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Academic *Senate*

FALL NEWSLETTER 2011

Welcome from the Academic Senate

As we welcome 47 new faculty to the University of California, Irvine, we celebrate the many contributions and accomplishments of Academic Senate members. Despite the budget situation, faculty members continue to engage in exciting scholarly and creative activities and to inspire and educate close to 28,000 students.

As the University of California enters its fourth year of huge budget cuts, we can only hope that the most severe cuts are behind us. While faculty input is important during times of growth, it is even more essential that the voice of the faculty be heard when difficult choices are made about academic programs and budget priorities. It is doubtful that this is just a bump in the road and that the state will soon return to supporting the University of California at previous levels. Rather, we must be involved in decisions affecting how the university and the campus will proceed so that we maintain UC quality in the future.

Thus, we should all be grateful to those colleagues who have volunteered to serve on essential Academic Senate committees at the campus and university levels. There can be no shared governance without the commitment of individual faculty members to participate in Academic Senate activities. In this newsletter, you will find reports from those councils and committees working to communicate the faculty perspective as decisions are made that affect all of us, our students, and the citizens of California.

Mary Gilly, Chair Elect
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

NEWS FROM THE CABINET AND DIVISIONAL SENATE ASSEMBLY

Some notable completed actions by the Cabinet during fall quarter:



Systemwide Issues (<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/>)

- The Academic Council requested systemwide review of APM 200 and 205, Recall for Academic Appointees. The Cabinet voted to support the proposed revisions and clarifications of the existing policy for recalling retired academic appointees to active service in academic titles.
- The Cabinet reviewed the proposed revisions to APM 670, Health Sciences Compensation Plan. The modifications were proposed to clarify certain principles such as authority levels, guidelines for the assignment of Academic Programmatic Units and to bring APM 670 into conformity with APM 700. The Cabinet was uncomfortable with the phrase “good standing”, since it was not defined and left to the discretion of the deans. The Cabinet’s comments will be forwarded to the systemwide Senate office.
- The Cabinet reviewed the proposed revisions to APM 668, Negotiated Salary Plan. The revisions would allow a compensation model for general campus faculty similar to the health sciences compensation plan, which would provide the option for supplementing salary with non-state resources. The Cabinet had a lot of concerns with the revisions and will forward its comments.
- The Academic Council requested divisional review of the proposed BOARS policy on transfer admissions. The proposal represents a major revision to UC’s transfer policy to emphasize major preparation as the key component in the comprehensive review of transfer applications. Legislature has required the CA State system to offer automatic acceptance of transfer students from community colleges and are urging the UC to implement a similar policy. There appears to be push back from the UC campuses.

Campus Issues:

- As communicated by Chancellor Drake in his email of December 1, 2011, it was necessary to implement a number of safety precautions on campus including an immediate evacuation of Aldrich Hall and cancellation of a number of Senate meetings, including the Divisional Senate Assembly meeting. This disruption of our schedule was unfortunate, but the nature of the threat to the campus made those precautions necessary to insure the safety of the University community. **The Academic Senate has rescheduled the Divisional Senate Assembly meeting for Thursday, December 15, 2011, 3:30-5:00 p.m. in 338 Aldrich Hall.** All Assembly representatives are encouraged to attend this meeting as we have several key items that we would like to consider before the end of the year.
- The School of Law requested the Senate to expand Council on Academic Personnel (CAP) membership to include a faculty member from the School of Law. The Cabinet voted unanimously to endorse the proposal to include a member from Law and to present other options for representation from other smaller units that currently do not sit on CAP at the rescheduled Assembly meeting.

NEWS FROM THE COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Council on Academic Personnel (CAP)

The Council on Academic Personnel and the Office of Academic Personnel held the annual All Schools Fall Kickoff on October 11 at the University Club. CAP members also visited the School of Law on October 5 and will schedule other School Visits upon request. CAP has reviewed and commented on proposed revisions to APM 200 (Appointment and Promotion-General), 205 (Recall for Academic Appointees), 668 (proposed new Negotiated Salary Program for the General Campus), and 670 (Health Sciences Compensation Plan), as well as the report prepared for Academic Council and the University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity, entitled "Analysis of UC Pay Equity by Sex and, Among Men, Ethnicity, 2009-10."

Council on Educational Policy (CEP)

CEP continues to encourage the development of XI courses by UCI faculty. These courses will be equivalent to current UCI courses but will be offered through Extension for the purpose of attracting non UCI students who might be interested in attending UCI in the future. The XI courses will not count toward GPA should the student be admitted to UCI but the XI course units will count (similar to the way Community college courses count for transfer students). CEP will also continue to review General Education requirements. All Math GE (V) courses are being reviewed and subdivided into Va or Vb. Va is applied math and Vb is pure math. Later in the year, CEP will also evaluate GE VII (Multi cultural) courses. CEP subcommittees are reviewing large numbers of new course proposals, many of which have GE components. Courses adding GE or new GE course proposals are now required to include a section on student learning outcomes Faculty have been asked to justify how the proposed course will affect promote student learning outcomes. This is one of the first steps CEP has taken to encourage faculty and units to think about how the course will support student learning outcomes in the GE category and how these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Council on Faculty Welfare , Diversity, and Academic Freedom (CFW)

The Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom (CFW) members provide advice at both the UCI and UC levels on a number of issues important to the long term quality of the University. These issues include, but not limited to, faculty salary, benefits, retirement plans, healthcare, child care, Emeriti issues, parking and transportation, work place training, and UC/UCI policies that affect faculty welfare, diversity, and academic freedom. The Council sends representatives to the University Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW), University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF), University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity (UCAAD), and the Council on UC Emeriti Associations (CUCEA). UC issues for Fall 2011 included: Proposed revisions to the Academic Personnel Manual related to Recall of Academic Appointees, Negotiated Salary Plans, and the Health Science Compensation Plan; the UC Report on Salary Equity at the UC; and, academic freedom for lecturers. Campus issues for Fall 2011 included: Parking issues related to a request for unrestricted evening and weekend access from AGS; a request from the Council on Student Experience to review and comment on a pilot project for online access to teaching evaluations; and a request for discussion from a member of CFW on how the morale of clinical professors at the School of Medicine could be improved.

Senate members are encouraged to forward issues related to faculty welfare, academic freedom, affirmative action and diversity, and emeriti affairs to the Council for review and discussion.

Council on Planning and Budget (CPB)

During the fall quarter, CPB has reviewed a campus proposal for a Department of European Languages and Studies in the School of Humanities. The Council endorsed the proposal despite a number of concerns regarding long-range program planning issues with respect to the new department and its constituents and with respect to the School of Humanities. CPB has also reviewed proposed systemwide revisions to the APM 668 – Negotiated Salary Plan and APM 670 – Health Sciences Compensation Plan. The Council opposes APM 668 and found that the revisions to APM 670 simplify and clarify the policy in general.

CPB invited Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Gottfredson to its November 9, 2011 meeting to share the campus' strategic vision for budget adjustments and to discuss how CPB can effectively provide input to the Administration with regard to resource allocation.

At the beginning of the academic year, CPB Chair Molzon and UCPB Representative Senear were invited to join the Academic Planning Group (APG), reversing the changes made to the APG membership last year. The inclusion of CPB was re-established thanks to the efforts of the Senate leadership. Furthermore, CPB will be provided with the materials given to and generated by APG. The access of information allows the Council to satisfy its responsibility to consult with and advise the campus Administration.

Council on Research, Computing and Libraries (CORCL)

The 2011-12 Faculty Research and Travel Grants in the amount of \$369,500 have been allocated to the academic units' School Research Committees to award competitive faculty research grants to:

- Individual researchers for small research projects,
- Pilot efforts leading to proposal for extramural funding, or
- Travel for research or for presenting research findings at conferences

CORCL is in the process of reviewing and ranking 17 white papers for new Organized Research Units (ORU). The Office of Research expects to fund 2 to 3 ORUs in Summer 2012, marking a return to new ORU funding from 3 years ago. CORCL will also serve on the 5-year review committees for 5 ORUs: Institute for Software Research, Genetic Epidemiology Research Institute, Center for the Study of Democracy, Center for Virus Research, and Center for Embedded Computer Systems.

Council on Student Experience (CSE)

CSE is making progress proposing and overseeing the implementation of a pilot (for Fall 2012) that would allow undergraduates to have online access to the numerical results of faculty teaching evaluations. The Council is also overseeing implementation of a pilot (for Spring 2012) that will allow faculty to print pictures of the students on their rosters. Recently CSE's undergraduate and graduate representatives asked the Council to look into parking changes that affect students coming to campus to study or work (e.g., in labs) evenings and weekends. Finally, CSE is looking into rewriting the Academic Honesty policy to simplify reporting, make processing/penalties more uniform, and ensure that student and faculty rights are protected.

Council on Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools (CUARS)

CUARS members are currently evaluating the BOARS Transfer Admissions Proposal. The Systemwide Senate has requested comments by the divisional committees related to the proposed policy on transfer admissions. The proposal represents a major revision to UC's transfer policy to emphasize major preparation as the key component in the comprehensive review of transfer applications. The proposal will be revised based on the comments and resubmitted to the Divisions for a second review.

Graduate Council (GC)

Graduate Council (GC) has approved revisions to the Graduate Mentoring, Advising and Monitoring Policy and Academic Disqualification process this fall. The updated policies can be found on the Graduate Council's webpage at:

<http://www.senate.uci.edu/Councils/GC/index.asp>

This fall, Graduate Division developed and Graduate Council supported Individual Development Plans (IDPs) for postdoctoral scholars. The IDPs provide a planning process that identifies the postdoctoral scholar's general individual research goals, professional development and career objectives, and serves as a communication tool between postdoctoral scholars and their PIs (supervisors/faculty mentors). The IDP guidelines and forms can be found on the Graduate Division website:

<http://www.grad.uci.edu/postdoctoral-scholars/index.html>

Graduate Degree Proposal Updates

The MS in Engineering Management has recently been approved by the systemwide Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA). The proposal will need to be approved by the Office of the President before the degree become official. Proposals for a MS in Biotechnology Management and a PhD in Nursing Science are currently under review at CCGA. Graduate Council is currently reviewing a Modification of the Graduate Degree Program in Pharmacology & Toxicology.