Chair's Summary

During the 2015-16 academic year, the Irvine Division of the Academic Senate met 159 times to conduct Senate business, which included the review of new undergraduate and self-supporting and professional degree program proposals, the articulation and re-affirmation of faculty consultation as a result of the endowed chair process, clarification about faculty representation in the College of Health Sciences, and the review of the proposal to develop a new School of Nursing. At the systemwide level, a number of committees were convened to review, evaluate and propose policy modifications including the Proposed Revisions to the UC Health Governance Model, the Retirement Options Task Force Report, and the Report from the Joint Committee of the Administration and Academic Senate (Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment). The reports and their recommendations have significant implications for the long-term institutional goals, the recruitment and retention of future faculty, and faculty governance with respect to faculty discipline. The significance of these issues coupled with the short timeframe for review and comment on these and other systemwide issues was a source of great consternation. We highlight here a few of the major issues in which the Senate was engaged during the past year.

In Fall 2016, the Senate reviewed and approved two new academic programs, a significant number of endowed chair proposals, the departmentalization of African American Studies, and participated with the Administration in the implementation of the Budget Framework Initiatives. In addition, the Senate continued to engage in discussions about the guidelines and standards of review for self-supporting programs and reviewed proposed revisions to the UC Health Governance Model and the Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Harassment. The review of proposed policy revisions at the systemwide level raised significant concerns about the short timeframe for Senate consultation. Locally, CORCL distributed all its grant monies to the academic units, began the process of developing data collection measures to assess the impact of these funds on faculty research productivity, and developed a proposal to strengthen faculty research support and productivity. The Senate ended the Fall Quarter preparing for the review of the Retirement Options Task Force Report.

The Winter Quarter was dominated by the review of numerous policies and procedures with significant implications for faculty welfare and shared governance. We started with the review of the Retirement Options Task Force Report to the President which proposed substantial modifications to the retirement options for new faculty, with significant implications for the quality of faculty the campus’ might recruit and retain and thereby the future of the university. Soon after, the Senate was immersed in discussions about sexual harassment incidents within the UC and the review of the Report from the Joint Committee of the Administration and Academic
Senate. In late Fall, the President formed the Joint Committee to review the university’s processes and procedures for handling cases of sexual harassment and sexual violence involving faculty. Towards the end of the Winter, the Senate rescinded its approval of four endowed chairs in the School of Humanities, and initiated modifications to the Initial Request for Approval to Establish an Endowed Chair to ensure adequate faculty consultation and reduce ambiguities in the form.

Throughout the year, the Senate engaged in conversations with faculty leaders in the College of Health Sciences and the programs in Nursing Science, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Public Health. These discussions focused on the state of shared governance in the College of Health Sciences and faculty representation of the three programs within the college faculty governance structure. While initially there were efforts to modify Senate bylaws to ensure the representation of faculty in stand alone programs, it became clear as the year progressed that representation could be achieved without such modifications.

During the Spring Quarter, the Senate was actively engaged in the review of the proposal to advance the Program in Nursing Science to the Sue and Bill Gross School of Nursing. After a thorough review and extensive discussions about the proposal and the plans for the College of Health Sciences, the proposal was approved by the councils and cabinet and will be reviewed at a special Divisional Assembly meeting in early Fall 2016.

Alan Terricciano
Chair, 2015-16
Irvine Division of the Academic Senate

List of Activities
The following summarizes Senate Cabinet and Divisional Senate Assembly activities and actions for 2015-2016, including the date(s) of the action. Please refer to the approved minutes and communications for details.

Academic Programs and Issues (Undergrad and Grad)
- Endorsed the proposal to establish a 4+1 B.A. and M.A. degree in Asian American Studies (Cabinet 10/20/2015)
- Proposal to establish a B.A. and Minor in Global Middle East Studies (Assembly 10/29/2015)
- Endorsed the proposal to form a Department of African American Studies (Cabinet 11/03/2015)
- Endorsed the proposal for a self-supporting Master of Finance graduate degree program (Cabinet 2/16/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to establish a B.S. in Applied Physics (Assembly 3/10/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal for a self-supporting Master of Conservative and Restoration Science graduate degree program (Cabinet 6/07/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal for a self-supporting Master of Science in Business Analytics graduate degree program (Cabinet 2/16/2016)

Policy Review (Divisional and Systemwide policies, bylaws, regulations, etc.)
• Forwarded comments on the systemwide review on the proposed revision to the governance of the University of California Health System (Cabinet 10/6/16)
• Forwarded comments on the systemwide review of the proposed revisions to the Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (Cabinet 10/20/2015)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify the School of Humanities and the Henry Samueli School of Engineering bylaws (Assembly 10/29/2015)
• Endorsed the proposal to amend the language in Irvine Regulation 450, Persons in Charge of Courses (Cabinet 11/03/2015)
• Forwarded comments to the Vice Provost for Academic Planning on the inclusion of 3 and 4 year pathways in the UCI Catalogue (Cabinet 1/19/2016)
• Endorsed the proposed language modifications to the language in the APP for Above Scale (Cabinet 2/02/2016)
• Forwarded comments on the Retirement Options Task Force Report to the President (Cabinet 2/02/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify Irvine Bylaw 138, Council on Student Experience (Assembly 3/10/2016)
• Forwarded comments on the systemwide review of the Report from the Joint Committee of the Administration and Academic Senate (Cabinet 3/15/2016)
• Forwarded comments on the systemwide review of the Guiding Principles: Search Waiver for Academic Appointees at the University of California (Cabinet 3/15/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify the Paul Merage School of Business bylaws (Assembly 5/05/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify Irvine Regulation 520, General Education (Assembly 6/02/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify Irvine Bylaw 100, Graduate Council (Assembly 6/02/2016)
• Forwarded comments to the Academic Council on the review of the proposed amendments to APM 278, 210-6, 279, 112, and 350 (Cabinet 5/17/2016)
• Endorsed the proposal to modify Bylaw 40, Faculties (Cabinet 5/17/2016)

Faculty Welfare (any issues brought forward by CFW)
• Hosted a successful forum on Faculty Mental Health with support from the Office of the Provost and the Program in Public Health. (12/09/2015)
Research (any issues brought forward by CORCL)
- Endorsed the proposal to recommend the adoption of a new faculty research funding model (Cabinet 8/30/2016)

Budget and Planning
- Endorsed the proposal for the inclusion of Student Services fee in SSP budgets (Cabinet 2/02/2016)
- Endorsed the proposal to modify the Initial Request for Approval to Establish an Endowed Chair form (Cabinet 3/15/2016)
- Endorsed the proposal to advance the Program in Nursing Science to the Sue and Bill Gross School of Nursing (Cabinet 8/30/2016)

Endowed Chairs
- Approved the establishment of the Francisco J. Ayala Administrative Chairs in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Developmental and Cell Biology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, and Neurobiology (11/03/2015)
- Approved the establishment of the Stacey Nicholas Dean of Engineering Endowed Chairs (11/03/2015)
- Approved the establishment of the Dharma Civilization Foundation Presidential Chair in Modern India Studies (11/03/2015)
- Approved the establishment of the Dhan Kaur Sahota Presidential Chair in Sikh Studies (11/03/2015)
- Approved the establishment of the Shri Parshvanath Presidential Chair in Jain Studies (11/03/2015)
- Approved the establishment of the Nicolaos G. and Sue Curtis Alexopoulos Presidential Chair in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the Henry Samueli School of Engineering (Cabinet 1/19/2016)
- Rescinded approval of the four Humanities Endowed Chairs (Cabinet 3/01/2016):
  - Thakkar Family – Dharma Civilization Foundation Presidential Chair in Indic and Vedic Civilization Studies
  - Swami Vivekananda – Dharma Civilization Foundation Presidential Chair in Modern India Studies
  - Shri Parshvanath Presidential Chair in Jain Studies
  - Dhan Kaur Sahota Presidential Chair in Sikh Studies
- Approved the establishment of the Roger F. Steinert Endowed Chair in Opthamology (7/05/2016)

Awards and Honors
- The Senate agreed not to solicit or forward UCI Medal nominations pending the campus’ efforts to re-envision its approach to higher level distinctions. (Senate Chair 2/23/16)

Senate Management (meeting dates, changes to Senate procedures, etc.)
- The Senate Cabinet changed their meeting times to 2-4:00 p.m.
Other Activities

- The Academic Senate Leadership released a statement in an attempt to ease the management of ethical issues associated with the assignment of textbooks, and the resulting financial benefits for faculty (Cabinet 4/19/2016)