

**APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, August 28, 2023 - 12:10-2:00 PM
Stephens Hall, Room 310**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, August 28, 2023 in Stephens Hall, room 310. Division Chair Maximilian Auffhammer presided. Quorum was present, as shown on the attached attendance chart.

I. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

A. Land Acknowledgement

II. A. MINUTES of the meeting of May 16, 2023

ACTION: The Minutes were approved as presented.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

Chair Maximilian Auffhammer explained what type of items could be labeled under the Consent Calendar, and how members can add and approve them.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. DIVCO Orientation: Chair Auffhammer reviewed the Standing Order of the Regents 105.1 and Bylaw 40.1, as well as Berkeley Division Bylaw 4 and its relevance on how to conduct business at DIVCO.

Chair Auffhammer reported the summer activities of the Division Chair, as well as his priorities for the upcoming academic year.

The Division was informed of the search process with regards to the Chancellor Search in late July. COMS nominated nine faculty members to serve on the *UC Berkeley Chancellor Search Advisory Committee*. DIVCO will discuss the Chancellor search at the September 11, 2023 DIVCO meeting and will be expected to write a short document on preferred characteristics of a chancellor to be given to the search committee, which will be appointed in the near future by UCOP.

Chair Auffhammer acknowledged the complaints from the faculty and the *Berkeley Faculty Association* regarding delays in decisions on academic personnel cases. The outgoing and incoming Division Chairs wrote a letter to the Vice Provost for the Faculty. The Chancellor and the Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost (EVCP) are aware of the backlog.

Next, Chair Auffhammer briefly explained the mathematics entry requirements from high school into the UC, broadening what is acceptable for *area c, Mathematics*. A systemwide advisory group will be created and its charge is examine which high school courses should be included in *area c*.

For the 2023-24 year, Chair Auffhammer's priorities include the Chancellor's search, graduate education on the Berkeley campus, the role of artificial intelligence (AI) and instruction, and the future of Athletics on campus.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Conflict of Interest guidelines for Divisional Council

This item was discussed later in the meeting.

B. Discussion only: EVCP Campus Updates and Budget Discussion

Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost (EVCP) Benjamin Hermalin answered the questions submitted by DIVCO.

The first question asked about his priorities, which are the following:

- Financial sustainability – how can we sustain ourselves financially;
- Continuing to work on reducing bureaucratic burden;
- Improving inclusion and belonging on campus and in the classroom;
- Preparing for the next Chancellor;
- Help integrate across research areas;
- Graduate education; and
- Greater involvement of state authorities.

The next question was on safety and crime. EVCP Hermalin acknowledged that there are issues of crime in the area and addressed campus safety and its challenges. He discussed strategies for increasing safety on campus. Berkeley does an excellent job at collecting crime statistics, which we are required to do by law. Administration has decided to increase spending on police by maintaining the number of offices and creating more positions (non-uniformed). A plan includes to educate students in safety procedures and work with residential programs to be more conscious of their environments.

EVCP Hermalin spoke on the administrative review of academic personnel cases and the backlog. He acknowledged the unprecedented backlog in cases. There were more retention cases than in past. Some issues noted were that some cases were not being submitted in a timely fashion and having to deal with late procedures. There may be new forms for certain reviews as one way to deal with the backlog.

The next topic was on the next steps on the *Reducing Bureaucratic Burden* project, which included a discussion on the proliferation of task forces. There should be a change in culture to reduce bureaucratic burden, such as encouraging individuals to view themselves as problem solvers. Efforts are being worked on some of the findings of the report, such as working on getting people paid in a timely manner; and seeking efficiencies in procurement and parking

A question arose on how to handle the increasing number of students with disabilities. Discussion followed that students need to take a full load so that complete funding can be gained; training to faculty on the laws and rights of students; and meet students on where they are.

A. Discussion only: Conflict of Interest guidelines for Divisional Council

Chair Auffhammer discussed what types of conflict that may arise and what actions members may take should those occur, which include personal conflict, financial interest, and other types of conflicts of interests. Members do not have to publicly state the conflict. He encouraged committee chairs to discuss the *Conflict of Interest* guidelines at the first committee meetings.

C. Forward*: Review of the Department of Architecture

D. Forward*: Review of the School of Optometry and Vision Science

E. Forward*: Review of the revised proposal for Department and undergraduate Degree Neuroscience

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. 2022-23 Panel of Counselors (POC) Annual Report

B. DIVCO 2023-24 information

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59pm

Recorder: Dorothy Hashimoto, Administrative Assistant

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, FALL 2023

DIVCO MEMBERS	8/28/23	9/11/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/23	12/11/23
Allen, Amani	P							
Ansell, Christopher	P							
Auffhammer, Maximilian	P							
Bunge, Silvia	P							
Deacon, Terrence	P							
Fernald, Lia	A							
Firestone, Mary	P							
Hayes, Tyrone	P							
Hoofnagle, Chris	P							
Landreth, David	P							
Levy, Jonah	P							
Morello-Frosch, Rachel	P							
Nelson, Jelani	P							
Puckett, Kent	P							
Sheehan, Jonathan	P							
Villas-Boas, J. Miguel	P							
Volpp, Sophie	P							
Wallace, Nancy	P							
Wildsoet, Christine	P							
Wymore, Lisa	P							
INVITED GUESTS *	8/28/23	9/11/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/12	12/11/23

SENATE STAFF	8/28/23	9/11/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/23	12/11/23
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P							
Hashimoto, Dorothy	P							

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting