

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

Divisional Council (DIVCO) met on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, by Zoom videoconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic and shelter-in-place orders. Division Chair Oliver O'Reilly presided. A quorum was recorded as shown on the attached attendance chart. Reordering of the agenda to accommodate guests for New Business Item V.A. was approved.

I. MINUTES

None

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

None

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Division Chair O'Reilly returned to this item after the guest presentation.

- Student emergency fund: An emergency fund to assist students has been launched.
- Upper Hearst Project: DIVCO's response to the Upper Hearst Project was discussed with Chancellor Carol Christ. The decision is on hold until resolution of the City of Berkeley's lawsuit against the university over this project.
- Finance reform: The finance reform statement from CAPRA and DIVCO was forwarded to the executive vice chancellor and provost; his response is pending.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Semester in the Cloud

Paul Alivisatos, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost (EVCP), Catherine Koshland, Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education, and Andrea Lambert, Chief of Staff for the EVCP presented this item. The on-going COVID-19 epidemic has led to uncertainty about fall conditions and many students may be unable to come to Berkeley. The proposed Semester in the Cloud will help to ensure they are all given a warm welcome. Vice Chancellor Koshland highlighted the amazing response of Berkeley's instructors and graduate student instructors during the shelter-in-place and thanked COCI for their exceptional efforts on academic policy changes for spring semester.

The Semester in the Cloud will be a curated set of courses developed under these abnormal circumstances to ensure continuity of instruction and student engagement, and continued progress toward degrees. There will be added student support and advising to help them cope with so many challenges. With a student body that will be worldwide, many new conditions must be anticipated. When it is safe to resume on-campus instruction, remote courses will be gradually phased out.

In open discussion, council members raised several points for consideration in decision-making:

- Students have widely varying levels of home access to wifi, computers, and other resources; deficiencies of resources and increased stress may deeply affect student success.
- Campus must convey clear and accurate information to minimize confusion. The quality of campus messaging is crucial.
- Council supports alternative (remote) plans for instruction. Faculty may be unwilling to teach on campus for reasons of personal health or contact with vulnerable family members.
- There remain some unresolved academic issues related to remote instruction, such as proctoring. (Division Chair O'Reilly noted that proctoring will be the focus of a task force over the summer.)

No action was taken on this item.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None

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

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	5/6/20 Special Meeting	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					
Whitlock, Eugene									P			
Earnest, Erin										P		
Hooper, Julie										P		
Schibsted, Leslie										P		
Alivisatos, Paul											P	
Koshland, Catherine											P	
Lambert, Andrea											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	5/6/20 Special Meeting	5/11/20
Banaria, Jocelyn Surla	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Kwock, Marilyn	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Quiggle, Sumei						P		P			P	
Tuchrello, Sumali						P		P			P	

P=Present A=Absent * Non-voting