

UC Berkeley



Academic Senate Chair - Berkeley Division

Dear Colleagues,

The activities in the Academic Senate this past month have been dominated by the federal threats to the University of California (UC) and specifically the action of UC Office of the President (UCOP) to release unredacted incident files to the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights (DIVCO statement linked below). During this period, I have come to appreciate the strong and deep commitment our campus administrators have to shared governance. This is not true on all campuses and we should not take it for granted; current work involves coordinating with other Divisions of the UC Academic Senate, and with the systemwide Academic Senate Chair, to ensure that a similar commitment to shared governance emerges at the UC systemwide level. Towards that end, I want to extend appreciation to all of the faculty, whether individually or in groups or organizations, who have been working to have our collective voices heard, including through lawsuits, statements, and letters. It is critical that we continue this work as UCOP and the Regents make decisions about courses of action in response to the federal actions against UCLA.

Looking ahead to the coming month, I will highlight two additional activities. First, we are currently in the midst of a 90-day review period for changes to the Academic Personnel Manual (APM) related to faculty discipline, including a policy statement related to faculty extramural speech. The changes to the APM were implemented on an interim basis during the summer, but we are now in a comment and review period in advance of a vote of the UC Regents, which is scheduled for January 2026. These changes include APM 015 and 016 as well

as an interpretation document, “Attachment B” (see links below). This will be an important area of focus for Divisional Council later this month.

Secondly, I want to be sure to remind everyone about our Fall Division Meeting, which is scheduled for October 23 at 3:00pm (on *Zoom*, see link below). At this meeting, we will engage in breakout discussions related to free speech and campus climate led by the Academic Senate’s Task Force on Free Speech and Campus Climate in Higher Education. Please join if you are able.

I look forward to engaging with more of you this next month. Our first junior faculty lunch will be held in October, and a second will be held in November.

Unfortunately, we were not able to include everyone who responded positively this month, but look forward to creating future opportunities for engagement.

Those who expressed interest will be contacted about spring events. Finally, I note that my Academic Senate office hours this month will be Fridays, October 10, 17, and 24.

Sincerely,

Mark Stacey

Chair, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate

Links:

[Fall Division Meeting ~ October 23, 2025, 3:00-5:00pm](#)

[Resources on APM015/016 & Attachment B](#)

[DIVCO Statement on the release of unredacted incident files](#)

Office hours (*Zoom* links):

- [October 10, 2:30 - 3:30pm](#)
- [October 17, 2:00 - 2:55pm](#)
- [October 24 2:00 - 3:30pm](#)

This message was sent to all members of the Berkeley Division.

