Approved Minutes
Divisional Council
April 15, 2019
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APPROVED MINUTES
BERKELEY DIVISIONAL COUNCIL
Monday, April 15, 2019 – 12:00 – 2:00 PM
Academic Senate Conference Room, 310 Stephens Hall

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Monday, April 15, 2019, in the Academic Senate Conference Room in 310 Stephens Hall. Division Chair Barbara Spackman presided. A quorum was present as shown on the attached attendance chart. Undergraduate Council (UGC) Chair Jonah Levy participated by videoconference. Professor Mary Ann Smart, a member of the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR), attended on behalf of BIR Chair Raka Ray.

Division Chair Spackman’s request to add a New Business item was approved as Item VI.E.

I. MINUTES of the Meeting of April 1, 2019
   Enclosure 1

   ACTION: The minutes were approved without objection.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR
   A. Committee on Committees nomination
      Enclosure 2

      Division Vice Chair
      Appointment of Professor Jennifer Johnson-Hanks (Demography/Sociology) to serve as Berkeley Division Vice Chair for 2019-20

      ACTION: The nomination was approved without objection.

   B. Proposal for an Academy of Emeriti
      Enclosures 3a – 3c

      ACTION: The proposal was approved without objection.

   C. Proposal for a graduate certificate program in Applied Data Science
      Enclosure 4

      ACTION: The proposal was approved without objection.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   • Upper Hearst/Goldman School of Public Policy (GSPP) project: Division Chair Spackman reported on new developments since the last meeting.
     o A request for a special meeting on the project has been received; Divisional leadership will meet with representatives of the signatories. Time has been scheduled for this meeting immediately preceding the Spring Division meeting, on May 1 from 2:00-3:00 PM at Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center.
     o Division Chair Spackman has requested the project financials, but has been told that for P3 projects (public/private partnership) such as this, financials belong to the developer and are not usually fully available. The GSPP dean is willing to share financials for the academic portion of the project.
• Campus administration is looking into subsidies for the housing component.
• A College of Engineering (COE) town hall was held last week and a meeting was held with Chancellor Carol Christ.
• Senior administrators involved in the planning process have been invited to DIVCO’s May 13 DIVCO meeting.

- Spring Division meeting: The spring Division meeting for Wednesday, May 1, 3:00-5:00 PM will include a panel discussion on strategies for the evaluation of teaching.
- Admissions: UCOP has announced a systemwide analysis of admissions policies and practices, with a focus on two aspects in particular: “admission by exception,” and "special admissions. Professor Ignacio Navarrete, chair of the Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education (AEPE), explained the campus policies for admission by exception and special admissions.
- UCPPath: Implementation of the new human resources system has gone smoothly thus far.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None

VI. NEW BUSINESS
A. Master of Information and Data Science (MIDS) four-year review
Enclosure 5
Professor John Battles, chair of Graduate Council (GC), presented GC’s four-year review of this self-supporting graduate professional degree (SSGPDP) program. It has been successful in serving the needs of students and is in high demand. 2U, the third party provider hosting the platform, is focused on providing a quality, high-touch program and is upgrading the platform; GC recommends that the program be reviewed again in two years.

Council members expressed some concern about the program’s finances.

GC Chair Battles noted that GC would benefit from the involvement of other Senate committees in SSGPDP program reviews when it lacks expertise in specific areas.

ACTION: Divisional Council approved the GC review and authorized Division Chair Spackman to forward its comments to the dean of the I School.

B. ASUC proposal to make Election Day a non-instructional day
Enclosures 6a – 6c
Committees responding to the proposal from the Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC) were not convinced that creating a voting day ‘holiday’ by moving an instruction day would make a great difference in student voting, and noted some operational and logistical challenges that would be created. Council considered three possible courses of action: 1) to implement the ASUC proposal; 2) to try less disruptive means of encouraging or enabling student voting first, without changing the academic calendar (UGC offered several suggestions); 3) to consider further actions if Option 2 was not effective. Members did not support Option 1 at this time.
MOTION: A motion was made (and seconded) to implement Option 2, then reassess, and implement Option 3 if needed.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair Spackman to forward its response to the ASUC.

C. Request for greater student representation in Academic Senate committees
   Enclosures 7a – 7g
   Most committees with student representation recommended that, based upon recent patterns of low or irregular attendance by student members, an effort to improve attendance should be a first step before changing student membership. Only GC was in favor of expanding student membership as its graduate student members have been quite engaged and active.

   Several points were made in open discussion:
   - ASUC appointment of student members should be made promptly at the beginning of fall semester so the students can better orient themselves to committee processes and issues.
   - The committees opposed allowing alternates due to the complexity of issues, the knowledge base needed, the need for continuity, and confidentiality.
   - The addition of student members to Divisional Council was opposed.
   - Sharing of confidential agenda packets was opposed, except by GC which already has a process in place to address sharing on a case-by-case basis.
   - Students already have the ability to request the addition of agenda items through the committee’s chair.
   - The Senate’s role in the campus decision-making process should be clarified.

   The Division chair agreed to meet once a semester with ASUC and GA representatives to discuss DIVCO’s activities. Committee chairs should be reminded to communicate DIVCO’s actions to their committees.

   ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair Spackman to forward comments to the ASUC.

D. WiFi improvement funding proposal
   Enclosures 8a – 8b
   CAPRA reiterated its stance that budget decisions should be made in a holistic process alongside other priorities, and declined to endorse the proposal at this time. Divisional Council acknowledged the central and crucial importance of an adequate WiFi network in carrying out Berkeley’s mission and the catastrophic consequences of failing to strengthen the network in a timely manner. CAPRA was asked to highlight the importance of WiFi improvement in its annual budget letter.
ACTION: Divisional Council endorsed the proposal in principle and authorized Division Chair Spackman to forward comments to the Committee on Computing and Information Technology.

E. UCOP Consultation with the UC Retirement Health Benefits Working Group  
Handout A  
A resolution approved by the systemwide UC Committee on Faculty Welfare, was introduced by Committee on Faculty Welfare (FWEL) Co-chair Terrence Hendershott. It asks for Academic Senate Chair Robert May to remind UC President Janet Napolitano of the July 2018 commitment made to the Retiree Health Benefits Working Group to consult before making decisions on retiree health benefits. Changes in retiree Medicare plans are being considered without Senate consultation. The issue will not be discussed by the working group until May so the lateness of consultation is very problematic and greatly hampers the effectiveness of the Senate in providing useful input.

MOTION: A motion was made (and seconded) to endorse the resolution.

Vote: The resolution was endorsed unanimously.

FWEL Co-chair Hendershott will report back on actions taken at other divisions.

ACTION: Divisional Council authorized Division Chair Spackman to inform the Academic Council chair of DIVCO’s endorsement of the resolution.

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS  
A. Composition of Senate committees  
Enclosure 9

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.  
Recorder: M. Kwock, Assistant to the Chair  

Handout A: [FWEL resolution] provided by Professor David Hollinger, FWEL.
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