The Committee on Committees (COMS) conducted bi-weekly meetings during the academic year. The Committee also had dozens of email exchanges throughout the year to address requests and concerns that arose between meetings. During the summer months, members authorized the committee chair to act on their behalf from the last meeting in the spring semester to their first meeting in the fall.

The duties of COMS are to appoint members to Academic Senate committees, and to recommend, when requested by the campus or systemwide administration, academic senate nominees for appointment to other types of committees/task forces. In fulfilling the committee’s responsibilities, COMS filled over 280 standing committee positions for the 2020-21 academic year, with representation from 57 departments/schools on campus, in addition to suggesting scores of names of Academic Senate members to serve on various systemwide and campus committees/task forces. In carrying out these responsibilities, members contacted current committee chairs and analysts to assess members’ willingness to continue the next academic year. Committee chairs were asked how well their committees were functioning and what they needed in the way of new appointments. Deans and department chairs also were contacted because they know how to match faculty interests to the needs of Senate service.

COMS members worked to engage in outreach and information sharing within their own departments and would like to encourage the members of other Senate committees to share information learned during their committee meetings in members’ respective department meetings. COMS noted that their outreach and information sharing benefit the Senate and serves as a way to have more balanced committee membership and more inclusive Senate election ballots.

In the Fall of 2019, COMS reached out to the Division Chair, Division Vice Chair, and the Associate Vice Provost of the Faculty about broadening faculty engagement, especially URM engagement, on Senate committees. This Faculty Engagement group held monthly meeting to develop and implement strategies for fostering greater participation in the Senate. Although the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted most of the group’s planned actions, the Associate Vice Provost shared information about URM faculty with COMS for the first time in several years, and this allowed COMS to more effectively foster diversity and inclusion on Senate committees and in Senate leadership positions. COMS trusts that this information sharing will continue. Once the Senate’s response to COVID-19 no longer occupies so much of Divisional Council’s time, COMS hopes that the Faculty Engagement group will reengage.
Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Committee on Committees
ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

APPROVED

Submitted by:

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In fulfilling its charge, as established in the Bylaws of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate, COMS carried out the following activities.

A. Academic Senate Committees: Appointments to all of Berkeley’s standing committees for 2020-21.

B. UC Systemwide Committees: Nominations of Berkeley campus representatives to all 16 standing systemwide committees for 2020-21. COMS also nominates Berkeley Senate faculty to additional systemwide requests. COMS recommended faculty nominees to the following systemwide committee/task forces.

- Campus Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Implementation Committees
- Climate Change Task Force
- Cultural Repatriation Policy Advisory Workgroup
- Editorial Committee
- Extending Diversity Task Force
- Native American Repatriation Implementation and Oversight Committee
- Online Undergraduate Degrees Task Force
- President’s Global Climate Leadership Council
- Scientific Review Panel on the California Air Resources Board – Toxic Air Contaminants
- Shared Library Facilities Board
- Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee
- UCDC Academic Advisory Committee
- UCI Chancellor Review
- UC Presidential Search Academic Advisory Committee
- UC Rules and Jurisdiction Ex-Officio
APPROVED

- University Committee on Planning and Budget's Task Force on Agriculture and Natural Resources

C. Administrative Committees: COMS recommended faculty nominees for the following administrative committees.

- Academic Program Committees
- ASUC Student Union Board of Directors
- Academic Advising Council
- BAMPFA Director Search Committee
- Building Name Review Committee
- Capital Campaign Committee
- Capital Planning Committee
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on LGBTQ+ Communities at Cal
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Muslim and Palestinian Student Life and Campus Experience
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Mental Health
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Student Services and Fees
- Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women
- Campus Committee on Classroom Policy and Management
- Compliance & Enterprise Risk Policy Subcommittee
- Coordinated Community Review Team (CCRT)
- Course Materials and Service Fee Committee
- Fall 2020 Task Force
- Gift Acceptance Policy Working Group
- Graduate Student Diversity Task Force
- Graduate Student Task Force
- Hellman Fellows Fund Award Committee
- Independent Advisory Board on Policy Accountability and Community Safety
- International Activities Coordination Group
- Oversight Committee on Parking and Transportation
- Peer Review Committee
- Executive Decision Committee (People's Park)
- Open Space and Commemorative Element Program Committee (People's Park)
- President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Advisory Committee
- Recreational Sports Board of Governors
- Space Assignments on Capital Improvements Committee (SACI)
- Strategic Plan Signature Initiatives
- Student Tech Fund
APPROVED

• University Athletics Board

D. External Program Review nominations: COMS reviews the Senate Liaison nominations for the academic program reviews.
• Italian Studies
• Slavic Languages and Literature
• School of Public Policy

E. Dean or Chancellor Searches/Reviews: COMS recommended faculty nominees for the following administrative searches/reviews.
• Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Student Search Committee
• Associate Vice Provost for the Faculty Search Committee
• Dean of the Graduate School of Education Search Committee
• Dean of the School of Journalism Search Committee
• Division of Arts and Humanities Dean Search
• College of Letters and Science Executive Dean Search Committee
• Goldman School of Public Policy Dean Search
• Vice Chancellor for Finance Search Committee

F. Miscellaneous
• ASUC and Graduate Assembly student member appointments
• Filling any late vacancies on campus and systemwide committees
• UC Retirement System Advisory Board