

**Irvine Division of the Academic Senate
Annual Report 2020-21**

Chair's Summary

This year was marked by the Academic Senate continuing to address the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic began affecting campus activities at the end of winter quarter 2020. In response, faculty modified instructional delivery and how we conducted research for spring quarter 2020. The 2020-21 academic year was taught almost entirely remotely, and we have gradually returned to research activities as we have been able to do so safely.

The Senate has relied on a close working relationship with the administration in addressing the pandemic. The degree of success we have achieved has been the result of the campus's commitment to shared governance. Most salient to me has been the ingenuity, resourcefulness, and hard work of the colleagues in the service of our students and each other.

In partnership with the Dean of Undergraduate Education in particular, Senate faculty have worked to make our courses as effective as possible given health and logistical constraints. This involved sharing those practices that seemed to be working best across campus and at the other UCs. It also involved communicating as clearly as possible the needs of the faculty and students to our administrative colleagues. The Senate will continue to work to apply what we have learned.

While everything we did this year happened against the backdrop of the pandemic, the Academic Senate was active on other fronts as well. This work is described throughout the present report. I will mention a few things here.

Under the UC Board of Regents Standing Orders, the Academic Senate determines the conditions for admission. The Senate worked this year to integrate its responsibilities regarding admissions with the more general issue of enrollment management at UC Irvine. Inasmuch as we admit undergraduates to majors, these considerations are inextricably intertwined. Among its other responsibilities, the Council on Enrollment Management and Admissions (CEMA) worked to determine how best to implement a court-mandated test-free admissions policy. The role of testing in UC admissions will continue to be a central issue for the foreseeable future.

The Academic Senate also has responsibility for determining the conditions for degrees. There were several issues on this front. Of particular salience were self-supporting graduate professional degree programs (SSGPDPs). The Senate continues to try to figure out how best to manage and review SSGPDPs. Because these programs are expected to be fully self-supporting, they require a different review structure than standard core programs. This year Graduate Council (GC) and the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) worked to implement an ongoing review process beyond the third-year review for SSGPDPs. The Senate is also consulting with other UC campuses regarding best practices in managing these programs.

The Academic Senate has the closely related responsibility to authorize and supervise courses and curricula. Given the innovative spirit of our faculty, there is always much work to do here. Much of this goes through the Council on Educational Policy (CEP) and Graduate Council (GC) as they approve and review courses and degrees. But sometimes broader issues arise. One issue this year concerned the role of integrative medicine in instruction. These deliberations

started with the reflections and subsequent report of the Council on Research, Computing, and Libraries (CORCL). In brief, given the positive innovation that is manifestly associated with some aspects of integrative medicine and our firm commitment to the highest standards of empirical inquiry, this is a topic that will require the continued careful reflection of the faculty in the College of Health Sciences (CoHS) and allied colleagues across campus.

The Senate is also charged with consulting with the administration on more general campus planning and budget issues. On our campus, the Academic Planning Group (APG) plays a key role in this process.

APG is a committee that is co-chaired by the Chair Elect of the Academic Senate and the Vice Provost of Academic Planning and Institutional Research. It advises the Provost on issues of current interest to the campus. It does so by organizing task groups with the appropriate expertise to address each issue that is being considered in a given year. These task groups meet, reflect, and then produce recommendations that are communicated to the core APG and from there to the Provost. The Academic Senate is represented at every point in the deliberative process. This year APG had task groups on Merit and Promotion Considerations in the Context of a Pandemic (studying COVID mitigation measures for faculty), Understanding Faculty Teaching Workloads (figuring out how to track workload in the context of campus accounting procedures), Professor of Teaching Series Considerations (discussing various issues involving teaching faculty), and Reimagining Graduate Education (studying how we might measure the success of Ph.D. and MFA programs so that data on these programs might be gathered and assessed in the 2021-22 academic year).

This year the Council on Equity and Inclusion (CEI) and Senate leadership were pleased to work with the Office of Inclusive Excellence on a number of projects connected with the UCI Black Thriving Initiative. The resulting reflections helped to inform the Senate and to encourage the leadership to recommit to the goal of promoting equity and inclusion in every corner of campus.

Other topics that the Academic Senate discussed and acted on this year included the Council on Faculty Welfare, Diversity, and Academic Freedom's (CFW) reflections on academic freedom, climate change, and data use and privacy (a topic that was made particularly salient by the expanded use of Canvas and proctoring services during the pandemic and by the UC Accellion data breach) and the Council on Teaching, Learning, and Student Experience's (CTLSE) work on how we might best serve our students during the pandemic. In addition to their usual task of reviewing personnel files, the Council on Academic Personnel (CAP) worked on revising the Council's bylaw to allow for more expertise on CoHS files and on COVID mitigation measures.

The Academic Senate has been working for several months with the administration colleagues to plan for fall instruction. While the outlook was better a few weeks ago than at present, we have learned much over the last year and a half that will serve us well. UC Irvine faculty will continue to be creative, to discover new truth, and to serve our students with dedication.

All best wishes,

Jeff Barrett
Chair, 2020-21
Academic Senate, Irvine Division

List of Cabinet and Assembly Activities

Temporary Policy Changes due to COVID-19

- Graduate Council approved a temporary suspension of a requirement under Senate Regulation 935. Final Examinations specifying that “The examination will be open to all members of the academic community” due to concerns with possible Zoombombing for examinations conducted remotely during COVID-19. This temporary suspension will end at the conclusion of Fall 2021. (6/17/21)
- Undergraduate programs will not need to seek formal approval for existing courses to be offered in a remote or hybrid mode as a temporary measure due to COVID-19 restrictions through Winter 2022. (3/19/21)

Undergraduate Programs

No new undergraduate programs were proposed during AY 2020-21.

State-Supported Graduate Programs

- Approved the creation of a Doctor of Philosophy in Film & Media Studies in the School of Humanities (6/1/21)

Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs)

No new SSGPDPs were proposed during AY 2020-21.

Establishment, Transfer, Consolidation, and Disestablishment of Departments

No department actions were proposed during AY 2020-21.

Establishment of Schools

- Reviewed and returned for revision a pre-proposal to establish a School of Population and Public Health (5/18/21)

Degree, Department, and School Name Changes

- Approved termination of the concurrent Master in Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) and Master of Science in Civil Engineering (MSCE) (4/6/21)
- Approved disestablishment of B.S. in General Engineering (6/1/21) (6/3/21)

Endowed Chairs

- Endorsed the Connell Endowed Chair in Plastic Surgery (11/3/20)
- Endorsed the Allergan Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology (11/3/20)
- Endorsed the Jaime Landman Endowed Chair in Urologic Surgical Oncology (12/1/20)
- Endorsed name change of the Falmagne Endowed Chair to the Falmagne Endowed Chair in Applied Mathematics and transfer from the School of Social Sciences to the School of Physical Sciences (4/6/21)
- Endorsed the Hamoui Salous Endowed Chair in Thoracic Oncology (4/20/21)
- Endorsed the John Wayne Cancer Center Endowed Chair in Surgical Oncology (6/15/21)
- Endorsed the Gatten-Guyton Endowed Chair in Otolaryngology (7/13/21)

Systemwide Reviews

- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 544 (11/3/20)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 630 (11/3/20)
- Forwarded comments on the report of the Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force (12/1/20)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to the leave-related policies of the 700 Series of the APM (1/19/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed Presidential Policy BFB IS-12 (2/2/21)
- Forwarded comments on the Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) assessment report and recommendations (2/2/21)
- Forwarded comments on Academic Planning Council Faculty Salary Scales Task Force Report and Recommendations (2/2/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed Presidential Policy on UC Research Data and Tangible Research Materials (3/16/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed Presidential Policy BFB-BUS-43 (3/16/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed revisions to Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures, commonly known as the Gold Book (4/20/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) frameworks for faculty and staff (4/20/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed Presidential Policy on Classification of Gifts and Sponsored Awards (5/4/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 336.F.3 (5/4/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 610 (5/18/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed policy requiring students, faculty, academic appointees, and staff who access campus locations to receive a vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) (5/18/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed Presidential Policy for UC Health Participation in Activities under the End of Life Option Act (6/1/21)
- Forwarded comments on proposed revisions to the Presidential Policy on Graduate Student In-Absentia Registration (6/15/21)
- Forwarded comments on the proposed Presidential Plan for Campus Safety (6/15/21)

Divisional Bylaws, Regulations, and Appendices

All of the modifications and revisions listed received approval from the Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction

- Approved modifications to Appendix IX. Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees to accurately represent current offerings (10/6/20) (12/3/20)
- Approved addition of Regulation 650. Paul Merage School of Business to reflect the undergraduate degree offerings within the Paul Merage School of Business (10/6/20)
- Approved conforming changes to the Senate Manual (11/17/20)
- Approved revisions to Appendix I, Chapter V: The Henry Samueli School of Engineering that were approved by Cabinet during the 2019-20 academic year (12/3/20)

- Approved revisions to Bylaw 90. Equity and Inclusion, Council on (2/16/21) (3/11/21)
- Approved revisions to Appendix I, Chapter XII: School of Law (1/28/21) (3/2/21) (3/11/21)
- Approved removal of Appendix III from the Senate Manual to be replaced by a living document describing current administrative policies on faculty conduct and the administration of discipline on the Academic Senate website (3/2/21) (3/11/21)
- Approved revisions to Regulation A465. Final Examinations (3/16/21) (5/6/21)
- Approved revisions to Regulation 440.F. Adding and Dropping Courses (3/16/21) (5/6/21)
- Approved revisions to Appendix I, Chapter XI: School of Social Sciences (3/16/21) (5/6/21)
- Approved revisions to Regulation 325: Registration in Special Studies Courses and Appendix VII: Guidelines for the Conduct of Special Studies Courses (3/16/21) (5/6/21)
- Approved revisions to Bylaw 137. Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools, Council on (4/6/21) (6/3/21)
- Approved revisions to Bylaw 48. Academic Personnel, Council on (5/4/21) (6/3/21)
- Approved revisions to Appendix I, Chapter I: The Paul Merage School of Business (5/18/21) (6/3/21)
- Approved revisions to Appendix II: Grade Appeals (6/1/21) (6/3/21)

Campus Policy Reviews

- Discussed CEI's review of the UCI Equity Advisor Program (10/6/20)
- Discussed proposed Campus Curtailment Program for 2020-21 (10/20/20)
- Continued discussions of actions following the CORCL report on integrative medicine (11/17/20) (12/1/20) (3/11/21) (4/6/21) (5/18/21)
- Discussed review of the catalogue description of the Multicultural Studies General Education Requirement (Category VII) (11/17/20)
- Approved revisions to the Teaching Associate/Associate In description (12/15/20)
- Approved return to pre-pandemic Pass/Not-Pass grading rules (12/15/20)
- Discussed recommendations for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) (2/16/21) (5/4/21)
- Approved GC proposal to recommend all University Studies 399 courses be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis (2/16/21)
- Approved revised policy for English Proficiency for Teaching Assistants (3/16/21)
- Approved proposed 30-unit limit on independent study units (course numbers 197, 198, 199) that can be taken for a letter grade (3/16/21) (5/6/21)
- Forwarded comments to Academic Personnel regarding abusive conduct and bullying by faculty (4/6/21)
- Discussed proposal from Barnes & Noble College on the First Day Complete course materials program (4/20/21)
- Approved revised policy on English Language Proficiency for Graduate Student Admissions (6/15/21)
- Discussed post-pandemic instructional considerations (6/15/21)

Senate Policies and Procedures

- Approved proposed revisions to the Guiding Principles and Best Practices for Faculty Involvement in Dean Search and Review Committees (11/3/20) (2/16/21)
- Approved revisions to the process of ongoing review of SSGPDPs (6/15/21)

New Initiatives

- Discussed possibility of directing SSGPDP funds to diversity initiatives (1/19/21)
- Discussed proposed Student Course Feedback Form for Graduate Courses (2/16/21)
- Approved addition of question related to equity and inclusion to the Student Course Feedback Form (5/18/21)
- Discussed possibility of Faculty Remote Work Program (5/18/21)

Reviews of Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs)

- Endorsed Graduate Council/Council on Planning and Budget Subcommittee three-year reviews of the Master of Science in Pharmacology, Master of Laws, Master of Embedded & Cyber-Physical Systems, and Master of Legal and Forensic Psychology (6/1/21)

Presentations

- Welcomed Professor Emerita Carroll Seron and PSAC Chair Katie Tinto of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) to discuss PSAC, its role on campus, and its plans for the future (10/6/20)
- Welcomed CORCL members Barbara Sarnecka and Aaron Barth to discuss CORCL's report on issues related to integrative medicine at UCI (10/6/20) (11/17/20) (3/11/21)
- Welcomed Chancellor's Professor of History Jeff Wasserstrom to discuss the current political climate in China and Hong Kong and impacts on UCI students (10/20/20)
- Welcomed Professor Emerita Carroll Seron, PSAC Chair Katie Tinto, and Founder/Lead Consultant of MBD Innovation Mike Davis to discuss the review of campus policing and PSAC's role in this effort (12/3/20)
- Welcomed Vice Chancellor of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Doug Haynes to discuss UCI's Black Thriving Initiative (12/3/20)
- Welcomed Vice Chancellor for Information, Technology and Data Tom Andriola to discuss the Campus Data Governance Committee, the FireEye data attack, and information regarding research data protection (1/19/21)
- Welcomed Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning Michael Dennin to discuss lessons learned from remote instruction based on survey feedback from students (1/28/21)
- Welcomed Director of the Public Records Office Thea Bullock to discuss the proposed security camera policy (2/16/21)
- Welcomed Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management and Acting Director of Admissions Bryan Jue to discuss updates to the admissions cycle, changes to admissions with the removal of standardized testing requirements, and diversity initiatives (5/6/21)

Other

- Discussed possible themes for WSCUC accreditation (10/6/20)
- Discussed recommendations stemming from the Academic Senate and Office of the Provost Retreat on Addressing Racism (10/20/20)
- Discussed faculty concerns around usability of UC OATS (1/19/21)
- Discussed possible Academic Freedom statement (3/2/21) (4/20/21) (6/1/21)
- Discussed alternative forms of evidence of teaching excellence (5/4/21)

List of Other Senate Activities

The following summarizes other Divisional Senate activities that took place during 2020-21.

Academic Personnel

- Review of 380 cases with only 44 cases needing more than one meeting for a review and recommendation
- Contributed to the development of new policies for faculty academic personnel reviews, including policies that responded to the impacts of COVID-19.
- Communicated policies and procedures of the academic personnel process in partnership with Academic Personnel via two workshops attended by hundreds of campus members per event. In addition, the CAP chair initiated two meetings with individual deans.
- Thirty-three CAP meetings were held this year via Zoom. All assigned cases were reviewed with only two carry-forward cases.

Academic Program Review

- Conducted review of the School of Social Sciences
- Completed follow-up reviews of the School of Education, Program in Public Health, Henry Samueli School of Engineering, and School of Humanities

Collaborations with the Administration

- Academic Planning Group Workgroups
 - Merit & Promotion Considerations in the Context of a Pandemic
 - Understanding Faculty Teaching Workloads
 - Professor of Teaching Series Considerations
 - Reimagining Graduate Education (Phase I)

Events

- Senate and Office of the Provost Retreat on Addressing Racism: October 16, 2020
- Academic Senate Distinguished Faculty Awards: February 10, 2021
- Town Halls on COVID-19 and Return to Campus: October 14, 2020; February 4, 2021; and May 19, 2021

Nominations

- Submitted nominations for search committees for the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor and for Deans of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, School of Education, School of Law, Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing, and School of Social Ecology.

Research Center and Institute Reviews

- Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory (CNLM)

Student Grievances and Appeals

- The Academic Integrity Review Board completed 22 appeal reviews; five appeals are pending summer review.

Task Forces

- Reconvened Task Force on English Proficiency to develop new language proficiency policy for teaching assistants
- Convened Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom to draft a Senate statement on academic freedom in pedagogical practice