Chair’s Summary

The 2012-13 academic year was one of change and challenge, and many of the issues that were dealt with by DIVCO will continue in the upcoming year.

Both the Berkeley campus and the UC Office of the President saw changes in their leadership, and Senate faculty played significant roles on the two search committees. Spring 2013 was a critical transition period for the incoming Chancellor-designate Nicholas Dirks, and for the outgoing Chancellor Robert Birgeneau. Senate leadership worked with both Chancellors to ensure that there was clarity about the role of the Senate in shared governance, and that the strength of the collaborative partnership would continue.

There were several important political challenges during the year. In Fall 2012, the election involved a critical state ballot initiative, Proposition 30, which had significant implications for the University budget. The Senate distributed information and guidelines for faculty with regard to how they could carry out their advocacy as private citizens, rather than as State employees (who are not allowed to use their paid role for advocacy on State issues). As Senate chair, I co-sponsored a symposium on Proposition 30, along with the Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC). Fortunately, Proposition 30 passed, averting what would have been a serious budget crisis for the University of California. However, the general decline in public funding by the State for the UC system will continue to be a major challenge in the years ahead.

The second political challenge came in Spring 2013, when the topic of massive open online courses (MOOCs) and online education began to dominate discussions of higher education, both by The UC Regents and by the State Legislature. These discussions tended to focus on how these online models could generate new sources of revenue, or how they might enable students to complete their degrees more quickly; very little was said about issues of academic quality and assessment of learning outcomes. A bill was then proposed in the State Senate, S.B. 520, which would have established a mechanism for students to take courses from one of the private companies who have developed MOOCs and to receive course credit for that course at their home university (whether UC, CSU, or the community colleges). Such a proposal was a direct challenge to faculty authority and responsibility for the academic curriculum. As Senate Chair, in collaboration with Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost (EVCP) George Breslauer, I sent out a message to all faculty, informing them about this proposal and reaffirming that we were protected from having to comply with it because of UC’s constitutional autonomy. I am proud to say that we were the first campus to take such a public stand, and that our action then inspired the systemwide faculty leadership of the Academic Council to take a public position on S.B. 520. We took several actions during Spring 2013 to educate faculty, lawmakers, and the public about this proposal, including a visit to Sacramento to speak about the implications of the bill. At this time, there is no longer an active effort to move the bill forward.

There are, however, many innovative ways in which teaching and technology are being combined to enhance student learning, both on campus and throughout the UC system. Several Senate committees have been involved in assessing these new efforts and providing helpful feedback and guidance, both for individual courses as well as new master’s degrees. Senate leadership is involved in the Steering Committee for the Berkeley Resource Center for Online Education (BRCOE). Given the central role of the faculty in overseeing the curriculum, it will be critical for faculty to be playing a key role in the development of new models for teaching and learning.
The work of Senate committees also involved some changes and challenges, and this will be an ongoing effort to bring the committee structure up to date for the academic needs of the 21st century. A new standing committee on demonstrations and student actions (DSA) got started this year, and the inactive Committee on Computing and Communication (COMP) began the process of reconsidering its charge in order to be more responsive to current faculty needs. Other committees also began to make changes to their work agenda; for example, the Committee on Teaching (COT) used a new subcommittee structure to investigate current issues in teaching evaluation, as well as to oversee the selection of faculty for the Distinguished Teaching Award. There are areas of overlap between some committees, which could be addressed by rethinking committee charges and structure, and making changes for greater effectiveness and efficiency.

Finally, this year saw some new efforts in joint Senate-administrative structures that deal with campuswide issues, most notably intercollegiate athletics and the library system. There will be a continuing need for such active collaboration in shared governance, given the challenges of the future. In particular, now seems to be a good time for a comprehensive strategic planning process for the Berkeley campus.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Maslach
Chair, 2012-2013
Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
List of Activities

The following summarizes Divisional Council and Divisional activities and actions for 2012-2013, including the date(s) of the action. Please refer to the Divisional Council approved minutes and communications for details.

**Academic Programs**

- Forwarded comments on proposed bylaws for the Study Abroad Advisory Board to the dean of Summer Sessions, Study Abroad, and Lifelong Learning. (9/24/12)
- Forwarded comments on a proposal for the Center for Executive Education to the dean of the Haas School of Business. (9/24/12)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (10/8/12)
- Endorsed the proposed discontinuance of the Berkeley-Columbia Executive MBA program and forwarded committee comments to the vice provost for the faculty. (10/8/12)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of French to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (11/26/12)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Physics to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (12/10/12)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the School of Social Welfare to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (12/10/12)
- Endorsed the proposal for a self-supporting program of graduate studies for the Master of Information and Data Science degree (MIDS). (2/11/13, 2/25/13)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Economics and Literatures to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (3/11/13)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Mechanical Engineering to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (3/11/13)
- Endorsed a proposal for a new College of Environmental Design major in Sustainable Environmental Design and forwarded recommendations to the vice provost for the faculty. (2/25/13, 4/15/13)
- Endorsed the proposed discontinuance of the Ph.D. in Jewish Studies and forwarded committee comments to the vice provost for the faculty. (5/13/13)

**Policies**

- Endorsed a procedural change that shifted the routine review of online graduate degree programs from DIVCO to Graduate Council. (9/24/12)
- Forwarded comments on a proposed new policy, APM 430 (Visiting scholars), to Academic Council. (11/5/12)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to APM 700 (Leaves of absence/general) to Academic Council. (11/5/12)
- Declined to endorse a proposed policy to expand open access to research publications at the University of California and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (11/26/12)
- Approved and forwarded guidelines for single-incident disruptions of classes submitted by the Committee on Courses of Instruction to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (4/1/13)
- Endorsed proposed amendments to Senate Regulations 419, 424, 428, 450, 456, 464, 476, and 478 (IGETC for STEM majors) and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (4/15/13)
- Forwarded comments on a proposed revision of APM Section IV (Salary administration, APM 600 Series) to Academic Council. (4/29/13)
- Forwarded recommendations concerning the development of new online or hybrid graduate degree programs to the executive vice chancellor and provost and the vice chancellor for administration and finance. (2/25/13, 5/13/13)
Legislation

Enacted Legislation

All items placed on the Fall Division meeting consent calendar were approved.

• Approved proposed amendments to Berkeley Division (B.D.) Bylaw 33.A (Membership of the Committee on Courses of Instruction); B.D. Regulation 352.A (Bachelor of Science degree – Walter A. Haas School of Business); and B.D. Reg. 1501 (Requirements for the master’s degree) for the Special Orders-Consent Calendar of the fall Division meeting. (10/22/12)

• Approved the proposed amendment to B.D. Regulation A230.B (Special studies courses for graduate students) for the Special Orders-Consent Calendar of the fall Division meeting. (10/22/12)

Proposed Legislation

The Spring Division meeting consent calendar was held over to the Fall 2013 Division meeting.

• Approved the proposed amendment to B.D. Regulation A2001.A for the Special Orders-Consent Calendar of the spring Division meeting. (4/1/13)

Faculty/University Welfare

• Approved a resolution in support of UC Berkeley librarians submitted by the Committee on Library. (10/22/12)

• Forwarded comments on a negotiated salary plan pilot program to Academic Council. (11/5/12)

• Endorsed and forwarded to the Chancellor a report by the Committee on Faculty Welfare regarding the Early Childhood Education Program. Also charged the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) to further investigate the costs of providing childcare services. (12/10/12)

• Authorized the Committee on Faculty Welfare and the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations to continue monitoring the processing time of academic personnel cases. (2/11/13)

• Forwarded comments on the mid-term progress report of the Online Evaluation of Courses Initiative to the vice provost for teaching, learning, academic planning and facilities. (2/25/13)

Budget and Planning

• Approved a charge to the Division chair to develop and implement a strategy for systemwide Senate consideration of the report Modernizing Governance at the University of California. (10/8/12, 10/22/12)

• Forwarded comments on the report of the Rebenching Budget Committee to Academic Council. (10/22/12)

• Requested the acknowledgment of Senate contributors in the administration’s report on intercollegiate athletic finances. (2/25/13)

• Declined to endorse proposed options for financial aid funding and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (3/11/13)

• Authorized two DIVCO members to report DIVCO’s comments on indirect cost recovery (ICR) fund distribution to the ICR Working Group. (4/15/13)

• Forwarded the 2013-14 budget recommendations of the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (5/13/13)

Awards and Honors

• Approved the 2013 Clark Kerr Award recipient. (11/5/12)

• Approved two Martin Meyerson Berkeley Faculty Research Lecturers for 2012-13. (4/1/13)

• Approved five recipients of the Distinguished Teaching Award. (3/11/13)

• Approved two recipients of the 2013 Berkeley Faculty Service Award. (4/29/13)

• The 2013 Leon A. Henkin Citation was approved by Division Chair Maslach on behalf of DIVCO. (7/25/13)
Senate Management

- Approved conflict of interest guidelines for DIVCO. (8/27/12)
- Confirmed appointments to standing committees of the Academic Senate. (9/24/12, 10/22/12, 11/26/12, 1/28/13, 2/11/13, 2/25/13, 3/11/13, 4/15/13, 4/29/13, 5/13/13)
- Approved the 2011-12 annual report for the Division. (1/28/13)
- Held Division meetings on 11/7/12 and 4/23/13.
- Conducted an electronic election for the Division in spring 2013. (4/1/13)
- Approved a revised Senate strategy for addressing intercollegiate athletics issues. (3/11/13, 4/1/13)
- Approved a request to grant Berkeley’s representatives from the University Committee on Academic Personnel access to relevant personnel cases when responding to systemwide matters of personnel policy. (4/29/13)

Senate Events

- Held a Senate leadership orientation on 9/5/12.
- Held a Senate end of year reception on 5/7/13.

Cosponsored Events

- Co-sponsored an open forum with the Associated Students of the University of California, “Prop. 30: How it affects the UC system, UC Berkeley and U!” (10/30/12)
- Cosponsored a faculty forum on shared services (11/14/12) with the Operational Excellence Program Office.
- Co-sponsored a 4/10/13 faculty town hall meeting with the Commission on the Future of the UC Berkeley Library.

Other Activities

- Co-signed a Calmessage with EVCP Breslauer reaffirming UC’s constitutional autonomy in determining academic policy. (3/15/13)