

**APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, February 24, 2020 – 12:00-2:00 PM
310 Stephens Hall**

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, February 24, 2020, in 310 Stephens Hall. Division Chair Oliver O'Reilly presided. Professor Kristie Boering (Chemistry/Earth & Planetary Science) was invited to the meeting. A quorum was present as shown on the attached attendance chart.

I. MINUTES

Enclosure 1

Two members presented revisions to the draft minutes of the February 10 meeting.

ACTION: The draft minutes were approved as revised.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Committee on Committees nomination

Enclosure 2

**Senate Nominations for 2019-20
Divisional Council (DIVCO)**

Appointment of Professor Kristie Boering (Chemistry/EPS) to serve on the Divisional Council (DIVCO) for spring 2020.

This nomination was to replace DIVCO elected member Richard Scheffler, who has been appointed to a position outside the university.

ACTION: Divisional Council approved the nomination.

B. Leon A. Henkin Citation for Distinguished Service

Enclosure 3

The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate (DECC) nominated Professor Brandi Catanese (Theater, Dance and Performance Studies, and African American Studies) for the Henkin Citation, recognizing exceptional and extraordinary service towards the academic development of students from underrepresented groups in the academy.

ACTION: Divisional Council approved the nomination.

C. Three-year review of the Master of Public Affairs self-supporting graduate professional degree program

Enclosure 4

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair O'Reilly to forward its endorsement to the dean of the Goldman School of Public Policy.

D. Berkeley Division Bylaw 36 to Create the Standing Senate Committee, Faculty Athletics Council

Enclosure 5

ACTION: The proposed new bylaw was approved for the spring Division meeting.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- UC Santa Cruz graduate student strike: UCSC graduate students are striking in protest of the new union contract negotiated with the Office of the President (UCOP), and some have been arrested. Academic Council has released a statement. The Berkeley administration is watching the situation; Berkeley students held a sympathy protest last week.
- Coronavirus (COVID-19): UC is receiving continuous updates on the status of the coronavirus issue.
- UC President Janet Napolitano: The president will be featured at a campus Conversation on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, 12-1 p.m. at Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center.
- Capital campaign: The public phase of the capital campaign will be launched on Saturday, February 29, 2020.
- Academic program reviews: Division Chair O'Reilly appreciated the thoughtful comments provided on the academic program reviews by council's committee chairs.
- Division Chair O'Reilly announced he will assume the role of associate dean of graduate education in the Division of Data Sciences next year.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review of the Department of Comparative Literature

Enclosures 6a – 6f and Handouts B-C

The Department of Comparative Literature was commended for proactively addressing several issues raised during the external review committee's (ERC) visit. Council noted the department has been very successful and saw no need to follow the ERC's recommendation to broaden the way in which it conducts faculty searches. A member voiced support for the retention of specializations. The department has been successful at supporting its students despite the lack of resources.

Highlights of the discussion included the following:

- The Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) concurred with the ERC's recommendation to increase the number of 100% FTE (full-time equivalent) faculty in the department.
- Affordable, short-term study abroad programs would greatly benefit students, with assistance through targeted fundraising.
- Undergraduate Council (UGC) questioned the reason for longer time to degree for transfer students.
- Insufficient graduate student funding is a serious problem. The lengthy time-to-degree should be addressed and the funding situation improved. The funding process should be more transparent, especially to the graduate students.
- Increased academic advising is needed.
- Efforts to increase student diversity should be made.

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair O'Reilly to forward comments to the vice provost for academic planning.

B. Review of the Department of Rhetoric

Enclosures 7a – 7f and Handout A

Council commended the department's efforts to improve climate and respond to the ERC's recommendations.

Council's comments included the following:

- BIR recommends hiring at the junior level.
- BIR did not agree with the ERC's recommendation to adjust the guaranteed minimum size of the department.
- As in the previous review, graduate student funding presents a challenge and is exacerbated by long times to degree. GC recommends that graduate students be given greater support during the final stages of their dissertation work to help them progress faster. CAPRA urges the campus to provide better graduate student funding.
- It was recommended that the department more actively recruit undergraduate students.
- Advising should be increased and the long time to degree for transfer students addressed.
- The shared staffing arrangement is not workable. It is recommended that staff be reorganized and situated in the same building as the department.

DECC recommended that authority for graduate student funding be transferred up from departments to the decanal level to reduce risk, as this is a concern particularly for small departments. There was support for this recommendation, and it was noted that the issue is already on the Graduate Division's radar.

After hearing in both program reviews about the tensions created by insufficient graduate student funding and other budgetary issues, CAPRA offered to compile and submit comments on financial reform for DIVCO's consideration at the next council meeting.

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair O'Reilly to forward comments to the vice provost for academic planning.

C. Academic Suspension

Enclosures 8a – 8c

Divisional Council agreed with the logic and usefulness of establishing an interim status between probation and dismissal. Council had concerns and recommended further clarification on what constitutes "Academic Suspension." Substantive comments raised in discussion included the following:

- Only schools and colleges have authorization over dismissal, so this could only be established on a voluntary basis.
- The term 'academic suspension' might be reconsidered as it is already in use on campus, such as in the Office of Student Conduct.
- The process of moving from 'suspension' to dismissal should be further specified and the criteria clearly defined.

It was noted that approval would require an amendment to Berkeley Division Regulation 240 (Dismissal).

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair O'Reilly to forward comments to the Letters & Science dean of undergraduate studies.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Forward:* Review of the Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute

Forwarded to the committees on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation, Budget and Interdepartmental Relations, Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate, Graduate Council, and the Undergraduate Council. DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2020.

B. Forward*: Proposed Presidential Policy on Gender Recognition and Lived Name

Forwarded to the committees on Diversity, Equity, and Campus Climate, Faculty Welfare, Graduate Council, and Undergraduate Council. DIVCO discussion tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Recorder: M. Kwock, Assistant to the Chair

Handout A: Rhetoric: demographic summary by gender and race/ethnicity.

Handout B: CAPRA comments on Department of Comparative Literature academic program review.

Handout C: DECC's comments on the Department of Comparative Literature.

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, SPRING 2020

DIVCO MEMBERS	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/30/20	4/13/20	4/27/20	5/11/20
Ahn, David	P	P	P						
Ashmore, Robert	P	P	P						
Battles, John	P	A	P						
Carson, Cathryn	P	P	P						
Colford, Jack	P	P	P						
Fine, Paul	P	P	P						
Gilless, J. Keith	P	P	P						
Hollinger, David	P	A	P						
Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer	P	P	P						
Levy, Jonah	P	P	P						
Levine, Ross	P	P	P						
Lye, Colleen	P	P	P						
Navarrete, Ignacio	P	P	P						
Ngai, John	A	P	A						
O'Reilly, Oliver	P	P	P						
Sanyal, Debarati	P	P	P						
Scheffler, Richard	A	Resigned							
Smart, Mary Ann	P	P	P						
Wagner, David	P	P	P						

INVITED GUESTS *	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/30/20	4/13/20	4/27/20	5/11/20
May, Robert	P								
Bhavnani, Kum-Kum		P							
Gauvain, Mary		P							
Hlusko, Leslea		P							
Boering, Kristie			P						
SENATE STAFF	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/30/20	4/13/20	4/27/20	5/11/20
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P						
Kwock, Marilyn	P	P	P						

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting