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).
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.