

The Fortnightly

December 3, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

The last meeting of DIVCO for the Fall Semester was held on Monday, December 2. Before summarizing the meeting, here are some developments from The UC Regents and the Berkeley Division.

Volunteer for Senate Service

Ross Levine, the Chair of the Committee on Committees, sent out a Calmessage on Monday with a link that Senate members can use to volunteer for service:

<https://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/volunteer-service>

Shared governance is a right and an obligation of the Berkeley faculty. With over 25 standing committees, several task forces and working groups, there are ample opportunities for participation in shared governance. We request that you respond by January 24, 2020. Another call was sent out on Tuesday seeking candidates for Divisional Council (DIVCO) and Committee on Committees (COMS):

<https://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/elections>

Elected members play important roles on DIVCO and COMS and serving on these committees also gives Senate members unique perspective of the campus.

Presidential Search

The search for the new UC President is now underway. This search has attracted more attention than any other in recent memory. The Regents have just released their criteria for the position: https://presidentalsearch.universityofcalifornia.edu/_files/documents/final_2019_criteria.pdf, and the search firm has been selected. A pair of forums, one at UC Davis on December 13 and another at UCLA on January 14, have also been announced. We encourage you to consult:

<https://presidentalsearch.universityofcalifornia.edu/index.html>

for additional developments. If any of your colleagues are able to attend the forum at UC Davis on December 13th, we'd welcome hearing their thoughts and commentary.

Celebration of 150 Years of Women at Berkeley

Saturday, October 3, 2020, marks the sesquicentennial of a memorial resolution by the Regents "that young ladies be admitted into the University on equal terms in all respects with young men." A campus-wide celebration is being planned. Cathy Gallagher (English) and Sheila Humphreys

(EECS) are leading a group that has started work on a history project. One way you can contribute to the project is to submit historical information on students, staff, faculty, and friends of the campus online at

<https://150w.berkeley.edu/>

We would also like to encourage your department, school, or college, to use the hashtag

[#BerkeleyWomen150](#)

to tag events, announcements in 2020 that are related to the celebration. The start of the celebration will be the Cal vs. Stanford women's basketball game on Sunday, January 12, at 5 p.m. Free tickets will be available to the campus community, and a Calmessage will be sent out soon notifying you of the dates and times to pick up the free tickets.

Senate Fundraising

The Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate is in the process of fundraising to support staff, improve furnishings, and to refurbish certain areas of the Senate's offices in Stephens Hall. The goal is to raise \$30,000. Request letters were sent to former Senate chairs and recipients of Senate awards, such as the Distinguished Teaching Award and the Faculty Research Lecture. So far, over \$5,000 has been raised towards this goal. Donations from all Senate members are certainly welcomed. In addition to a transfer of discretionary funds and mailing donations to the UC Berkeley Foundation, funds can also be donated [online](#).

DIVCO Meeting on December 2nd

DIVCO held its seventh and final meeting of the semester on Monday, December 2. Chair O'Reilly's announcements included:

1. Discussion of the 2019 Recipients of the [Academic Senate's Clark Kerr Award](#). This award was established by the Senate in 1968 as a tribute to Clark Kerr's leadership and legacy as the first Chancellor of UC Berkeley (1952-1958) and the 12th President of UC (1958-1967). He was the first recipient of this award in 1968, over a year after he had been fired from his role as President of UC by the UC Regents in [January 1967](#). This year's honorees are [Freeman Hrabowski III](#), President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and [Diana Natalicio](#), President Emerita, University of Texas at El Paso. They will receive the award in December.
2. Updates on the search for the UC President.
3. Notifying members that the nominations for elected members of DIVCO and COMS are due on February 14, 2020.

The Vice Provost for the Faculty, Ben Hermalin, and the Associate Chancellor of Financial Planning and Analysis, Chris Stanich, were invited guests at DIVCO. They gave a presentation on finance reform plans that are currently being widely discussed throughout campus. The presentation was followed by a discussion with DIVCO members on the pros and cons of the

proposed reforms. Faculty are urged to consult with their Deans if they wish to get more information on this topic.

The Chair of Graduate Council (GC), John Battles, gave a marvelous summary of GC's work on policies and governance and the creation of a vision for the future of graduate education at UC Berkeley. In particular, GC has been concerned about mental health issues for graduate students and the changing landscape of Ph.D. education in the U.S. The council has also engaged in a multiyear effort to streamline processes and policies for graduate students, examined efforts to make the scheduling of qualifying examinations more manageable for all participants, and explored new frameworks to review self-supporting graduate professional degree programs.

A family leave policy for staff has been developed by the UC Working Group on Equitable and Inclusive Paid Family Leave. This policy was discussed by the Committee on Faculty Welfare. DIVCO agreed with the conclusion of the working group's analysis concluding that there is an equity problem in the treatment of family leave for staff as opposed to other classes, and encourages UCOP to confer with the Senate and other appropriate groups to analyze how this could be resolved.

The final item that was presented at DIVCO is a revised policy for auditing classes on campus. The existing policy can be found on the Registrar's website:

<https://registrar.berkeley.edu/registration/enrollment>

This new policy is designed to provide appropriate resources to auditors.

Thank you for your continued interest in our Senate and our campus. Wishing you a successful end to the Semester and a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Oliver O'Reilly
Chair of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Jennifer Johnson-Hanks
Vice Chair of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate
Professor of Demography and Sociology