

APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, January 25, 2021 – 12:10-2:00 PM
Zoom video conference

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, January 25, 2021 via *Zoom* videoconference. Division Chair Jennifer Johnson-Hanks presided. Quorum was present as shown on the attached attendance chart. The agenda was reordered to accommodate the guests for item V.A.

I. MINUTES of the Meeting of December 14, 2020

ACTION: The minutes were approved as presented.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Committee on Committees (COMS) nominations

B. DIVCO Annual Report 2019-20

ACTION: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Jennifer Johnson-Hanks

COVID-19 Testing/Vaccines: University Health Services (UHS) continues to expand access to testing. Testing requirements for on-campus students and faculty are now weekly for faculty and twice weekly for students in dorms, and the newest testing site is the Underhill Parking Lot drive-through option. As for the vaccine, UHS is receiving weekly doses from UC Office of the President (UCOP), and individuals in Phase 1A has been vaccinated. UHS is moving to vaccinate those in Phase 1B.

Shelter-in-place order: Governor Newsom is lifting the current shelter-in-place orders. Outdoor instruction and clinical instruction are able to move forward on February 1, 2021, as planned. Requests were submitted to the Berkeley Health Officer for tier one and two provisional indoor instruction courses, and the requests were not approved. Requests were revised to only include tier one courses.

Fall 2021: UCOP has announced that classes will be in-person in the fall, and the planning process for this is undetermined.

Working Groups: There is nothing to report for the Joint Budget Committee or the Mills planning process. The groups on Working Titles and Online Instruction After COVID, will start meeting in early February.

Outgoing Campus leadership: There are three members of cabinet stepping down, as well as six dean searches occurring. There will be a panel of outgoing deans at a future DIVCO

meeting this spring to discuss ways to work effectively with the Senate. There will be at least one outgoing cabinet member coming to DIVCO as well.

Systemwide announcements

Another round of “re-benching” (altering the allocation methods that UCOP distributes money from legislature to the campuses) has been mentioned.

The working group that examined the feasibility of a new college entrance exam for undergraduate admissions has given a report to UC Regents. The recommendation is that it is not possible for UC to create a new test in 18 months; instead, an existing test called *Smarter Balance* is recommended with modifications.

Every year, the 10 UC campuses are required to submit a five-year planning perspective. Between the 10 campuses, there are over 500 plans for new degrees, programs, colleges, etc.; most of these plans are oriented toward professional masters degrees. Newly proposed Ph.D. programs have decreased.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion only: Remote Proctoring Working Group report/recommendations

At the December 14, 2020 DIVCO meeting, the report of the joint subcommittee of the Committee on Courses of Instruction (COCI) and Undergraduate Council (UGC) was discussed. At this meeting, UGC Chair provided additional comments.

Some of the key recommendations in this report will take time to implement, especially the preparation of educational materials for faculty using remote proctoring in their teaching. If we start now, the materials might be ready for summer 2021. We agreed to ask the leadership of the current subcommittee to continue to offer their expertise and to manage the develop of these materials..

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion only: Decarbonization and campus energy

Guests: Marc Fisher, Vice Chancellor, Administration

Sally McGarrahan, Associate Vice Chancellor, Facilities Services

Kira Stoll, Chief Sustainability & Carbon Solutions Officer

Chair Johnson-Hanks introduced the guests to DIVCO members. Associate Vice Chancellor McGarrahan briefly introduced the topic and explained that Berkeley currently has a natural gas fired cogeneration plant that is near the end of it useful life and all ongoing strategies will require significant capital investment. In addition, the electricity distribution system is at capacity and adding new buildings will require an upgrade to the distribution system. Kira Stoll, Chief Sustainability Officer, offered a detailed presentation of the plan for decarbonization of campus energy. She shared the UC system goal, which is to have zero-net carbon emissions by 2025, and the Berkeley goal, which is a carbon-free energy campus by 2035. Berkeley met its 2020 target to reduce emissions below 1990 levels in 2014. Over 70% of emissions come from the cogeneration plant. Currently, there are hundreds of energy efficiency projects among campus buildings, and Berkeley has saved over 15,000 tons of carbon from efficiency

measures. The goals are to decarbonize the energy system on the entire campus, to maintain current resilience to public safety power shutoffs, and to allow for campus expansion.

Associate Vice Chancellor McGarrahan expressed described feasibility and technical studies and her team's engagement with campus experts and philanthropists, as well as colleagues, faculty, and leadership in government and similar higher education universities. Over a dozen alternatives paths have been considered, her presentation focused on a subset of these that are most similar to the current state and the most aggressive CO₂ reduction paths..

Currently, Berkeley spends about \$31 million per year in operations and maintenance for utilities. Operating costs are lower than some of the alternatives because of the very low price for natural gas. Uncertainty about the future of natural gas prices is one of the key issues to consider in making plans. The proposal system with the smallest carbon footprint includes substantial solar power on rooftops and on land in the hills behind campus. Switching to the new system would be a significant capital investment and a large increase in operating costs. There is substantial interest from legislators and donors in making the campus carbon neutral VC Fisher expressed optimism that donors and/or the state might provide the bulk of the capital expenses required to make the changes in energy supply needed.

Discussion followed with DIVCO members expressing support for the goals but concern about the capital investment and operating costs.

B. Discussion only: What are our expectations for faculty regarding returning to campus after COVID-19?

Chair Johnson-Hanks began this topic by stating that students, faculty, and staff will start coming back to campus sometime this fall or spring of 2022, and that there is a need to start envisioning what faculty life would look like after COVID-19. The questions she posed to DIVCO members were: Do we feel comfortable requiring faculty to teach in person? If so, will it be all of we the time? What are we comfortable requiring of our colleagues? What do we expect of ourselves? She clarified that we don't get decision rights on this, but we can advocate for the vision that we want.

Discussion opened among DIVCO members. Most agreed that teaching needs to be in-person. However, there are concerns, such as individuals with compromised immune systems, that can make this a difficult topic to make decisions on.

Some DIVCO members brought up staff working remotely. While teaching should be in-person, there will be staff members who may ask to work from home all or most of the time due to the commute to campus or other factors. While most of the committee agreed that while work can and has been being done remotely, there is a lot that is lost by not being in-person.

Chair Johnson-Hanks then closed the conversation by asking DIVCO members to think about who should make these decisions, and which parts of this discussion the decisions should be made on. Are there parts of this that should be at the discretion of individual faculty members?

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Chancellor's response to Faculty Athletic Council (FACL) memo on winter sports

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm

Recorder: Haniya Ferrell, Administrative Assistant

**Approved Minutes
Meeting of Divisional Council
January 25, 2021**

Mitchell, Lanayah																		
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P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting