

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL**  
**Monday, September 23, 2024 – 12:10-2:00 PM**  
**Stephens Hall, Conference Room 310**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, September 23, 2024 in Stephens Hall, room 310. Division Chair Amani Nuru-Jeter presided. A quorum was present as shown on the attached attendance chart.

**I. A. MINUTES** of the meeting of September 9, 2024

**ACTION:** The minutes were approved as presented.

**II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Committee on Committees (COMS) nominations**

**ACTION:** The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Division Chair Amani Nuru-Jeter*

Chair Nuru-Jeter thanked Elected member Jonah Levy for sharing an article regarding the Clark Kerr campus and how that land was acquired by the University of California. Previously, it was the *California Schools for the Deaf and Blind*, and eventually relocated due to geological and financial reasons, though the geological concerns were unfounded. The University revamped the location for present purposes. *The Daily Californian newspaper (also known as The Daily Cal)* showed that the University was not the only actor in the land acquisition, but was an important one who benefited the most from what appears to be a vigorous and somewhat political and potentially underhanded acquisition.

Next, Chair Nuru-Jeter announced that her welcome message went out via a *Calmessage* the previous week. She hoped that it would be both inspirational and educational. It included a link to her priorities for the academic year, which emphasized transparency and communication with the broader faculty on campus and cultivating a healthy perspective of shared governance by raising awareness and cultivating a sense of curiosity and sense of trust among faculty on campus and emphasizing the cooperative leadership between the Academic Senate and Administration.

Chair Nuru-Jeter highlighted some upcoming DIVCO guests and agenda items, as well as topics for the Fall Division meeting on November 15, 2024.

Finally, she reported priorities of the Systemwide Academic Council that included:

- CCI (Campus Climate Initiatives);
- State budget and the UC compact;
- Moving all UC calendars to the semester system;
- Upcoming Presidential search;

- Regental policy on public and discretionary statements;
- Labor relations process system wide;
- Total remuneration and benefits study
- Health benefits premium increase;
- Systemwide Artificial Intelligence (AI) workgroup;

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion/action:** Proposal for a new B.S. Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering

This proposal is to create a new Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) major within the Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences (EECS) department which is intended to respond to workforce needs and emergent social challenges not currently being met. This major will be accredited which adds significant value for both the campus and students since it is essential for future careers in the field.

DIVCO members were overall supportive of the proposal and focused on questions regarding transfer pathways. Most notably, the concern with students who would possibly need an additional semester as this would reduce the number of students who can be admitted and increase cost for students who may be lower income. Members recommended a check-in with this program to monitor fidelity of the curricular plan and time to degree, and hope for additional institutional and departmental support. It was suggested that the University of California transition planner website, currently built for student use, can be a good tool for departments.

DIVCO members unanimously approved the amendment to the motion which included that the proposers will be providing DIVCO with the additional information requested with respect to the transfer pathways.

**ACTION:** DIVCO authorized Chair Nuru-Jeter to draft a cover letter noting both the approval and the concerns raised, and forward to the Vice Provost for Academic Planning.

**B. Discussion/action:** Proposal for B.S. Degree in Environmental Engineering

This proposal is to create a new B.S. in Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering (COE) to be administered by Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE). Environmental Engineering upper division requirements are more narrowly focused on air, water, and soil environments with a focus on the challenges of environmental justice and climate change.

There were questions related to course articulation for community college students that would result in a four-semester pathway for those able to take the required courses, and a

five-semester pathway for others, similar to those currently transferring into Civil Engineering. Members asked regarding the timeline for articulation to allow for transfer admissions for the four-semester degree completion to avoid a costly extra semester. Vice Chair Mark Stacey, who contributed to the original proposal in 2023, noted that it did not initially include a fifth semester but that the 5th semester was added in order to address concerns related to articulation. They plan to comment on a revised version. One member mentioned that an extra semester is often the reality of transfer students. Thus, we shouldn't punish the proposal for including the possible option. The additional demand on foundational courses in chemistry, biology, and data science were also cross-examined. They emphasized that letters of support from other units who have not yet commented would be useful. There is pressure on the department to increase their Full-Time Employee (FTE) faculty as it has been criticized to be one of the lowest.

Overall, members acknowledged that this is a logical evolution of the group, recognizing the whole field. Members hope to think about the impact that this would have on other community stakeholders and its impact on the local landscape. DIVCO members unanimously approved the motion to approve the new major.

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

**C. Discussion only:** UC San Francisco (UCSF) planned memorial

*Due to time constraints, this item was not discussed and will be moved to be discussed at the next DIVCO meeting on October 7, 2024.*

**D. Discussion only:** WASC Senior College & University Commission (WSCUC) with VPUE Oliver O'Reilly

*Guest: Guest: Oliver O'Reilly, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education (VPUE)*

Vice Provost O'Reilly provided an overview on the upcoming visits from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) representatives as well as the process before and after their visits. A number of meetings have been set up with different groups on campus as well as open sessions with both staff, faculty, and students. Vice Provost O'Reilly requested all members to engage with the Peer Evaluation Team as much as possible in order to provide a complete picture of UC Berkeley. His presentation included the enclosed slidedeck.

**A. Forward\*** *Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 479 (CalGETC)*

*Forwarded to the committees on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education (AEPE), Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC), Rules & Elections (R&E), and Undergraduate Council (UGC). DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for November 25, 2024.*

**B. Forward\*** *(Systemwide Senate Review) Proposed Senate Regulation 627 (Posthumous Awarding of Degrees)*

*Forwarded to the committees on Courses of Instruction (COCI), and Rules & Elections (R&E). DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for November 25, 2024.*

*\*A copy is available on the DIVCO Box site on the tentatively scheduled meeting date.*

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. Proposed revisions to BDB 19 and 20: combine the Committee on Faculty Awards (FAC) and the Committee on Faculty Research Lecture (FRL)**
- B. Undergraduate Council (UGC) Annual Report**
- C. R&E Annual Report**
- D. Committee on Memorial Resolutions (CMR) Annual Report**
- E. Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) Annual Report**
- F. Committee on Committees (COMS) Annual Report**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.



INVITED GUESTS *	9/9/24	9/23/24	10/7/24	10/21/24	11/4/24	11/25/24	12/9/24	12/16/24
O'Reilly, Oliver		P						

SENATE STAFF	9/9/24	9/23/24	10/7/24	10/21/24	11/4/24	11/25/24	12/9/24	12/16/24
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P						
Hashimoto, Dorothy	P	P						

P=Present A=Absent \* Non-voting