October 2003.

### Proposed Policy – Conflicts of Interest Created by Consensual Relationships

STA reviewed the proposed policy at its 23 October 2003 meeting. The Committee did not comment on the proposed policy.

### Code of Student Conduct Revisions

STA discussed the Code of Student Conduct revisions further at its 8 December 2003 meeting. The four main worries voiced in the discussion were (1) proposed removal of legal representation; (2) closure of hearings; (3) presentation of evidence; and (4) a “panel without a peer”. Chair Govindjee stated that all comments should be noted until STA is asked for comments on these matters.

### Proposed Amendments to the Academic Senate Bylaws

STA reviewed the proposed amendments at its 15 March 2004 meeting. The Committee had no comments to make regarding the proposed amendments.

### Proposal for a Standing Subcommittee Addressing Student Mental Health

Temina Madon presented a proposal for the creation of a standing subcommittee through STA to address student mental health issue at the 8 December 2003 meeting. STA discussed the proposal with Ms. Madon but ran out of time before discussions completed. At the next meeting on 26 January 2004, the Committee authorized Chair Govindjee to write a memo to Chair Gronsky with the proposal of a working study group

to gather data on student mental health issues on campus. This data would solidify any assumptions and assist in recruiting faculty in helping the problem. Chair Govindjee sent this memo to Chair Gronsky on 2 February 2004.

On 5 March 2004, Chair Gronsky wrote a memo to Chair Govindjee suggesting that STA revise its proposal to Divisional Council for the work group. Afterward, Chair Govindjee and the entire committee decided to invite Mr. Steve Lustig, Assistant Vice Chancellor for University Health Services, to attend the next STA meeting. Mr. Lustig had already gathered data on student mental health at Berkeley and it was believed that Mr. Lustig would be of great assistance in helping STA formulate a better proposal to Divisional Council.

Mr. Lustig, Mr. Jeff Prince, Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, as well as Ms. Madon attended the 29 April 2004 STA meeting. After much discussion of statistics and data covered, the Committee decided that it would work on formulating another proposal to Divisional Council at its next meeting.

At the 10 May 2004 meeting, the Committee voted to send another memo with a proposal for the establishment of a joint sponsored advisory committee. This committee would have a diverse, yet small, membership as well as specific tasks, one of which is to develop a standard, uniform protocol for handling students with mental health issues. This memo was forwarded to Chair Gronsky on 10 May, and STA expects to hear back from Divisional Council in Fall 2004.

#### Member Participation Outside of STA

This year, three STA members worked on various committees outside / on behalf of the Committee. Chair Govindjee sat on an Advisory Student Fee Committee. Professor Paul Vojta is a member of the Executive Steering Committee of the Review of the Student Code of Conduct, on the subcommittee on Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism. And Professor Joan Bieder is the STA representative on the Chancellor's Task Force on Hate and Bias and she regularly reports back to STA on the happenings with the Task Force.

*Annual report prepared by Chung Nguyen.*