

**APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, April 1, 2024 – 12:10-2:00 PM
Stephens Hall, Conference Room 310**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday April 1, 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 March 18, 2024

ACTION: The minutes were approved as presented.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Berkeley Faculty Service Award (BFSA) nominations

B. Proposed amendments to BDB 73 - College of Computing, Data Science, and Society

ACTION: The consent calendar was approved as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair Max Auffhammer

The Division Secretary announced the election results of the 2024-25 Divisional Council (DIVCO) and Committee on Committees (COMS) elected candidates.

There are no updates regarding the Proposed Board of Regents *Policy on Use of University Administrative Websites*. The University of California (UC) Academic Senate Chair Steintrager reported on this topic at the last Academic Council meeting, and the discussion will continue at a future meeting.

Chair Auffhammer revisited the topic on the proposed administration of all undergraduate scholarships to the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office (FASO). He believes a baseline is needed to manage the Athletics scholarships that will be included. The Executive Coordination Board discussed this at their last meeting, and the Academic Senate will monitor this topic.

Chair Auffhammer announced that campus is assembling a faculty-staff bargaining team task force to assist the labor relations teams with negotiations. Suggestions from various academic disciplines for this task force are welcomed.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Proposal to add an MS in Computational Biology en route to the existing PhD

There were no objections to the proposal or any of the committee comments submitted. DIVCO members were unanimous on approving the proposal.

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

B. Discussion only: Updates from the Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR)

Guests: Katherine Yelick, Vice Chancellor, Research

Elizabeth Brashers, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff - VCR

Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR) Yelick shared her current initiatives and the progress of VCR office's projects. Her recent focus included the following:

- Climate;
- Health (Neuroscience, Genomics, Therapeutics);
- AI+ (Artificial Intelligence)/ ML (Machine Learning);
- Berkeley Space Center at NASA Ames;
- Innovation corridor (formerly University Hall);
- Helping efforts for venture-backed startup companies started by undergraduate students; and
- Deferred maintenance for research.

Vice Chancellor Yelick recounted some of the areas she has been working on regarding Research Compliance on campus. These areas included animal labs, laser safety issues, and research security. The largest of these issues being research security and the National Security Presidential Memorandum (NSPM)-33 which is a Presidential directive requiring federal research funding agencies to strengthen and standardize disclosure requirements for federally funded awards. The concern is that there is extra bureaucracy and technology is constantly changing. Vice Chancellor Yelick's goal is to encourage as much international collaboration as possible and to make sure that campus is compliant with these rules at the same time.

Vice Chancellor Yelick briefly described updates on indirect cost recovery (ICR) and overhead return for outside funding and the specifications surrounding how IC money is used and returned. DIVCO members were interested in how this is handled across other campuses, possibly changing the funding model, and examining how to get more ICR funds back to the academic departments. The structural deficit issue is at the central campus.

Chair Auffhammer inquired about the *Academic Valley of Death*, a plateau that tends to occur during one's mid-career point, and how campus can help these individuals obtain more research funding after early career opportunities are no longer accessible to junior-ish faculty. Vice Chancellor Yelick stated that they are aware of this issue and have various funding programs that are administered by the VCR office and other units

across campus. Chair Auffhammer hopes to have more discussions on what an institution can do to help alleviate this issue.

C. Discussion/action: Master of Design (MDes) self-supporting graduate professional degree program (SSGPDP) three-year review

Graduate Council (GC) commended that the program is off to a strong start, considering that the program had some setbacks due to the COVID-19 pandemic. GC hopes to conduct another review of the program in three years due to the process of assessing and adjusting its curricular structure.

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

D. Discussion/action: Master of Molecular Science and Software Engineering (MSSE) self-supporting graduate professional degree program (SSGPDP) three-year review

The chair of the Graduate Council (GC) reiterated the recommendations included in their committee comments which included paying careful attention to ensure a positive student experience. Due to the rapid growth of SSGPDPs since a campus wide push was made in this space in the fall of 2020, they stressed the importance to hire more advising staff, as well as to recruit more ladder faculty from campus to prevent the existing staff from being stretched too thin. Graduate Council wants to review the program again in three years. Some DIVCO members recommended to review the program sooner than three years. The Chair of Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) agreed to this, and also suggested to revise the finance models and resubmit.

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

E. Forward**Proposal from the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) requesting to consolidate its PhD programs
Forwarded to the Committees on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) and Graduate Council (GC). DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for April 15, 2024.*

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS — None

A motion was made to end the meeting, a second motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, SPRING 2024

DIVCO MEMBERS	1/22/24	2/12/24	2/26/24	3/4/24	3/18/24	4/1/24	4/15/24	4/29/24	5/13/24
Aguilera, Adrian	P	P	P	P	A	P			
Ansell, Christopher	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Auffhammer, Maximilian	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Bunge, Silvia	P	P	P	P	A	P			
Fernald, Lia	P	P	A	P	P	A			
Firestone, Mary									
Gilles, Keith	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Hayes, Tyrone	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Hesse, Carla	P	P	P	A	A	P			
Landreth, David	P	P	P	P	A	P			
Levy, Jonah	P	A	P	P	P	P			
Morello-Frosch, Rachel	A	P	P	P	P	A			
Nelson, Jelani	A	P	A	P	P	P			
Nuru-Jeter, Amani	P	P	P	P	P	A			
Puckett, Kent	P	P	P	A	P	P			
Sheehan, Jonathan	P	P	P	A	P	P			
Villas-Boas, J. Miguel	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Volpp, Sophie	P	P	A	A	P	P			
Wallace, Nancy									
Wildsoet, Christine	P	P	A	P	P	P			
Wymore, Lisa	P	A	A	A	A	A			

INVITED GUESTS *	1/22/24	2/12/24	2/26/24	3/4/24	3/18/24	4/1/24	4/15/24	4/29/24	5/13/24
Brashers, Elizabeth						P			
Yelick, Elizabeth						P			

SENATE STAFF	1/22/24	2/12/24	2/26/24	3/4/24	3/18/24	4/1/24	4/15/24	4/29/24	5/13/24
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	A	P	P	P	P	P			
Hashimoto, Dorothy	P	P	P	P	P	P			

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting