

APPROVED MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – 5:00-6:00 PM
Videoconference

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met in a special meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020, by Zoom videoconference during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place order. Division Chair Oliver O'Reilly called the meeting to order; quorum was recorded as shown on the attached attendance chart. There were no objections to reordering of the agenda to dispose of the most urgent matters first.

I. MINUTES

None

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

None

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair O'Reilly noted the rapid pace of planning for remote instruction due to the sudden shelter-in-place. Decisions about conducting final exams and on proctoring are now being made. As it is possible that DIVCO's consultation could be needed over the summer, an hour every week would be reserved until further notice. O'Reilly noted that the momentum of the Senate's engagement during this crisis needs to be maintained.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Proposed Revisions to Berkeley Division Regulation A202

Enclosures were available in the March 30, 2020 agenda packet.

This item had been approved on March 30.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. COCI Proposals for Spring 2020 grading policy

Enclosures 1a – 1c

Division Chair O'Reilly prefaced this item by acknowledging the recent demands above and beyond in moving the campus to remote instruction, particularly for the Committee on Courses of Instruction (COCI) and Senate staff, whom he commended.

Three proposals were presented by COCI Chair Robert Ashmore for consideration:

- 1) For spring 2020 (only), any letter grades earned should not count towards the undergraduate student's overall GPA.
- 2) For spring 2020 (only), any letter grades earned should not count towards the undergraduate student's term GPA.
- 3) For spring 2020 (only), any P/NP courses completed should not be counted towards the one-third limitation of all Berkeley Campus course-work undertaken as stipulated under Berkeley Division Regulation A204.A.

COCI Chair Robert Ashmore noted that Proposal #1 would need legal review, and that Proposal #2 had been drawn up with thorough administrative consultation. These proposals were intended to minimize adverse impacts to

students from the emergency Spring 2020 grading policy (all courses were made pass/not pass for the semester, with the choice to opt-out to receive a letter grade).

Motion #3 seemed non-controversial and was addressed first.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve proposal #3, and was seconded.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

Divisional Council turned to proposals #1 and #2, which were similar in spirit. The following points were made in discussion:

- Proposals 1 and 2 change the definition of a grade for students and the value of a grade would be lost. It would be unfair to students to change this in the middle of spring semester;. This might be taken as a hostile move by the administration and faculty which could seriously erode students' confidence.
- Some council members spoke in favor of keeping the current policy.
- Some council members stated that the proposals could ease grading for instructors under these extraordinary circumstances.

A straw poll was taken on the two proposals (#1 and #2) together. An objection was made by COCI Chair Ashmore as some students had been made aware of the proposals prior to these deliberations.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Proposal #1 and Proposal #2 together. (There were no objections to the motion).

Vote: The vote was unanimously opposed and the motion failed.

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair O'Reilly to formally report to COCI the approval of COCI's proposal #3 only.

B. Communications plans

Division Chair O'Reilly noted the rapid pace of decision-making and messaging to the campus community at this time. He stated that the focus will soon shift from instruction to finances. With the campus taking a major financial blow in the crisis, maintaining involvement of the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA) and the Senate in decision-making was strongly encouraged by council members. The committee structure set up during the budget crisis of the early 1990s was recommended by one member of DIVCO as a successful example of shared governance that could be used as a model for the current crisis.

ACTION: Division Chair O'Reilly would consult with the CAPRA chair on how the Senate could best contribute and would work with the executive vice chancellor and provost on ensuring Senate involvement.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.
Recorder: M. Kwock, Assistant to the Chair

DIVCO – ATTENDANCE, SPRING 2020

DIVCO MEMBERS	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/18/20 Special Meeting	3/30/20	4/1/20 Special Meeting	4/13/20	4/27/20	5/11/20
Ahn, David	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	P			
Ashmore, Robert	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Battles, John	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Boering, Kristie			P	P	P	P	P	P			
Carson, Cathryn	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Colford, Jack	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Fine, Paul	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A			
Gilless, J. Keith *	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Hollinger, David	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Levy, Jonah	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Levine, Ross	P	P	P	A	P	A	P	P			
Lye, Colleen	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	A			
Navarrete, Ignacio	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Ngai, John	A	P	A	P	P	P	A	P			
O'Reilly, Oliver	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Sanyal, Debarati	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Scheffler, Richard	A	Resigned									
Smart, Mary Ann	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Wagner, David	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			

INVITED GUESTS *	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/18/20 Special Meeting	3/30/20	4/1/20 Special Meeting	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								
Langan, Celeste				P							
Ogundele, Olufemi				P							
Jones, Abby				P	P						
Hull, Glynda							P				
Russo, Rick							P				
Silver, Rana							P				
Zohdi, Tarek							P				
SENATE STAFF	1/27/20	2/10/20	2/24/20	3/9/20	3/16/20	3/18/20 Special Meeting	3/30/20	4/1/20 Special Meeting	4/13/20	4/27/20	5/11/20
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Kwock, Marilyn	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Quiggle, Sumei						P		P			
Tuchrello, Sumali						P		P			

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting