



## *The Fortnightly*

September 27, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

In the fortnight since I last wrote to you, the President of the UC System, Janet Napolitano, announced that she will be stepping down from that position next fall. These transitions are important turning points in the life of the University—although our presidents are far from the lab, the classroom, the archive, and the library, they represent us to the public and set the tone for our relationship with the State. The UC Regents appoint our president and will lead the search, but there will also be a faculty advisory committee including representation from each of the 10 campuses. We should know more about that in the next two months or so.

I remind you that the once-per-semester meetings of the Berkeley Division of the Senate will be held in Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center, from 3-5 p.m. on:

**Monday, November 4**

**Thursday, April 30**

These meetings are an important opportunity for Senate faculty to participate in the governance of the university. Please make it a priority to attend. The Senate intends to include a discussion of forthcoming capital projects at the November meeting.

Your Divisional Council met for the second time of the fall on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting focused on two presentations related to campus infrastructure and renewal.

**North and East Campus Facilities Renewal:** EVCP Paul Alivisatos presented work-in-progress related to anticipated new and replacement buildings. As I mentioned a fortnight ago, campus is currently engaged in crafting a new Long Range Development Plan ([LRDP](#)) and Campus Master Plan ([CMP](#)), which together will guide capital investments over the next decade or two. However, two issues make some new construction so urgent that we cannot wait for the completion of the LRDP and CMP to begin planning: first, the seismic results for campus indicate that Evans Hall must be replaced as soon as possible (most of the other badly compromised buildings can be retrofitted, and none are as intensively used). Second, we anticipate that there will be a General Obligation (GO) Bond on the March ballot, which could provide some funding to Berkeley for new construction if we have well-conceived projects to put forward. For these two reasons, the Chancellor and EVCP are soliciting as much input as possible this fall about a limited number of building sites: what should go where, and in what order? Which combinations of academic units, classroom space, student study space, labs, etc. will be most productive in the future? How do we take advantage of the very limited existing building space on campus most effectively? The one site available right away is the Tolman site: what should go there? How does that set up a series of subsequent moves? The deans and DIVCO have been asked to provide feedback by October 15. If you have ideas to contribute, or would like to learn more, please feel free to email me at <johnsonhanks@berkeley.edu>. This will also be a major part of the November 4<sup>th</sup> Division meeting, so stay tuned.

**Alumni Engagement:** The other presentation that DIVCO heard on Monday was from the California Alumni Association (CAA). One of Chair O'Reilly's priorities this year is to strengthen relationships between the Senate and units supporting alumni engagement. Outreach to UC Berkeley alumni happens through many different organizations, including the Office of the Vice Chancellor for University Development and Alumni Relations, Cal Athletics, the Career Center, the Library, colleges and schools, and others. CAA is an important part of this picture. CAA is independent of the university--it is a self-funded, non-profit membership organization (501c3), founded by the first class of graduates of the University of California in 1872. CAA runs the camp Lair of the Bear, offers member discounts, travel opportunities, and offers some scholarships to current students. Currently roughly 20% of our alumni are active members of CAA and perhaps as many as half of our alumni are actively or passively engaged with CAA through events, communications, and hands-on activities. CAA is interested in engaging more with faculty, and this meeting was part of building that relationship. Information about CAA is available at: <https://alumni.berkeley.edu>

Finally, in addition to what happens at DIVCO, much of the important work of the Senate happens in the 26 standing committees and councils, or in the ad hoc committees and working groups. These committees touch on nearly every aspect of the university: from research to student demonstrations to teaching to faculty welfare to diversity and climate and beyond. Joining one of these committees is a wonderful way for you to participate in the governance of our university, and starting this week I will highlight a different committee in each issue of "The Fortnightly". We begin with the **Committee on Research** ([COR](#)), currently chaired by John Colford of the School of Public Health. COR is charged with advising the Chancellor, Vice

Chancellor for Research, and the Division as a whole on matters related to the research mission of the university, including the Organized Research Units and external grant funding. In the last year they have addressed faculty concerns arising from new Sponsored Projects Office proposal submission guidelines; the current systemwide review of a proposed UC Presidential Policy on Native American cultural affiliation and repatriation; and evolving campus guidelines for research involving foreign entities. In the early spring you will be asked what committees you would be willing to serve on. If campus research policy and infrastructure are important to you, please consider volunteering for COR by submitting information here: <https://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/committees/volunteer-service>

Thank you for your continued interest in our Senate and our campus.

Sincerely,

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