

**APPROVED MINUTES  
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL  
Monday November 13, 2023 – 12:10-2:00 PM  
Stephens Hall, Room 310**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, November 13, 2023 in Stephens Hall, room 310. Division Chair Maximilian Auffhammer presided. A 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 October 30, 2023

**ACTION:** The minutes were not submitted for this meeting.

**II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Committee on Committees (COMS) nominations**

*Enclosure 2*

**ACTION:** The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Division Chair Max Auffhammer*

Chair Auffhammer reviewed the Fall Division meeting that was held on November 2, 2023. The panel on *Accommodations and flexible arrangements* went well and the video on the panel part may be posted on the Academic Senate website. The College of Computing, Data Science, and Society (CDSS) now has a faculty that can formally vote moving forward. Chair Auffhammer issued his congratulations to the School of Education which now has a major.

Chair Auffhammer thanked Chair Sophie Volpp of the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education (AEPE) for her leadership and partnership in various complicated admissions projects.

Chair Auffhammer provided updates regarding the Chancellor search. The job description has been finalized and should be posted soon.

Chair Auffhammer is concerned with the budget deficit for next year. The previous year's budget shortfall was addressed by realizing some one-time investment gains, but the underlying structural problems will still be there. There will be further financial pressures from the athletics conference move, mandatory salary increases and several other items.

Chair Auffhammer was happy to announce that the Committee on Teaching (COT) created a document titled *Initial Thoughts and Suggestions Regarding Implications of Large Language Models (LLMs) (e.g., ChatGPT) for Fall Final Assessments*. Chair Puckett of Graduate Council (GC) and Elected DIVCO Member Chris Hoofnagle were thanked for their feedback on this piece. Further, Berkeley's Center for Research,

Teaching, and Learning (RTL) and Graduate Division hosted a workshop that Chair Auffhammer attended; he will be sharing the excellent slides with any DIVCO members who are interested.

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS—None

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. Discussion only: Updates from University of California (UC) Systemwide Academic Senate

*Guest: Jim Steintrager, UC Systemwide Academic Senate Council Chair*

Systemwide Senate Chair Steintrager described his priorities for the year, which included:

- Protecting shared governance and working effectively with the UC Regents;
- Communicating effectively systemwide level on what the Senate does;
- Increasing participation in the Senate (new faculty may not be informed about senate service).

Chair Steintrager addressed questions from DIVCO members that were submitted to him. These included:

- A comment on how much time the UC undergraduate admissions requirement *Area C* have taken up despite other more important pressing issues currently on the table was made.
- There was a question if the Academic Council objected to the contract's intrusion into matters of academic credit and standing (i.e. the 299 syllabi).
  - Chair Steintrager mentioned that there is significant legal risk which requires pushing back. The union's purview and academic business should be separate.
  - Regarding negotiations, faculty did not have much of a voice. Negotiations were negotiated by negotiators and were not made with enough faculty input.
- Indirect cost recovery (IDC)—we pay overhead rates but UCOP rates govern them—is this something being talked about?
  - Senate Chair Steintrager has not heard this and would do more research. To his knowledge, the Office of the President (OP) does not receive any portion of the indirect cost recovery. The money OP receives goes through an assessment and do not get a direct cut. He mentions it is worth looking at indirect cost recovery more generally, such as how graduate student funding is done.
  - Guest Keith Gilles of Faculty Welfare (FWEL) made the distinction that this is not a systemwide issue and three agricultural UC campuses (i.e., UCB, UCI, and UCR) are affected by this.
  - Chair Wildsoet of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) noted that when serving on a national review board, she noticed that the UC system had much lower rates of indirects than those in private universities.

Chair Auffhammer shared that Systemwide Senate Chair Steintrager is serving on both UCB and UCLA Chancellor Search Committees. There was an inquiry as to why there were six Regents on the search committees; Chair Steintrager explained that the Regents changed the search process. His understanding is that there is a significant faculty presence on the search committees, who are expected to do the “heavy lifting.” Chair Auffhammer mentioned that the search firm seems to be doing a good job.

**B. Discussion/action:** Review of the Department of Economics  
*Enclosures 3a - 3f*

Chair Auffhammer highlighted the following:

- There are too few faculty full-time equivalent (FTE) for the massive growth in the undergraduate population majoring in Economics.
- The new admissions model is called the “L&S High-Demand Majors for First-Year Students.” There is a question if it makes sense to proactively engage in the design of policies that decrease the number of students in a major that is in high demand and whose teaching capacity is expanding.
- The pipeline in the field is dismal – despite some significant efforts in the DEIBJ space.

The Chairs of the committees were then asked to highlight their findings.

Chair Villas-Boas of the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) stressed the importance of the large class sizes and are not being great for the students. Regarding facilities umbrella, CAPRA inquired about the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Evans Hall and the new building.

Chair Morello-Frosch of the Committee of Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) mentioned that the Department of Economics has been quite successful in requesting off-cycle FTEs particularly in non-tenured searches. If the department plans to grow, it will need to develop a fundraising strategy perhaps in collaboration with other units. In terms of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), the committee commends the department for their efforts for being better than most but can still do better to be more diverse. A suggestion was to mentor post-doctorate fellows from the UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) and hire them straight out of the program and those FTEs can last for 5 years.

Chair Wildsoet of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) found that graduate students will need climate issues addressed despite aiming to eliminate the two-tier system. There is a diversity issue that seems to be better at the undergraduate level and gradually gets worse as one goes up to graduate and faculty levels in terms of women and underrepresented individuals.

Chair Puckett of the Graduate Council (GC) echoed the issue of diversity in the pipeline as one moves from undergraduate to faculty. There was a proposal to increase the size in the graduate program to handle the increased numbers of undergraduates. GC agreed with the ERC advice against this increase. There should

be a change of the methods, not the numbers when it comes to the issue of graduate students teaching these courses.

Chair Ansell of Undergraduate Council (UGC) agreed with the ERC report that the department needs to grow. UGC disagreed with the cap on undergraduate admissions, which they did not understand to reducing the size but instead limiting the growth. Removing the cap had its own consequences that were not considered by the ERC. UGC also disagreed with the ERC argument against hiring teaching professors; the department should hire lecturers. It is important to consider that they cost less than faculty but have long term stability and commitment to the teaching program.

Discussion ensued surrounding Lecturers with Security of Employment (LSOE) and their models and how they contribute in relation to the campus' faculty and FTE issues.

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

**C. Discussion/action:** *Systemwide Senate Review Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 55: Departmental Voting Rights*  
*Enclosures 4a-4c*

The proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 55 plans to offer Teaching Professors/Lecturer with Security of Employment (LSOE) voting rights within their departments across the UC system. At present, those in the Teaching Professor series may vote on others in their own series but not on those in the Professor series unless so approved by two thirds vote within the department.

The recommendations from the Committee on Rules and Elections (R&E) were to go the general route and have this stay at the department level since teaching professors have very different roles in different disciplines. The Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) shared the same sentiments to leave it at the discretion of departments.

Chair Wildsoet of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) noted that within the school of Optometry, clinical faculty had been non-voting for many years. They found that allowing them voting rights have changed the climate of the school in a positive way.

**ACTION:** DIVCO members authorized Chair Auffhammer to draft a letter and forward committee comments to the Chair of Academic Council.

**D. Discussion only:** Delayed Merit Cases & Vice Provost of Faculty Response

Chair Auffhammer updated DIVCO members that a formal response was received. The letter was shared with DIVCO members on the *Box* site.

**E. Forward\*** *Review of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning*

*Forwarded to the committees on Academic Planning & Recourse Allocation (CAPRA); Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR); Diversity, Equity and Campus Climate (DECC); Graduate Council (GC); and Undergraduate Council (UGC). DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for January 22, 2024.*

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS—None**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm

Recorder: Dorothy Hashimoto, Administrative Assistant

**DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, FALL 2023**

DIVCO MEMBERS	8/28/23	9/11/23	9/18/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/23	12/11/23
Allen, Amani	P	A	P	P	P	P	P		
Ansell, Christopher	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Auffhammer, Maximilian	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Bunge, Silvia	P	P	P	A	P	P	A		
Deacon, Terrence	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Gilles, Keith							P		
Fernald, Lia	A	P	P	P	A	A	P		
Firestone, Mary									
Hayes, Tyrone	P	P	A	P	P	P	P		
Hoofnagle, Chris	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Landreth, David	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Levy, Jonah	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Morello-Frosch, Rachel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Nelson, Jelani	P	P	P	P	P	P	A		
Puckett, Kent	P	A	A	P	P	P	P		
Sheehan, Jonathan	P	P	P	P	P	P	A		
Villas-Boas, J. Miguel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Volpp, Sophie	P	P	P	P	A	P	P		
Wallace, Nancy							P		
Wildsoet, Christine	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Wymore, Lisa	P	P	A	P	A	P	P		

INVITED GUESTS *	8/28/23	9/11/23	9/18/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/23	12/11/23
Steintrager, Jim							P		

SENATE STAFF	8/28/23	9/11/23	9/18/23	10/2/23	10/16/23	10/30/23	11/13/23	12/4/23	12/11/23
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
Hashimoto, Dorothy	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		

P=Present    A=Absent    \* Non-voting