DIVISIONAL SENATE ASSEMBLY
Minutes of the Meeting
Thursday, October 31, 2013, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Academic Senate Conference Room, 338 Aldrich Hall

1. MEETING:
A regular meeting of the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly was called to order by Chair Krapp at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 31, 2013, at the Academic Senate Conference Room, 338 Aldrich Hall. Members of the Administrative staff and members of the University community were present.

2. MINUTES:
Chair Krapp noted that any corrections to the minutes may be sent to the Senate office for amendment.

Action: The minutes of June 6, 2013 were approved.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHAIR PETER KRAPP:

UCOP President Visit: UCOP President Janet Napolitano visited UCI on October 28, 2013. The President plans to visit all 10 campuses within her first 60 days of office. The President recently gave her first public speech, and the full text of the speech can be found on her website. In that speech she pledged $5 million in resources to support undocumented students. Also, $10 million for graduate student fellowships and recruitment from the presidential discretionary fund was promised. The President plans to continue Rebenching.

UCPATH: Systemwide has been actively discussing the proposed shared benefits system UCPATH in which all campuses would share a benefits system which is based at UC Riverside. The Office of the President has been striving for a simplified administration of benefits by consolidating the current benefit rates into a composite system. UCOP would like to streamline to as few categories as possible, i.e.: faculty, students, and staff. However, several complications have been noted as the consolidation of categories is unable to capture summer salary. In the proposed models, summer salary would be taxed for pension, even though it is not calculated into the pension. This issue is still being discussed.

UC Care: UC has changed the options that will be available for Open Enrollment this year. There will be a campus town hall meeting on November 6, 2013 to discuss the changes, as well as several school based informational meetings will be scheduled. Further details about the changes can be found at the Systemwide website, www.ucop.edu.

Bond Restructuring: The refinancing of state bonds is slated to yeild $100 million a year over the next few years; it will shrink to $40 million in the out years. It is not a permanent gain but the funds will still benefit the university. About 2/3 will go to funding UCRP, and the rest is yet to be determined, but most likely will go to capital planning.

Remuneration: There will be a new study done on total remuneration. In the past, these studies have concluded that while the UC faculty salaries were below salaries at private universities, the UC benefits made up the difference when calculated into the total remuneration. However, this calculation is no longer valid as faculty are now required to contribute to the retirement fund, and healthcare and cost of living has increased.

UCI Medal AWARDS: The annual gala celebrating recipients of the UCI Medal raised more than $1.1 million; proceeds of the event go to the Chancellor’s Fund for Scholarships and Fellowships.
UCI's 50 Year Anniversary: Oct. 4, 2015, will mark 50 years since UC Irvine’s first day of classes. All faculty are encouraged to participate in the year-long celebration that will be initiated June 2014 and continue through June 2015.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY CHANCELLOR MICHAEL V. DRAKE:

UCOP President Visit: Newly appointed UCOP President Janet Napolitano visited UCI on her tours of the campus; this was her first visit to the UCI campus. During her visit with UCI she met with small groups of faculty, administrators, deans, donors, and students. She heard talks on sustainability, e-learning initiatives, the medical school’s iPad initiative, Walking Dead MOOC class, the Orangewood Children’s Foundation: The Academy, and the Olive Tree Initiative. It was a good visit. When she returned to Oakland she announced that she would use UCOP resources to replace federal funds that were pulled from undocumented student scholarships, and she pledged $10 million to be diverted into graduate and post-doc funds.

Law School: The UCI Law School just received its sixth of seven visits from the American Bar Association. The accreditation meetings have been extremely positive. The faculty and leadership have worked very hard on setting objectives and meeting their goals which included the accreditation criteria since the establishment of the school. The accreditation process has been a great exercise in working with an accreditation agency to create a quality program that meets both the UC and accreditation standards.

Funding: The California economy continues to improve. The refinancing of the bonds will provide UCI with $6 million to $9 million a year for the next 10 years, which was more than was expected.

Issues on Campus:

Shocktoberfest Guest: The rapper who was invited by the students to perform was known to have lyrics which were considered homophobic, racist, and misogynistic. The students used their own funds to get this marquee-level rapper. There were many conversations between administration and the students. The students were well aware of the lyrics. We suggested they consider an artist whose lyrics would not be offensive to our community, but they chose to sponsor this particular artist. The first amendment campus understanding is that the campus can control time, place, and manner, but is to be content neutral.

Protests of UCOP President: There were protests against President Napolitano due to her previous job as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. The UCOP President tried to explain the situation was not entirely under her control as certain aspects were dictated by Congress and the President of the United States. Her pledge of funding to support undocumented students supports her objectives in her new position as President of the UC.

Moreno Report: An Independent Investigative Report on Acts of Bias and Discrimination Involving Faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles has been prepared by a task force investigating racism and discrimination at the UCLA campus. It was
noted by systemwide that UCI has a good record of response in dealing with allegations, and is being used as an example of best practices.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS: None

6. SPECIAL ORDERS – CONSENT CALENDAR
   Councils:
   Council on Academic Personnel
   Council on Educational Policy
   Council on Faculty Welfare
   Graduate Council
   Council on Planning and Budget
   Council on Research, Computing and Libraries
   Council on Student Experience
   Council on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools

   Committees, Subcommittees & Boards:
   CEP Assessment Committee
   Committee on Committees
   Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction
   Committee on Scholarly Honors and Awards
   Programs and Policy Subcommittee
   Subcommittee on Courses and Continuing, Part-Time & Summer Session Education
   Subcommittee on International Education

   The consent calendar was accepted.

7. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: None

8. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES: None

9. PETITIONS OF STUDENTS: None

10 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

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

12. NEW BUSINESS: None

13. ROLL CALL: Attendance Sheet

14. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Shira Long
Academic Senate, Irvine Division
Attest: Peter Krapp, Chair