Chair's Summary

Looking over the laundry list of Divisional Council (DIVCO) activities for 2006-2007, it all looks harmless enough. But it’s not until you get down to the Budget and Planning category that you discover why 2006-2007 was like no other academic year in recent Academic Senate memory.

DIVCO was intimately involved in the controversy surrounding the creation of the Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI), the offspring of the partnership between UC Berkeley, the energy giant BP, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of Illinois.

The $500 million grant to fund research into energy alternatives touched off an often emotional debate, not just on the Berkeley campus, but throughout the state. The controversy raised questions that needed to be faced, and the Academic Senate was able to focus the debate into a constructive dialog with the administration. After the announcement of the award to UC Berkeley and its partners in February, the voices of dissent sprang immediately from several quarters of the faculty. The Senate leadership scheduled a town hall meeting. It was held March 8, 2007, with a live webcast. The hall was packed, the discussion lively and at times raucous.

In the aftermath, faculty groups circulated petitions; one was perceived by the administration as hostile to EBI and the other supportive of the EBI initiative.

Matters came to a head at a special meeting of the Berkeley Division on April 19, at which a resolution was approved clearing the way for the EBI and at the same time providing for Senate oversight of the contract negotiations.

The EBI’s birthing was contentious, and not all Senate members were happy with the outcome. But from the standpoint of shared governance, the EBI controversy won heightened credibility for the Academic Senate as an effective partner in planning Berkeley’s future. Four chairs of Senate committees participated as consultants to the administration during the difficult negotiations to hammer out a contract to bring the EBI into being. They were invited to play this important role by the vice chancellor for research. The negotiations went on all summer and into the fall.

By the Chancellor’s own account, the Senate chairs provided valuable assistance, and importantly, they maintained strictest confidentiality during the delicate process.

I wish that I could report that 2006-2007 was an unqualified success. But alas, not. Both of our two regularly scheduled divisional meetings – one in the fall and the other in the spring – fell short of a quorum.

It would have been unlucky indeed to have served out a term as chair and never presided over a Division meeting that attracted a quorum. Fate has given me another chance. The Committee on Committees asked me to serve a second term as chair (2006-2007 Vice Chair Sheldon Zedeck had accepted a job as vice provost), and I accepted.

William J. Drummond
Chair, 2006-2007
Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Divisional Council, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Annual Report 2006-2007

List of Activities

This is a brief list of Divisional Council and Division activities for 2006-2007, including the date(s) of the events or meetings at which each item was considered. Please refer to Divisional Council approved minutes and communications for details.

Academic Programs

- Forwarded comments on a review of the Department of Music to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (10/23/06)
- Forwarded recommendations on the proposed Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to George Breslauer, executive vice chancellor and provost. (10/23/06). Invited the vice provost for undergraduate education to update DIVCO. (4/16/07)
- Forwarded comments on the program review of the Department of Statistics to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (12/11/06)
- Forwarded comments on the program review of the Department of African American Studies to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (2/12/07, 4/16/07)
- Forwarded comments on the program review of the Department of Political Science to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (2/12/07, 4/16/07)
- Forwarded comments on the program review of the Graduate School of Education to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (5/14/07)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed name change for the Physical Sciences Division and forwarded comments to the vice provost for academic planning and facilities. (5/14/07)

Items Acted Upon by Division Chair on behalf of DIVCO

- Proposed disestablishment of the joint Ed.D. Program in Educational Leadership. (6/26/07)

Policies

- Forwarded comments to the executive vice chancellor and provost regarding campus sponsored non-EAP courses in foreign countries where federal travel warnings have been posted. (10/23/06)
- Endorsed proposed modifications to APM 220-18b(4) and forwarded comments to the Academic Council. (12/11/06)
- Endorsed and forwarded comments on a human stem cell research policy to the vice chancellor for research. (12/11/06)
- Forwarded recommendations on a proposed policy on stewardship of electronic information resources to Academic Council. (2/12/07)
- Forwarded comments on a proposed revision of APM 115 to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (2/12/07)
- Declined to endorse a proposal on the relationship between (pharmaceutical) vendors and clinicians in Phase 1 review and forwarded comments to Academic Council (2/26/07; Phase 2 review, 4/30/07)
- Reviewed the final report of the Task Force on Undergraduate Outcomes. Approved and forwarded two proposed resolutions to the vice provost of undergraduate education. (3/12/07)
- Opposed the Regents’ proposed RE-89, adoption of policy restricting University acceptance of funding from the tobacco industry, and forwarded recommendations to Academic Council. (4/2/07)
- Made recommendations to the executive vice chancellor and provost on public posting of grade distributions on the Pick-a-Prof website. (10/9/06) Invited the vice provost for undergraduate education to provide updates. (4/16/07)
- Forwarded comments on a proposed UC faculty scholarly work copyright rights policy to Academic Council. (5/7/07)
• Reinforced the accountability of units to academic program review recommendations, with the Chancellor. (5/14/07)
• Approved and forwarded a recommendation for accommodating conflicts in class attendance with religious holy days, to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (5/14/07)
• Approved guidelines on the evaluation of service in faculty merit and promotion reviews; distributed the guidelines to the Chancellor, executive vice chancellor and provost, deans and department chairs. (5/14/07)

Informal Comment to the Systemwide Academic Senate
• On a proposed resolution on the proper use of the California High School Exit Exam from the Intersegmental committee of the Academic Senate. (6/13/07)
• On a UC Committee on Academic Freedom statement on student freedom of scholarly inquiry. (6/13/07)
• On an Academic Council-proposed policy on fiscal impact statements. (6/14/07)
• On proposed amendments to APM 620, policy on off-scale salaries. (7/12/07)

Legislation
• Endorsed the proposed Bylaw 16 (Senate executive director), and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (11/6/06)
• Forwarded endorsement of proposed amendments to Senate Bylaw 205, Part 1A (governing the Universitywide Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction) to Academic Council. (2/12/07)
• Declined to endorse proposed amendments to Senate Regulation 694 and the proposed Senate Regulation 695 (regarding residency requirements for Master’s degrees) and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (2/26/07)
• Endorsed the proposed amendment to Senate Bylaw 181 (Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy) and sent comments to Academic Council. (5/14/07)

Enacted Legislation
• Approved an amendment to Bylaw 24 (Committee on Research) at the fall 2006 division meeting. (11/14/06)
• Approved an amendment of Bylaw 23 (Committee on Privilege and Tenure) at the spring 2007 Division meeting. (4/19/07)
• Approved an amendment of Bylaw 35 (Committee on Educational Policy) at the spring 2007 Division meeting. (4/19/07)

Proposed Legislation
• Forwarded a proposed amendment of Senate Bylaw 337 (Privilege and Tenure: Divisional Committees - early termination cases), to Academic Council. (4/2/07)

Faculty/University Welfare
• Declined to support a recommendation for funding of an additional adviser in the Office of Greek Life. (8/28/06)
• Invited Jan De Vries, vice provost for academic affairs and faculty welfare, to present data on faculty retention cases handled in his office over the past six years. (10/9/06)
• Forwarded comments to Academic Council regarding a report on the role of graduate students in University instruction. (11/20/06)
• Approved CAPRA’s recommendations on emeriti parking fee issues and responded to the Committee on Faculty Welfare and the Committee on University-Emeriti Relations. (12/11/06)
• Forwarded comments to Academic Council on proposed benefit changes and proposed changes to retiree health plans. (2/26/07)
Budget and Planning

- Endorsed and forwarded CAPRA’s recommendations on the intercollegiate athletics budget to the vice chancellor for administration. (9/11/07)
- Forwarded comments on the Chancellor’s response to CAPRA’s 2005/06 budget recommendations to the executive vice chancellor and provost (EVCP). (9/25/06) Invited EVCP George Breslauer to provide an update. (12/4/06)
- Approved and forwarded recommendations and comments on the proposed Haas Executive Education Center to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (9/25/06, 4/2/07, 4/16/07)
- Forwarded comments to Academic Council on a Senate proposal regarding recycling of multicampus research unit (MRU) funds. (11/6/06)
- Endorsed a report on institutional review boards and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (11/6/06)
- Forwarded comments on the new Campus Bicycle Plan to the Chancellor’s Joint Oversight Committee on Parking and Transportation. (11/20/06)
- Approved and forwarded to Academic Council a recommendation from the Disaster Preparedness Work Group for the systemwide coordination of disaster response. (11/20/06)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed guiding principles for professional school fees to Academic Council. (12/4/06)
- Forwarded comments on the status of the UC merit and promotion system, and the principles on faculty salary compensation, to Academic Council. (12/4/06)
- Approved and forwarded to the vice chancellor for research a resolution regarding the advisory role of four Senate committee chairs involved in the Energy Biosciences Institute contract negotiations. (4/2/07)
- Approved a resolution concerning the Energy Biosciences Institute and Senate oversight at the special Division meeting. (4/19/07)
- Approved guidelines for the four committee chairs providing Senate oversight on the Energy Biosciences Institute contract negotiations. (4/30/07)
- Approved guidelines on managing courses and exams in the event of a pandemic and forwarded the guidelines to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (4/16/07)
- Approved and forwarded CAPRA’s 2007-2008 budget recommendations to the Chancellor and to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (4/30/07)

Awards and Honors

- Approved two Faculty Research Lecturers for 2006-2007. (8/28/06)
- Approved procedures for the Leon A. Henkin Citation for Distinguished Service. (10/23/06)
- Endorsed a new award for faculty, the Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award. (3/12/07)
- Approved two Faculty Research Lecturers for 2007-2008. (3/12/07)
- Approved the recipients of the Distinguished Teaching Award and the Educational Initiatives Award for 2006-2007. (4/2/07)
- Confirmed two recipients of the Leon Henkin Citation for Distinguished Service. (4/16/07)
- Approved two recipients of the 2007 Berkeley Faculty Service Award. (4/16/07)
- Approved the recipient of the Clark Kerr Award. (4/16/07)
Senate Management
- Conducted a Senate leadership orientation. (9/7/06)
- Confirmed appointments to standing committees of the Academic Senate. (9/11/06, 9/25/06, 10/23/06, 11/6/06, 12/4/06, 2/12/07, 2/26/07, 3/12/07, 4/2/07, 4/16/07, 4/30/07, 5/7/07, 5/14/07)
- Approved and distributed conflict of interest guidelines for Divisional committees. (11/6/06)
- Approved and forwarded the 2005-2006 DIVCO annual report to the systemwide Academic Senate. (12/11/06)
- Held two Division meetings: 11/14/06 and 4/19/07.
- Held a special Division meeting on the Energy Biosciences Institute. (4/19/07)
- Held the Divisional election for 2007-2008. (Spring 2007)
- Finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research regarding protection of human subjects. (2/20/07)
- Finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research regarding appointments to the Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee. (3/7/07)

Senate Events
- Held a faculty forum with live webcast regarding the Energy Biosciences Institute. (3/8/07)
- Sponsored an end of year reception for Divisional Council and Senate leadership. (5/10/07)

Cosponsored Events
- Cosponsored the New Faculty Welcome with the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Faculty Welfare. (8/24/06)
- Cosponsored a one-day campus forum, “Changing the Culture of the Academy: Toward a More Inclusive Practice,” with the Office of the Chancellor. (3/22/07)