

UC Irvine Academic Senate

Winter 2016 Newsletter

Greetings from the Divisional Senate

This newsletter summarizes the activities and accomplishments of the Irvine Division of the Academic Senate during the Winter quarter of the 2015-16 academic year. We encourage you to read the entire newsletter to gain a better understanding of the role of the Senate in academic and administrative issues that influence the future development of the campus.

Bill Parker, Chair Elect, Irvine Division of the UC Academic Senate.

News from the Cabinet and Divisional Senate Assembly

(Campuswide):

- **Self-Supporting Programs**

The Senate is having ongoing discussions in order to articulate clear guidelines and standards for the review of SSP proposals. These guidelines will help standardize proposals and make the review of proposals more effective. The Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) has forwarded updated guidelines to Provost Dorr. Senate Chair Terricciano will follow up with the CCGA chair and will provide an update at the next Cabinet meeting.

At its meeting on February 2, 2016, the Senate Cabinet reviewed the proposal by Graduate Council and endorsed by the Council on Planning and Budget to include student services fees in the budgets of Self-Supporting Programs. The current student services fee is \$340.00 a quarter and includes access to offices such as the Counseling Center, Career Center, Disability Services Center, Veteran Services Center, Cross Cultural Center, LGBTQ Center, and the Campus Assault Resource Center. The Cabinet unanimously endorsed the proposal and recommended, to the Provost and Vice Chancellor of Planning and Budget, the establishment of a policy that, once enacted by the Administration, would require all graduate students in Self-Supporting Programs to pay a portion of the student services fees equivalent to the amount of time their academic program takes place on campus. The Senate will work with the Administration in the development and implementation of this new policy.

- **Inclusion of 3 and 4 Year Pathways in UCI Catalogue**
The Cabinet discussed the inclusion of 4-year completion pathways for all majors and the inclusion of information on 3-year pathways for 10 of the top 15 majors in the UCI Catalogue. The Cabinet raised concerns about the continuing pressures to increase the UC graduation rate and the impending undergraduate enrollment growth. The Cabinet supported the recommendation that no changes be made to the current policy and emphasized the importance of departmental autonomy.
- **College of Health Sciences**
The College of Health Sciences (COHS) is developing pre-proposals to establish Schools of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Nursing Science, and Public Health. Senate Chair Terricciano has had ongoing communication with the proposers in an effort to enhance the viability of the submitted proposals. The Senate Cabinet anticipates substantial evaluation of these proposals and have highlighted key issues such as bylaw modifications, attention to faculty growth, and attention to program functionality to facilitate an efficient Senate review process. The submission of pre-proposals to the Senate are anticipated in spring quarter.
- **Senate Faculty Award Nominations**
The nomination period for Distinguished Senate Faculty Awards took place during the winter quarter and closed on February 29, 2016.
- **Senate Elections**
The voting period for the Senate Elections opened February 29th and will close on March 14th.
- **Black Student Union**
On January 26, 2016 the Chancellor's Office received a letter from UCI's Black Student Union demanding the abolition of the campus police. The issue was discussed at the Council on Student Experience. There has been no request for the Senate to take action.
- **The Senate Cabinet approved the following Endowed Chairs:**
Nicolaos G. and Sue Curtis Alexopoulos Presidential Chair in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in The Henry Samueli School of Engineering
- **The Senate Cabinet approved the following graduate degree proposals:**
 1. Self- Supporting Master of Finance (School of Business)
- **The Divisional Senate Assembly anticipates reviewing the following proposals at its meeting on March 10th:**
 1. Proposed Modifications to Irvine Bylaw 138
 2. Proposed Modifications to Irvine Regulation 450
 3. Proposed Bachelors of Science in Applied Physics

(Systemwide):

- **Retirement Options Task Force Report**
The Cabinet reviewed the Retirement Options Task Force Report to the President. Both the Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity and Academic Freedom (CFW) and the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) reviewed the report and identified some concerns. In addition, the Irvine Divisional Senate Assembly Meeting on January 28, 2016 was devoted to a presentation and discussion of the report that generated additional comments. There was extensive discussion about the content and implications of the report regarding the Irvine campus and future of University of California. The Systemwide response to the Report can be found on the Senate homepage: <http://senate.uci.edu/files/2014/02/Report-and-Recommendations-of-the-Retirement-Options-Task-Force.pdf>
- **Briefing on Cybersecurity**
There was a briefing on Cybersecurity and the measures taken by UCOP. UCOP's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Rachel Nava, addressed questions and gave an update on the current status of the cybersecurity system in place.
- **Undergraduate Enrollments**
President Janet Napolitano announced an initiative to expand student housing over the next four years and accelerate the timetable for completing student housing developments currently in the planning phase. The university estimates adding nearly 14,000 new beds during the next several years.
- **Systemwide Final Review of Proposed Revisions to Presidential Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment**
The Joint Committee on Sexual Violence, Assault, and Harassment have met twice and are still in the process of completing their work. Initial recommendations by the committee are expected by March.
- **UC Openness in Research Policy**
The Academic Council has voted to develop a policy on UC Openness in Research. Once developed, the proposed policy will be disseminated for review and comment.
- **Statement of Principles Against Intolerance**
The Principles of Intolerance Working group has completed their report. It is anticipated that The Regents' Statement of Principles Against Intolerance will not be circulated for Senate comment.

News from the Councils and Committees

Council on Academic Personnel (CAP)

There were no substantive changes to the Academic Personnel Manual relating to personnel actions, title changes or processes submitted this academic year. All other actions were confidential and thus cannot be reported in this forum.

Council on Undergraduate Admissions & Relations with Schools (CUARS)

(Campuswide)

- **2016 UCI Admissions Applications Summary**

Director Morales briefed the council on the 2015 comparatives and the 2016 UCI applicant profile. A total of 7,759 freshman and transfer applications were received, an impressive growth for the campus and signal that academic indicators remain steady. The Office of Admissions is working to develop new strategies for outreach and communication plans as well as improving the CRMs. UCI continues to increase the number of first-generation students due, in large part, to the work of the Admissions Office.

- **Campus Outreach Programs Focus: Student Outreach and Retention Center (SOAR)**

Ana Miriam Barragan, DREAMers Coordinator for the Student Outreach and Retention Center (SOAR), shared a presentation with the Council on the DREAMers program initiative. She noted that undocumented students (also referred to as Dreamers) are a fast growing population at UCI. SOAR will be offering AB540 and Undocumented Student Ally Trainings once a quarter on the issues these students face and the policies that impact their student experience. The training dates will be posted on the Senate website.

(Systemwide)

- **Review of C-ID Proposal and Proposed Honors “a-g” Policy Revisions**

Council members reviewed the Course Identification Numbering system (C-ID) Proposal and agreed that the proposed changes appear to be a good idea. Council members expressed that some of the California Community Colleges (CCC) course content is not always equivalent with what is offered at UCI. It was suggested that additional materials should be required to verify course content, such as sample homework and tests, as part of the review process. Requiring information, beyond that of a course syllabus, will help provide a better sense of comparable courses. While C-ID may streamline course content, it may also have a significant impact on scholarly and/or pedagogic freedom. CUARS noted that this system may work well for “traditional” subject areas of study but not for complex and advanced fields, such as Mathematical Sciences or Geological Sciences. Furthermore, the Council would like to know how frequently the C-IDs would be updated to represent new data,

knowledge and/or techniques. The Council had no concerns on the revisions to the honors "a-g" guidelines.

Graduate Council (GC)

Self-Supporting Graduate Degree Programs

- Approved the Master of Finance proposal from the School of Business.
- Continued review of the Master of Conservation and Restoration Science proposal from the School of Biological Sciences
- The Council voted to endorse a new policy that would require graduate students in Self-Supporting programs to pay the student services fee. The proposal was sent to the Council on Planning and Budget for review and submitted to the Cabinet for a formal vote.

State Supported Graduate Degree Programs

- Reviewed a proposal for a 4+1 BA/MA European Thought and Culture degree from the School of Humanities.
- Reviewed proposals from the School of Social Sciences
 - a. Graduate emphasis in International and Global Analysis
 - b. Graduate concentration in Economics
- Approved a new concentration (Community and Population Health) in the M.S. Nursing Science degree.

Interdisciplinary Graduate Degree Programs

- Tri-Campus Classics Ph.D. program – Graduate Council suspended admissions, at the recommendation of the Dean of Humanities, to the UCI portion of this program. Students may still be admitted through UCSD or UCR.
- Mathematical and Computational Biology (MCB) Gateway Program – Graduate Council reviewed the request to change the program's bylaws. Currently the program is housed in the School of Biological Sciences and governed by an Executive Committee and Program Director. The program argued that due to the interdisciplinary nature of the program, the MCB Gateway Program should now report to the Dean of Graduate Division and the program will be administered through the Center for Complex Biological Systems, an Organized Research Unit (ORU). This issue is still under review and consideration.
- The Senate considered a request from the Dean of Graduate Division to include the Transportation Sciences graduate degree in the upcoming School of Engineering academic program review.
- These issues prompted a larger discussion among the Council about interdisciplinary graduate degree programs and some of the complexities and challenges they face specific to graduate student support, governance and academic program review.

Additional items

- Graduate Council approved revisions to the ‘Mentoring/Advising’ policy.
- The School Dean’s response to Graduate Council review of doctoral programs last spring was completed in the winter quarter. The Council has begun reviewing admissions, enrollment and placement data for all Master’s programs. The review is expected to continue through the spring.

Council on Student Experience (CSE)

- CSE met with the Assistant University Librarian to hear updates on the 24-hour study space pilot run during the December 2015 finals period. The Council continues to explore avenues for creating 24-hour study space for students.
- The Council considered four amendments to the Celebration of Teaching Awards nomination process and requirements affecting how nominations are submitted, sponsorship of awards, Dean’s honorees, and commercial instructional development products/software.
- The Council met with new UCIPD Chief Jorge Cisneros to get an overview of his goals for the campus and to discuss student safety related issues. The Council made several recommendations regarding study and campus safety for consideration by the Council on Faculty Welfare in their final report on UCIPD and the campus community.
- The Council updated and approved changes to Bylaw 138 conforming to the Academic Integrity Policy approved in April 2015 and campus centers which have been renamed since its initial adoption. The changes were presented for final approval at the March 10, 2016 Divisional Senate Assembly meeting.
- The Division of Teaching and Learning presented a request to CSE for support on five initiatives related to scheduling policy issues impacting students. The Council has rerouted the request to the Senate Cabinet for consideration.

Council on Faculty Welfare (CFW)

- The Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity and Academic Freedom met with the Senate Chair to explore whether APM – 010 sufficiently supports the academic freedom needs of the campus faculty or if something specific to the campus is needed. At this time the Council is waiting to learn more about the *Statement of Principles Against Intolerance* to be released by the UC Regents.
- The Council is in the process of reviewing UCIPD procedures as they relate to the needs of the University community. A report on the Council’s findings is expected in June 2016.

The Council on Educational Policy (CEP)

In addition to reviewing proposals for new undergraduate majors, CEP activity has focused on a number of important issues directly related to undergraduate education curriculum and courses.

- CEP completed its review of all courses with General Education II (Science and Technology) and GE III (Social and Behavioral Sciences) designations. During spring

quarter, each UCI School will receive a memo from CEP detailing the outcome of the review. CEP will also be sending out requests to review all courses with GE IV (Arts and Humanities) and GE VI (Languages other than English) designations.

- CEP continues to discuss a request from the Task Force for Ensuring a Positive Climate for the Campus's African American Community to add a course learning outcome to General Education VII (Multicultural). CEP has solicited and is receiving feedback from departments housing GE VII courses and this feedback will play a significant role in CEP's decisions regarding revisions to the course learning outcomes in GE VII.
- CEP has appointed a subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Summer Session Review (SOSSR—pronounced "Saucer"), for the 2016-17 external review of Summer Session. SOSSR is charged with structuring and implementing the review and securing external reviewers. SOSSR has met twice and is in the process of soliciting feedback from Associate Deans on aspects of summer session they and School's departments would like to have reviewed.
- CEP has sent out a call for proposals for the Interdisciplinary Teaching Support Award (ITSA). All senate members were emailed information about the call during the third week of February.
- CEP is in the process of reviewing the proposal for a Minor in Medical Humanities.

Council on Research, Computing, and Libraries (CORCL)

CORCL is reviewing issues related to measures taken by the Office of the President to address cybersecurity threats and issues related to the cyber-attack of UCLA Health system. The Council invited David Kay, Chair of the University Committee on Academic Computing & Communications and Dana Roode, Associate Vice Chancellor of Information Technology to address the subject matter. CORCL will present its recommendations to Senate Chair Terricciano.

Council on Planning and Budget (CPB)

Degree Programs

- The B.S. in Applied Physics in the School of Physical Sciences was endorsed by CPB.
- The Master of Finance, a self-supporting program in the Paul Merage School of Business, was endorsed by CPB.
- The Master of Conservation and Restoration Science, a self-supporting program in the Francisco Ayala School of Biological Sciences, is being reviewed by CPB pending additional information and clarifications to be provided by the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

Endowed Chairs

- The Nicolaos G. and Sue Curtis Alexopoulos Presidential Chair in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the Henry Samueli School of Engineering was endorsed by

CPB with the condition that a faculty vote and endorsement or other evidence of departmental faculty consultation be presented.

- CPB is revising the Initial Request for Approval to Establish an Endowed Chair to strengthen the faculty consultation requirement and other areas of concerns.

Divisional Issues

- The Strategic Plan was considered by CPB.
- Graduate Council's policy to include student services fees in the budget of self-supporting programs was endorsed by CPB with the recommendation that future programs assess the burden that they impose on student services and include appropriate student service fees in their budgets.

Guest

- Provost Lavernia visited CPB on February 10, 2016 to provide an update on short-term and long-term planning.

At the systemwide level, the Council reviewed the report of the Retirement Options Task Force (ROTF) and expressed concerns about how the proposed changes might negatively impact recruitment, retention, and timely retirement of faculty. CPB recommends that the relatively narrow focus of the ROTF be placed within the larger pictures of total remuneration, faculty quality and competitiveness, and our position as a top-tier research institution.