

APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, April 17, 2023 – 12:10-2:00 PM
Stephens Hall, Conference Room 310

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, April 17, 2023, in Stephens Hall conference room 310. Division Chair Mary Ann Smart presided. Quorum was present, as shown on the attached attendance chart. The agenda was reordered to accommodate the guest for item V.A.

I. A. MINUTES of the meeting of April 3, 2023

ACTION: The minutes were approved as presented.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Proposed Revisions to BDR A204 (P/NP; S/U Grades)

B. Proposed Revisions to BDB 45 (Committee on Teaching)

C. GC 3-Year Review of Master of Information and Cybersecurity (MICS) SSGPDP

D. 2023 Leon A. Henkin Citation for Distinguished Service Nomination

ACTION: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair Mary Ann Smart

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Retiring: The Vice Chancellor for Finance and CFO Rosemarie Rae is retiring from Berkeley, effective June 30th. There are hopes to get an interim person in that position by July 1st.

Disabled Students Program (DSP) search: The DSP search committee is about two-thirds through the search for the next director of DSP.

CDSS: Wednesday, April 19, 2023, is the deadline for Berkeley to meet the conditions that Academic Council set to meet the approval guidelines for CDSS, which has gone well so far.

Future DIVCO meetings: There is just one DIVCO meeting remaining for the semester. The May 8th DIVCO meeting will be 2.5 hours long.

Academic Senate End-of-Year Reception: The Academic Senate End-of-Year Reception will take place on May 10th, 2023, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in 320 Stephens Hall.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Berkeley Faculty Service Award (BFSA) Nominations

Chair Smart recommended that DIVCO endorse FAC's selections.

ACTION: DIVCO endorsed the BFSAs nominations.

B. Discussion only: UGC Proposal for Reporting Transcript GPA

The Chair of Undergraduate Council (UGC) shared that the proposal to exclude lower division courses from a student's GPA could have a positive impact on the undergraduate student experience, such as allowing students to make a couple of mistakes during their early years without them feeling as though it will have a negative effect on their entire educational journey.

DIVCO members raised several issues, one being the impact that this would have on transfer students since most/all of their classes at Berkeley are upper-division courses. Another concern was the issue of having multiple GPAs listed on the transcript, and which GPA would be used for what purpose. Several DIVCO members noted that this change does not correlate well with the ways student performance is measured at Berkeley, and questioned what would be the official use of a GPA that excludes lower-division courses.

Another question that arose was whether there would be an incentive for students to perform well in lower-division courses, if they'd be excluded from the GPA.

Ultimately, DIVCO decided not to make a recommendation to the registrar and suggested that UGC work to address the concerns that were raised before proceeding with this proposal.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion only: Advocacy in Sacramento

Guest: Christine Treadway, Assistant Chancellor, Government and Community Relations

After brief introductions, Assistant Chancellor Treadway provided some context on happenings at the State Capitol. The fiscal realities of the budget continue to create challenges; the State has been giving UC gradual increases in funding each year over the last decade, but they haven't kept pace with growing costs. There is also pressure for enrollment growth from the UC Regents, but no space for this kind of expansion. It has been difficult to balance out advocacy in a way that does not seem tone-deaf to the State fiscal situation.

In addition, about one-third of the legislature in Sacramento turned over at the last election, so there are many new legislators to educate. There have also been a record number of bills in the last decade. The State fiscal climate is impacted by cuts in the tech sector, with the decline in the stock market and decrease in capital gains revenue. The fiscal climate has also been impacted by the tax fund deadline, which has been extended to October for 2022 taxes.

Assistant Chancellor Treadway encouraged DIVCO members who want to be involved in advocacy to get involved and shared a few ways that they could do that. Calling and emailing offices is effective, as well as attending local townhall meetings. Another way

to get involved is by calling into the budget subcommittee hearings where they take comments from the public. UC Systemwide Advocacy Day will take place on May 9, 2023. The Chancellor will be heading up to Sacramento that day, and there will be a reception in the evening as well.

On the political side, a group of alumni and donors (known as “Friends of the University”) have been bundling contributions for legislators. There is also an External Relations Committee that has been holding quarterly meetings with the Government and Community Relations group. There is also a new Director of State Government Relations, Miguel Martinez.

In the DIVCO discussion that followed, members asked questions about the usefulness of calling representatives that aren’t in their district, additional actions to take that might be effective, the differences in the legislature’s attitude to the CSU and UC systems, and additional details about Systemwide Advocacy Day.

B. Discussion/action: Review of the Department of French

Chair Smart provided a brief summary of committee comments. The main issues appeared to be:

- The time-to-degree is not sustainable and must be reduced.
- Graduate students in the program describe the master’s exam experience as “traumatic.”
- Undergraduate enrollment needs to be increased; and the department should form an undergraduate committee to oversee the quality of the undergraduate experience.
- There are climate issues among faculty. An anonymous climate survey might be helpful.

Other issues that arose were the fact that the department is short-staffed, that some L&S advisors recommend against students enrolling in language courses, and that DIVCO generally supports strengthening the foreign language requirement for students in L & S.

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

C. Discussion/action: Review of the Department of Nuclear Engineering

Chair Smart provided a brief summary of committee comments. The main issues appeared to be:

- lack of mentoring for junior faculty.
- need for more structured graduate student mentoring; there seems to be no graduate student handbook.
- need of a more effective DEI plan, more efforts should be made to increase the enrollment of women.
- need for better support of transfer students.
- pay delays for Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs).

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

D. Discussion/action: Proposed Amendments to BDB 3 (Officers of the Division, Chair Term)

Chair Smart explained that this proposal originated from a faculty member who is concerned about the appearance of conflict of interest of senate chairs who move almost immediately into administrative positions. The Committee on Rules and Elections (R&E) improved this proposed bylaw quite a bit. R&E also raised some questions about what the language should be about which positions exactly that the Senate Chair would be prohibited from accepting.

A couple of DIVCO members spoke against this proposal, noting that this bylaw would be almost impossible to enforce and therefore would have only performative force. It was also pointed out that Chairs of the Academic Senate often possess the skills and deep knowledge of the campus that would make them effective in the administration and that it might not be to the advantage of the campus to restrict them from pursuing such roles.

A few DIVCO members felt that the performative aspect of this proposed bylaw was important, as many faculty don't trust the Senate Chair to have the faculty's best interests at heart. The cost of this proposal seems relatively low, as the Division Chair would only be prohibited from accepting an administrative position for just one year.

The proposal was moved to a vote, and the majority voted in favor.

ACTION: This proposed bylaw will be added to the agenda for the next meeting of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate to be voted on by Senate members.

E. Discussion only: Office for Faculty Equity and Welfare (OFEW) Processes

Chair Smart explained that the letters included in the DIVCO agenda packet raised concerns about Senate involvement in search procedures.

The Chair of the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) shared a thought that BIR should have more of a consultative role in the search process, and raised a question about what exactly OFEW's role is in the search process and what they have jurisdiction over, which should be clarified.

DIVCO members agreed that the OFEW guidelines and procedures in the search process should include more Senate involvement, especially due to a lack of transparency and faculty knowledge during searches. A few DIVCO members brought up the idea of a review committee and what Senate representation should look like on such a committee.

F. Discussion only: Committee Updates – COCI, FWEL, UGC

Due to lack of time, this item will be continued to the DIVCO meeting on May 8th, 2023.

**G. Forward*: Proposal for a New Undergraduate Bachelor of Science Degree Program
in Education**

**Items available on the DIVCO Box site.*

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – None

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00p.m.
Recorder: Haniya Ferrell, Administrative Assistant

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, SPRING 2023

DIVCO MEMBERS	1/23/23	2/6/23	2/27/23	3/13/23	3/20/23	4/3/23	4/17/23	5/8/23
Aguilera, Adrian	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	
Ashmore, Robert	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Auffhammer, Maximilian	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	
Berrick, Jill Duerr	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	
Boering, Kristie	A	P	P	P	P	A	P	
Doremus, Holly	P		P	P	P	P	P	
Fernald, Lia	P	P	P	A	A	P		
Fischer, Felix	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Gilless, J. Keith*	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	
Ginsborg, Hannah	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	
Glaunsinger, Britt	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	
Hoofnagle, Chris	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Leonard, Thomas	A	P	A	P	P	P	P	
Luo, Kunxin	P	P	A	A	P	P	P	
Olney, Martha	P	P	A	P	A	P	P	
Philip, Thomas	A	P	A	P	P	A	P	
Smart, Mary Ann	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Sweetser, Eve	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	
Wymore, Lisa	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	
Wallace, Nancy	P		P					
INVITED GUESTS *	1/23/23	2/6/23	2/27/23	3/13/23	3/20/23	4/3/23	4/17/23	5/8/23
García Bedolla, Lisa		P						
Cohn, Jenae		P						

Dark, Shawna		P						
Mojjadam, Erfan		P						
Yelick, Katherine			P					
Cochran, Susan			P					
Steintrager, James			P					
Matos, Dania				P				
Roth, Andrea					P			
Aponte, Gregory						P		
Treadway, Christine							P	

SENATE STAFF	1/23/23	2/6/23	2/27/23	3/13/23	3/20/23	4/3/23	4/17/23	5/8/23
Allen, Patrick								
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Corley, Linda								
Dobin, Deborah								
Ferrell, Haniya	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Lynch, William								
MacIntyre, Courtney								
Marias Dezendorf, Rachel								
Mitchell, Lanayah								
Quiggle, Sumei								

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting