

APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, November 7, 2022 – 12:10-2:00 PM
South Hall, Room 205

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, November 7, 2022 in South Hall, room 205. 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 October 24, 2022

ACTION: The minutes were approved as presented.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Committee on Committees (COMS) nominations

ACTION: The Consent Calendar was approved as presented.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Report of the Working Group on the Role of the University in Social/Political Actions

Chair Smart began with a summary of where the discussion left off when DIVCO first discussed this report, with a few members agreeing that departments should not make statements at all. Chair Smart then asked if DIVCO feedback should reflect that sentiment.

A few DIVCO members expressed a strong preference for a policy that permits departments to issue such statements, suggesting that the ideal is balance. One member brought up the fact that people/faculty will make statements regardless of campus policy, hence the importance of a clear university guidelines on political statements. Other points raised included departments that have obvious political connections and possible hiring ramifications of department political statements. DIVCO mostly agreed, however, that departments should not be prohibited from making statements but should be given guidelines for how to make decisions about when to issue a statement and how to fairly and sensitively assess opinion within the community (including of dissenters).

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Smart to draft a statement endorsing the principles of the report and circulate it to DIVCO for feedback.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion/action: Library Budget

Guest: Daniel Melia, Chair of Library Committee (LIBR)

Professor Melia began by explaining the three main issues with the library budget

1. There has been a continuous shrinkage in campus support for the library for the last 20 years, with the result that the library has lost 50% of its FTE.

2. Over 50% of the library's budget is for subscriptions and access to digital materials, which need continuous management.
3. The library cannot carry out its three main major responsibilities – archiving, accessing, and acquisition – with its current budget.

Professor Melia then shared that LIBR would like to see a gesture to bolster the acquisitions budget as well as a plan moving forward to avoid the deterioration of the library.

DIVCO members expressed sympathy for the idea of adding more funding to the library and discussed the importance of the library for students as a study space and hub for resources.

Chair Smart posed the question of whether DIVCO should make a statement, and if so, what that statement should entail. DIVCO members discussed the possibility of a senate taskforce and what their charge would be. The last taskforce for the library produced the 2013 Report of the Commission on the Future of the Library. DIVCO also engaged in thoughtful discussion on which ideas should be emphasized in the committee statement.

ACTION: DIVCO authorized Chair Smart to draft a letter in support of the library and send to administration.

B. Discussion/action: Systemwide Senate Review of Revision to Senate Regulation 630

Chair Smart explained that these revisions are to the regulation on residency requirements. Informed by committee comments, DIVCO discussion included the following issues:

- COCI argues that the revised regulation may be impossible to enforce, given that Berkeley's course enrollment system does not include information about the proportion of remote vs in-person content in a course. The revised regulation would certainly cause additional administrative burden on student advisors and undergraduate students.
- Students would be unaware that they have violated a rule until after the fact, as there is no way to check whether a course meets the residency requirement during registration.
- Some of the terminology used is unclear and could lead to misunderstanding.
- There was concern about the idea of a two-tier system that places online instruction inferior to face-to-face instruction.

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

C. Discussion/action: Systemwide Senate Review of Entry Level Writing Requirement Task Force Report and Recommendations

A very brief DIVCO discussion included the fact that Berkeley's administration has already made a decision about how it will approach creating a new writing requirement. The Executive Dean of the College of Letters & Science has convened a taskforce, and

the new requirement could be implemented as early as spring semester. However, because of the short time frame, there is concern about what the new assessment will look like, as well as the sense that Berkeley students need more support and training to strengthen their writing.

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

D. Discussion/action: Systemwide Senate Review of Proposed Senate Regulation 479 (Cal-GETC)

DIVCO discussion included appreciation of the student-centered language in this proposal, but concerns were expressed about the removal of the “Language Other than English” proficiency requirement. Students will need to take a foreign language for graduation, and there will be an increased demand for language courses. Another area of contention included a gap of the applicability of streamlining transfer pathways.

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

E. Discussion only: Possible UAW strike (Academic Student Employees, Graduate Student Researchers)

Chair Smart explained that the United Auto Workers union will continue bargaining with UC, but it does not look likely that an agreement will be reached before November 14th and a strike will ensue on that date. Chair Smart then asked DIVCO members what kind of advice/resources the Senate should provide to colleagues.

DIVCO discussion followed, and some DIVCO members shared that the communication they have received from colleagues thus far has been vague and unclear as far as what is and is not acceptable for faculty members. Things that would be helpful to include in a statement from the Senate would include: guidance on grading and final exams, faculty rights during the strike, and sympathy for graduate students.

After the discussion, Chair Smart stated that she would begin drafting a document with guidance for colleagues, and then circulate to DIVCO for input and collaboration.

F. Forward*: Proposal for a New Undergraduate Major in East Asian Humanities

G. Forward*: Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Sustainable Practices

*Items available on the DIVCO Box site.

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Graduate Council (GC) Approval of Changes to Questions for GSI end-of-term Course Evaluations

- B. Second Systemwide Review of Proposed Revisions to APM 025 and 671, Conflict of Commitment and Outside Activities of Faculty Members**

- C. Second Systemwide review of Draft Presidential Policy on Abusive Conduct in the Workplace**

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, FALL 2022

DIVCO MEMBERS	8/29/22	9/12/22	9/26/22	10/10/22	10/24/22	11/7/22	11/21/22	12/5/22	12/12/22
Aguilera, Adrian	P	P	P	P	A	P			
Ashmore, Robert	P	P	P		P	P			
Auffhammer, Maximilian	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Berrick, Jill Duerr	P	P	A	P	P	P			
Boering, Kristie	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Doremus, Holly	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Fernald, Lia	P	P	P	A	P	A			
Fischer, Felix	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Gilless, J. Keith*	P	P	P	A	P	P			
Ginsborg, Hannah	P	P	A	P	P	A			
Glaunsinger, Britt	P	A	P	P	P	P			
Hoofnagle, Chris	P	A	P	P	P	P			
Leonard, Thomas	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Luo, Kunxin	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Olney, Martha	P	A	P	A	A	P			
Philip, Thomas	P	P	P	P	P	A			
Smart, Mary Ann	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Sweetser, Eve	P	P	A	P	P	P			
Wymore, Lisa	P	P	P	A	P	P			
INVITED GUESTS *	8/29/22	9/12/22	9/26/22	10/10/22	10/24/22	11/7/22	11/21/22	12/5/22	12/12/22
Morello-Frosch, Rachel			P						
Ogundele, Olufemi			P						
Hillier, Adam			P						
Christ, Carol				P					

Hermalin, Benjamin				P					
Lambert, Andrea				P					
Yetter, Chris				P					
Griscavage, Khira				P					
Ackerly, David					P				
Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer					P				
Melia, Daniel						P			

SENATE STAFF	8/29/22	9/12/22	9/26/22	10/10/22	10/24/22	11/7/22	11/21/22	12/5/22	12/12/22
Allen, Patrick									
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Corley, Linda									
Dobin, Deborah									
Ferrell, Haniya		P	P	P	P	P			
Lynch, William									
MacIntyre, Courtney									
Marias Dezendorf, Rachel									
Mitchell, Lanayah									
Quiggle, Sumei									

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting