

## Divisional Council, Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate Annual Report 2018-2019

Submitted to the Divisional Council  
February 10, 2020

### Chair's Summary

As I review the actions of the 2018-2019 Divisional Council, four issues stand out as likely to continue to engage the Senate and the campus for some time to come: online degrees as well as the role of digital learning more generally; the nature of decanal searches; the challenges posed by an increasingly donor-driven funding environment; and the capital planning process. In what follows, I will briefly address each of these, summarizing DIVCO's views during 2018-19.

*Online degrees and digital learning:* In fall 2018, the administration presented to the Senate a proposal for a Berkeley "MicroBachelors®" to be offered through a local community college. The term itself is copyrighted by edX and indicates a set of courses, both synchronous and asynchronous, which, when taken together, form both a stand-alone workforce credential and potential transfer credit. A task force was formed and charged with considering the rapidly growing practice of associating UC Berkeley with a variety of courses of instruction that grant credentials, certificates, and so-called "micro-degrees" to non-matriculated students. These courses do not currently fall under the Senate's purview. Concerns ranged from misleading terminology and representations, governance and approval processes, to the anticipation of a broader discussion of eventual proposals of fully online degrees (in 2018-19, such a proposal was circulating on at least one other UC campus). The task force recommended against the proposed collaboration with edX, and found the concept of future online modular "Bachelors degrees" to be at odds with the campus's vision of the undergraduate experience, as conveyed in its most recent strategic plan. The task force recommended that a Special Committee of DIVCO on Online Learning and Professional Certificates be formed to continue to monitor this quickly evolving space, and ensure that shared governance plays a robust role in it.

*Decanal searches:* In fall 2018, the administration announced new norms that would require that all decanal searches be "open," i.e. that they would include both internal and external candidates, that search firms would be employed, and that searches would be conducted entirely in confidence. While DIVCO agreed that there are some instances in which open searches might be warranted in order to identify a broader and more diverse pool than otherwise might be available, DIVCO underscored the importance of developing leadership on campus, noting that initiatives like the Faculty Leadership Academy will contribute to developing an internal pool of diverse campus leaders. DIVCO further noted that maintaining confidentiality throughout the search process may be in conflict with established practices in some units, and may be perceived by faculty as contributing to a lack of transparency. In short, DIVCO did not support a single set of practices for conducting decanal searches. Instead, we recommended that campus administration, in consultation with the Senate, should establish a process for units to determine the parameters of such searches.

*Donor-driven growth:* As the university's reliance upon philanthropy continues to increase, and as a model for the creation of donor-driven FTEs was proposed by the administration in 2018-19, the Senate is increasingly concerned about the ways in which Berkeley's comprehensive academic excellence may be compromised. Academic disciplines and Divisions are positioned differentially in relation to the possibility of donor-driven growth, and it is crucial that the Senate, through the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR), continue to exert strong

influence in maintaining broad and deep excellence across areas of inquiry. As a first step in this direction, BIR has initiated conversations with University Development and Alumni Relations (UDAR), with the aim of participating earlier in the process of negotiations with donors.

*Capital planning:* As the 2018-19 year drew to a close, controversy erupted over a capital project known as the Upper Hearst development project. Although this particular controversy was new, dissatisfaction with the capital planning process was not, and the Upper Hearst episode brought new attention to that process. There was wide consensus that the capital planning process itself had been broken for some time, and initial steps were taken by the administration in proposing reforms in late summer 2019. It is critical that the Senate, and especially the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA), continue to play a strong role in advising the administration on ways to address this longstanding problem.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chair, 2018-2019  
Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate

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## List of Activities

The following summarizes Divisional Council and Divisional activities and actions for 2018-2019, including the date(s) of the action. Please refer to the Divisional Council approved minutes and communications for details.

### Academic Programs

- Forwarded endorsement of a “simple” name change for a one-year Master of Architecture degree and program to the vice provost for the faculty. (9/24/18)
- Forwarded endorsement of a proposal for a graduate certificate in Food Systems to the vice provost for the faculty. (9/24/18)
- Forwarded endorsement of a proposal for a Self-Supporting Master of Social Welfare (Flex-MSW) degree program to the vice provost for the faculty. (9/24/18)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of City and Regional Planning to the vice provost for academic planning. (10/8/18)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Astronomy to the vice provost for academic planning. (10/22/18)
- Forwarded comments on a proposal to establish a new division of information and data science to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (10/22/18)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Near Eastern Studies to the vice provost for academic planning. (11/5/18)
- Forwarded endorsement of a Graduate Certificate Program in Business Analytics to the vice provost for the faculty. (11/19/18)
- Forwarded endorsement of a proposal for a Master of Design (MDes) degree program to the vice provost for the faculty. (12/3/18)
- Conditionally approved a dual degree program for the College of Letters and Science with the University of Hong Kong, and forwarded comments to the associate vice chancellor and dean of undergraduate education. (12/17/18, 3/18/19)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the Department of Mathematics to the vice provost for the faculty. (2/25/19)
- Forwarded comments on the academic program review of the School of Law to the vice provost for academic planning. (3/18/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of the discontinuance of the M.A. and Ph.D. in Latin American Studies and disestablishment of the Graduate Group in Latin American Studies to the vice provost for the faculty. (3/18/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of a proposal for a graduate certificate program in Applied Data Science to the vice provost for the faculty. (4/15/19)
- Responded with recommendations on a proposal from the Associated Students of the University of California (ASUC) to make Election Day a non-instructional day. (4/15/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of Graduate Council’s four-year review of the Master of Information and Data Science (MIDS) to the dean of the School of Information. (4/15/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of a proposal to change the undergraduate major in Molecular and Cell Biology, with specializations, to a major with concentrations to the vice provost for the faculty. (5/13/19)
- Forwarded endorsement of a proposed concurrent MBA/M.Eng degree program to the vice provost for the faculty. (5/13/19)

### Policies

- Forwarded comments to the College of Chemistry, Haas School of Business, and the Undergraduate Division, College of Letters and Science, on the Campus’ Workload Reduction Initiative proposal regarding the Berkeley Division’s review process for self-supporting graduate professional degree programs (SSGPDPs). (9/24/18)
- Formed an ad hoc Divisional task force to examine micro-credentials (9/24/18). Approved and forwarded its report to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (5/13/19)
- Forwarded comments to Academic Council regarding proposed revisions to the Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment. (11/19/18)

- Endorsed the comments of the Committee on Computing and Information Technology regarding proposed revisions of Presidential Policy BFB-RMP-7 (Protection of Administrative Records containing Personally Identifiable Information), and forwarded comments to Academic Council. (11/19/18)
- Forwarded comments and recommendations on proposed revisions to campus policy on the evaluation of teaching in academic personnel reviews (for non-represented faculty) to the vice provost for the faculty. (2/11/19)
- Declined to endorse proposed revisions to investigation and adjudication frameworks for Senate and non-Senate faculty and for staff and non-faculty academic personnel under the Presidential Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Policy, and forwarded comments and recommendations to Academic Council. (2/25/19)
- Forwarded comments on a proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations (2<sup>nd</sup> review) to Academic Council. (2/25/19)
- Forwarded comments regarding a draft overview of policies for workload modification and leaves for ladder-rank faculty. (3/18/19)
- Forwarded comments on a UC Transfer Guarantee Proposal to Academic Council. (3/18/19)
- Charged the Committee on Courses of Instruction to provide more background regarding Undergraduate Council's recommendation to increase the phase 2 enrollment limit. (4/1/19)
- Forwarded endorsement to Academic Council of a proposed new Academic Personnel Manual (APM) Section 011, Academic Freedom Protection of Professional Standards, and responsibilities of non-faculty academic appointees. (4/29/19)
- Forwarded recommendations to Academic Council on the proposed interim policy on immigration enforcement issues involving patients at UC health facilities (5/13/19)
- Discussed a proposed UC San Francisco-Dignity Health affiliation to Academic Council. (5/13/19)
- Endorsed a statement from the Committee on Courses of Instruction regarding trends in courses and quality of undergraduate education, and approved it to send to the Council of Deans. (5/13/19)

### **Legislation**

- Forward comments on proposed revisions to Academic Senate Bylaw 336 (Privilege and Tenure: Divisional Committees—Disciplinary Cases) to Academic Council. (2/25/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of proposed amendments to Senate Regulation 636.E, pertaining to the UC Entry Level Writing Requirement, to Academic Council. (4/29/19)

### **Enacted Legislation**

*All items placed on the Division meeting consent calendars were approved.*

- Approved amendments to B.D. Bylaw 31 (Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education) and a conforming amendment to Berkeley Division (B.D.) Bylaw 2A for the Special Orders-Consent Calendar of the spring Division meeting. (3/18/19)

### **Faculty/University Welfare**

- Charged the Committee on Diversity, Equity and Campus Climate to draft a diversity statement for planning purposes and new degree proposals. (8/27/18)
- Endorsed a joint statement by the Council of University of California Faculty Associations and the California Conference of American Association of University Professors in support of academic freedom for librarians. (9/24/18)
- Forwarded comments on a proposal for decanal search procedures to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (11/5/18)
- Declined to endorse the Chancellor's statement on the academic boycott of Israeli academic institutions. (2/11/19)
- Declined to endorse an Academic Council draft resolution on academic boycott of Israeli academic institutions. (2/11/19)
- Forwarded its endorsement of a UC Committee on Faculty Welfare resolution regarding retiree health benefits to Academic Council. (4/15/19)
- Approved and forwarded a statement on retiree health benefits to Academic Council and the University Committee on Faculty Welfare. (4/29/19)

- Forwarded comments on the use of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) statements for academic positions to the vice provost for the faculty, and charged the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations (BIR) to develop a rubric for evaluating such statements. (4/29/19)

### **Budget and Planning**

- Endorsed a proposal from the Committee on Faculty Welfare for a systemwide technology task force to support the implementation of UC Path. (9/24/18, 12/3/18)
- Forwarded comments on the Berkeley Strategic Plan working group reports to the Chancellor and executive vice chancellor and provost. (10/8/18)
- Charged the Committee on Budget and Interdepartmental Relations and Graduate Council to consider the calculation of faculty buyout in SSGPDPs. (12/3/18)
- Forwarded comments to the administration on the Upper Hearst/Goldman School of Public Policy project. (4/1/19, 5/13/19)
- Approved a memorial to the Regents for a systemwide vote on fossil fuel divestment. (4/1/19)
- Endorsed a proposal from the Committee on Computing and Information Technology to fund improvements to campus wi-fi. (4/15/19)
- Forwarded endorsement of a proposal for an Academy of Emeriti to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (4/15/19)
- Approved a detailed analysis of the proposed Upper Hearst project by the Committee on Academic Planning and Resource Allocation (CAPRA). (4/29/19)
- Discussed Graduate Council's vision for graduate education at Berkeley.. (4/29/19)
- Forwarded comments on the Strategic Plan's Signature Initiative working group reports to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (5/13/19)
- Forwarded CAPRA's 2019-20 budget recommendations to the executive vice chancellor and provost. (5/13/19)

### **Awards and Honors**

- Approved two recipients of the 2019 Berkeley Faculty Service Award. (12/17/18)
- Approved four recipients of the 2019 Distinguished Teaching Award. (3/18/19)
- Approved two recipients for the 2019 Clark Kerr Award. (3/18/19)
- Approved a recipient for the 2018-19 Leon A. Henkin Citation for Distinguished Service. (3/18/19)
- Approved two Martin Meyerson Berkeley Faculty Research Lecturers for 2020. (4/1/19)

### **Senate Management**

- Approved a conflict of interest policy for DIVCO. (8/27/18)
- Initiated online posting of approved DIVCO minutes and a DIVCO digest entitled, "The Fortnightly". (8/27/18)
- Created a Divisional Twitter account to highlight Senate activities. (8/27/18)
- Confirmed appointments to standing committees of the Academic Senate. (9/24/18, 10/8/18, 10/22/18, 11/5/18, 11/19/18, 12/3/18, 12/17/18, 2/11/19, 4/15/19, 4/29/19, 5/13/19)
- Held two Division meetings. (10/29/18 and 5/1/19).
- Approved authorization for the Division chair to act on behalf of Divisional Council during winter break until Council reconvened in spring 2019. Approved a similar authorization for the Division vice chair to act on behalf of the Division chair in her absence during this period. (12/17/18)
- Approved the 2017-18 annual report for the Division. (4/1/19)
- Forwarded comments to the ASUC on their request to increase student representation on Senate committees. (4/15/19)
- Conducted the election for members of the Committee on Committees and at-large members of Divisional Council. (3/22/19)
- Approved updated guidelines for conducting Senate business electronically. (4/29/19)
- Held a special meeting of the Division (5/1/19)
- Approved authorization for the Division chair to act on behalf of Divisional Council during summer break until Council reconvenes in fall 2019. Approved a similar authorization for the Division vice chair to act on behalf of the Division chair in her absence during that time. (5/13/19)
- Conducted a vote on a memorial concerning UC's divestment from fossil fuels. [6/27/19]

**Senate Events**

- Held a Senate leadership orientation. (8/20/18)
- Held a faculty forum on journal negotiations, co-sponsored with the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost. (10/10/18)
- Held a forum on the Undergraduate Council's report regarding the status of Unit-18 Non-Senate Faculty (Lecturers), cosponsored with the Berkeley Faculty Association and the UC-AFT (American Federation of Teachers). (10/29/18)
- Held a dinner to present two 2018 Clark Kerr Awards. (12/5/18)
- Held a Senate service recognition reception and presented Divisional awards. (5/15/19)