

**APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, May 13, 2024 – 12:10-3:00 PM
Stephens Hall, Conference Room 310**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday May 13, 2024, in Stephens Hall, room 310. Division Chair Maximilian Auffhammer presided. A quorum was present as shown on the attached attendance chart.

I. A. MINUTES of the meeting of April 29, 2024

ACTION: The minutes were not submitted for this meeting.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Authorization for the division chair to act on behalf of the Divisional Council during summer break. Authorization for the division vice chair to act on behalf of the chair and the Divisional Council in the absence of the chair during summer break.

B. Committee on Committees (COMS) nominations

C. 2025 Faculty Research Lecture nominations

D. CAPRA 2024-25 Budget and Policy Recommendations

E. Reauthorization to extend Climate Change Task Force

F. Proposal to discontinue the PhD in Molecular Toxicology and disestablish the Graduate Group in Molecular Toxicology

G. Proposal to transfer the governance of the Master of Development Practice (MDP) from the Graduate Group and Graduate Division to the Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) and the disestablishment of the current Graduate Group

H. Proposal to discontinue the Designated Emphasis in Energy Science, and Technology (DEEST) and disestablish the Graduate Group in Energy Science, and Technology

ACTION: The consent calendar was approved as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair Max Auffhammer

Chair Auffhammer acknowledged and thanked the members and committee chairs for their service, especially those who are rotating off their respective committees. He spoke briefly regarding the State budget as it pertains to the UC system.

With respect to the encampment, there has been a lot of activity that will be discussed at a future meeting. The senate has been consulted throughout. The senate chair is both part of ECMT and as well as EOB, which have been meeting daily. Further, DSA has been actively involved in discussion around the encampment.

Commencement occurred the past weekend with a packed stadium. There were bouts of protest-related activity, but it was able to proceed successfully and in an unabbreviated fashion.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to Academic Personnel Manual (APM) Section 016, University Policy on Faculty Conduct and the Administration of Discipline

Chair of the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) stated that it would be important to create consistency across the UC System. There were concerns of ambiguities in the proposed policy language, but overall it was strongly recommended that a no-fault automatic pause was preferred rather than one at the discretion of a Chancellor.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Academic Council. DIVCO did not endorse the policy as proposed.

B. Discussion/action: Conflicts of Interest Arising out of Consensual Relationships in the Workplace

There was unanimous support for this document with some possible amendments. The Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) brought attention that there was no mention of students teaching students. For example, Undergraduate Student Instructors (UGSI's) or instructors of a *DeCal* student-led courses were not included in this document. DIVCO requests that training required of other members of the community engaged in instruction, such as SVSH training, be included in the document, and members strongly suggested to make this the case for all serving in supervisory and/or instructor roles.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Civil Rights, Whistleblower & Clery Compliance.

C. Discussion/action: Proposal for a new department of Political Economy

The Divisional Council (DIVCO) discussed the proposal to establish a department of Political Economy (PE) in the Social Sciences Division of the College of Letters & Science. The Political Economy (PE) program currently consists of an undergraduate major, a minor, and a Designated Emphasis (DE); and proposes a new department with

these same programs. Political Economy has grown to be one of the largest programs in the Social Sciences Division, and DIVCO members praised the intellectual breadth and academic success. There were multiple challenges noted as motivation for transitioning PE from a program to a department, including limited access to courses outside of PE, limited resources (i.e., funds) for creating new classes within the PE program, and limited access to discover/research experiences, presenting an equity issues given the disproportionately high number of women and underrepresented minorities (URMs) in PE-related disciplines.

Even with great enthusiasm by DIVCO members, they noted several concerns:

- Lack of clarity on the number of FTE needed and how it would be funded.
- Lack of clarity on the number new courses needed so that students do not have to go outside of PE to access needed courses.
- Limited information on space identified to support increased FTE and classrooms.
- University policy does not allow for the “conversion” of Unit 18 lecturers to LSOEs (Teaching Professor/Professor of Teaching), which are Senate appointments.
 - In a document dated April 17, 2023, it is noted, “they understand that many of them will be converted to LSOE positions over the length of their careers”. DIVCO members expressed concern that lecturers have prematurely and erroneously been given the impression that this is allowable.
 - DIVCO members expressed concern that this was not caught at any of the review stages within L&S (decanal, Executive Committee).
- There are similar elements found in other undergraduate programs and majors. DIVCO recommends these impacted departments should be provided the opportunity to comment and submit these comments in any proposal resubmission.
- Lack of a graduate program provides little incentive for faculty to transfer part of their FTE into PE, if there were commitments to transfer, DIVCO would need to understand how those would impact the sending unit.
- Lack of information on how students will be supported around course enrollment, advising, and community engagement.
- The materials submitted read as a series of appendices rather than a coherent proposal/narrative.

While PE is an academically strong program, DIVCO members argue that it is unable to keep up with student demand and is limited in its ability to rise to its full potential. Members requested a revised proposal submitted in fall 2024 that would address the concerns listed above, including but not limited to: budget and financial plans, staffing plan, anticipated size of department and its needs, and approach of how this department would support students.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Vice Chair Nuru-Jeter to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Vice Provost of Academic Planning.

D. Discussion/action: Master of Bioprocess Engineering (MBPE) self-supporting graduate professional degree program (SSGPDP) three-year review

Graduates receive well-paying jobs and are satisfied with the program. The program has access to state-of-the-art bioprocessing equipment which is necessary for the coursework. There is the possible issue of limited faculty engagement needed to supervise/give access to these machines. The Chair of Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) noted that there is some risk since this program is supposed to be revenue generating. Members did not fully understand the budget and recommended a soft audit and the assistance of a designated finance person to better assess the program.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Dean of the College of Chemistry.

E. Discussion/action: Review of the School of Social Welfare

The School of Social Welfare (SSW) is one of the top social welfare schools in the nation. There were thoughtful comments made on undergraduate students being happy, there were critiques of teaching load. Reviewers also noted that students do not appear to have a lot of trouble getting into classes. Some Academic Senate committees called attention to the lack of community and connection at the intellectual and social level and provided several recommendations aimed at improving the school's climate. One suggestion is to explore more offerings at the undergraduate level such as a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) or a large undergraduate core course. Even though the pandemic affected the growth of the program, the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) hopes that the school can develop a strategic plan for the recruitment and support of a more diverse student body. There are concerns with support of mentoring, support for affinity groups, and facilitating connections with alumni.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Vice Provost of Academic Planning.

F. Discussion/action: UCB DSP document: Implementation of UCOP PACAOS "*Key Disabled Students' Program Information, Procedures & Protocols for Implementation of UCOP PACAOS 140, 143 et seq (Provision of Academic Adjustments)*"

There are many units across campus who are charged with meeting the needs of the disabled student population. Requests touch a multitude of units, and often end up getting passed back and forth, before issues are resolved. DIVCO members thought this document was an impressive resource, clear and precise, yet a lot to process. Though it was written by a team of faculty and staff, the problem is getting the documents in front of faculty. DIVCO suggests to create a DSP faculty liaisons at the department level, similar to the role of faculty equity advisors. Finally, DIVCO encourages the implementation of a brief training focusing on advice rather than a long training with

historical content. DIVCO strongly encourages that the DSP liaisons be intricately involved in the development of such a training.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Chief Accessibility Officer.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Committee on Teaching (COT) 2023-24 Annual Report

B. Academic Senate Comments on Proposed Board of Regents Policy on Public and Discretionary Statements by Academic Unit

<https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/files/reports/js-rl-regents-policy-discretionary-statements.pdf>

C. Academic Senate Comments on Proposed Revisions to Academic Personnel Manual (APM) Section 710 (Leaves of Absence/Sick Leave/Medical Leave)

<https://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/files/reports/js-dh-apm-710-apr-2024.pdf>

D. Assembly Action on Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 55

E. Proposal to combine FRL and FAC committees

F. Prior Misconduct Screening Pilot Renewal

G. 2024 Clark Kerr nominations

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.