1. MEETING:

A regular meeting of the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly was called to order by Chair Judith Stepan-Norris, at 3:30 p.m., on Thursday, March 18, 2010, at the Academic Senate Conference Room. Members of the Administrative staff and members of the University community were present.

2. MINUTES:

Chair Stepan-Norris noted that any corrections to the minutes may be sent to the Senate office for amendment.

Action: The minutes of January 28 were approved.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR JUDITH STEPAN-NORRIS:

The Senate Office will be relocated to 307 Aldrich Hall effective March 22nd.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHANCELLOR MICHAEL DRAKE:

- The Commission on the Future will be submitting the first round of proposals that are easily implementable with actions to be executed over the short term. The Senate will have 60 days to review those recommendations prior to consideration by the Regents.
- The Access and Affordability Working Group which Chancellor Drake co-chairs made the following recommendations focusing on measures of access:
  o Rename the education fee and the professional degree fees as “tuition” and rename the registration fee as student services fee.
  o Adopt a multi-year fee schedule for each entering cohort of new undergraduate students to 1) assist middle-income families with managing the cost of UC fees, and 2) avoid the frustration caused by large and unexpected fee increases that occur mid-education. The fee increases have been problematic for students and their families because of both their size and their unpredictability.
  o Establish UC financial aid eligibility for undocumented California high school graduates who have already been determined to be eligible for resident tuition pursuant to AB 540.
- There have been incidents at several campuses that are from different issues such as freedom of speech, hate- and bias-issues. This was a topic at the March Regents meeting.
- The Governor’s budget request includes approximately $370M ($35-40M for UCI) to partially offset last year's cuts. The restoration of these funds will allow the university to end the furlough program and fill some positions. The university is working to support the Governor’s budget through the legislative process.
- LSAT scores for students of the School of Law ranked 15th last year. This year’s applicant scores are ranked even higher. Additionally, law faculty productivity has been rated 9th nationwide by the Leiter blog.
- The campus has received the largest (8th nationally with 59,700 applications) and most competitive applicant pool ever with an average GPA of 4.01. Applications from African-American students increased 18% and international students increased 32% from last year.
- Chancellor Drake concluded that the campus is working toward a brighter future.

5. SPECIAL ORDERS – CONSENT CALENDAR
6. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

**Disestablishment of the Department of Environmental Health, Science and Policy**

*Issue:* The School of Social Ecology faculty have voted to disestablish the department as a result of the Dean’s reorganization plan of June 2005 and the transfer of nearly all the faculty from the department to other units on the UCI campus. The Senate Cabinet endorsed the proposal and is presenting to the Assembly for final approval.

*Discussion:* Eligible members of the Social Ecology faculty voted in favor of the disestablishment. Affected faculty were transferred to other school units. Most students in the program have either received their degree or dropped out of the program. All except one of the remaining three graduate students and two undergraduate students are scheduled to graduate in spring 2010, and one will advance to candidacy in spring 2010.

*Action:* The Divisional Senate Assembly unanimously approved the disestablishment of the Department of Environmental Health, Science and Policy [24 in favor].

**Proposed B.S. in Computer Game Science**

*Issue:* The Council on Educational Policy unanimously supported the proposed major in Computer Game Science. The proposal was submitted to CPB for a budgetary analysis.

*Discussion:* CPB and the Cabinet endorsed the proposed degree program as clarified. ICS noted that this proposal is part of an effort to diversify Computer Science majors and attract additional students as the current field is too broad. UCI will be one of two universities nationwide to offer this major and expects to enroll between 50 and 100 students. ICS also plans to collaborate with the School of the Arts when the program grows to have additional tracks. CEP observed that the proposed degree program has the built-in potential for participation by School of Arts faculty. In terms of teaching load, the current faculty can handle the additional major and will switch to a multi-year teaching plan.

*Action:* The Divisional Senate Assembly unanimously approved the proposed B.S. in Computer Game Science [24 in favor].

**Proposed Revisions to IR 830 Master’s Committee, IR 918 Ph.D. Candidacy Committee and IR 920 Doctoral Committee**

*Issue:* The intent of the proposed changes is to clarify that individuals who are not UC Senate voting members serving on dissertation committees should have equivalent scholarly standing and on an exception only basis.

*Discussion:* The proposed revisions have been endorsed by Graduate Council, Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction, and the Cabinet.

*Action:* The Divisional Senate Assembly unanimously approved the proposed revisions to IR 830, IR 918 and IR 920 [24 in favor].

**Proposed Revision to IR A345 Grading**

*Issue:* CEP unanimously endorsed the proposal. Under the current regulation the “I” grade may remain permanently on the transcript. Under the proposed policy, the “I” would ultimately change to an “F,” if not replaced by a grade within one year.

*Discussion:* The proposed revision has been endorsed by CEP, CRJ, and the Cabinet, and is consistent with the practice at all other UC campuses. It also grants an exception to extend the timeline to 3 years with the approval of the Dean of the unit. The current language only applies to undergraduate grading. It was noted that Graduate Council will be reviewing the graduate grading next.

*Action:* The Divisional Senate Assembly approved the proposed revision to IR A345 [23 in favor and 1 opposed].
Proposed Revision to IR 440 Adding and Dropping Courses (effective Fall 2010)

**Issue:** CEP unanimously endorsed the proposal. The proposal was discussed with the associate deans and the Senate Subcommittee on Courses to develop proposed regulations and general deadlines and processes. Additional modifications were requested by the Cabinet and endorsed by CEP.

**Discussion:** CEP, CRJ, and the Cabinet found the proposed revision to be reasonable and endorsed the proposal. The proposed modification of IR 440 would eliminate the use of add/drop cards; however there was considerable concern about removing the faculty’s ability to control their class roster with the proposed electronic add/drop mechanism. The Cabinet concurred with the recommendation to keep faculty control, and CEP agreed to modify the legislation to allow faculty control by use of an authorization code for admission of students. In addition, it observed that the current policy requires students to obtain permission of the dean or equivalent of the school or academic unit offering the course as well as the dean or equivalent of the student’s major when dropping and withdrawing courses after a certain period. It was noted that students will see the revision in the schedule of classes.

**Action:** The Divisional Senate Assembly approved the proposed revision to IR 440 [23 in favor and 1 opposed].

Proposed Modification to Category VIII, International/Global Studies

**Issue:** CEP unanimously endorsed the proposal from the Center for International Studies for modifications to General Education Category VIII, International/Global Studies.

**Discussion:** CEP and the Cabinet endorsed the proposal to include Summer Study Abroad and International Opportunities Program.

**Action:** The Divisional Senate Assembly unanimously approved the proposed modification to Category VIII [24 in favor].

UC Commission on the Future

**Issue:** Senate Chair Stepan-Norris reported on the systemwide and divisional senate’s activities related to the UC Commission on the Future and the UCI representatives to the various workgroups of the UC Commission. The membership and charge for the UC Commission is posted on the UCOP website at http://ucfuture.universityofcalifornia.edu/

**Discussion:**
- The Task Forces have submitted their major recommendations available for Senate’s review from March 25 until May 16.
- The Senate will use the Voice of the Community lines of communication to solicit and receive comments on the 3-4 major recommendations for each working group. School units will be asked to mobilize their faculty through town hall meetings, department meetings, or one-to-one meetings to get as many faculty involved as soon as possible during the comment period.
- The Quality Subgroup of the Education and Curriculum Working Group, which Chair Stepan-Norris is a member, made the following recommendations:
  - Online education to improve time to degree and for courses such as bottleneck courses
  - Use of lecturers and graduate students as instructors
  - Improve time to degree to increase the proportion of undergraduate students graduating in 4 years and to propose 3-year programs with summer sessions.

**Action:** Chair Stepan-Norris will send out a summary of the recommendations along with a timeline and instructions to obtain feedback from school units. The school’s reports will be reviewed at the May 6 Cabinet meeting.

Task Force on Post-Employment Benefits

**Issue:** Senate Chair Stepan-Norris reported on the systemwide and divisional senate’s activities related to the Post-Employment Benefits Task Force. The membership and charge for the Task Force is posted on the UCOP website at http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/ucrpfuture/emp_task.html
Discussion:
- The Task Force will hold a forum on campus on April 5. All faculty members (active and retired) were encouraged to attend.
- The Task Force’s analysis and list of options up to this point have been available on a restricted need-to-know basis, but they will be made more generally accessible in the near-future. The recommendations will be finalized by June and presented to the Regents in July.
- The May 6 Assembly meeting will be joined by UC Academic Senate Chair Harry Powell and Vice Chair Dan Simmons who will provide more detail on the important issues facing the retirement system.
- For additional information on the retirement plan, Chair Stepan-Norris referred the Assembly to a previous presentation made by University Committee on Faculty Welfare Chair Helen Henry on the status report of UCRP in June 2009. The web link will be emailed to the Assembly.

Action: Chair Stepan-Norris will send the link of the presentation by Chair Henry on UCRP status report.

8. PETITIONS OF STUDENTS: None

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

10. REPORTS OR COMMENTS ON UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY WELFARE: None

11. NEW BUSINESS: None
   Chair-elect Barbour encouraged all Assembly representatives to take an active role in Senate activities during this time of change.

12. ROLL CALL: Attendance Sheet

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Thao Nguyen
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

Attest: Alan Barbour, Chair-Elect/Secretary