

**Notes From the Academic Senate Chair**Gayle Binion (gayle.binion@ucop.edu)

It is indeed an honor to have been entrusted with the position of Chair of the Systemwide Academic Senate. I look forward to a challenging year of serving the Senate and to interacting regularly with faculty from all of the campuses. I invite your comments and concerns.

Speaking of challenges, there are many afoot for the 2002-03 academic year with respect to the budgetary situation, student admissions and faculty renewal. Although the State finally has a budget for fiscal 2003, it reflects the bleakness of the current economy in a state that learned to depend too heavily on stock option and capital gains taxes, which plummeted in the past year. The University of California fared relatively well when compared to other publicly funded state institutions, but we have suffered some significant cuts, including an across-the-board cut of 10% in state funding for research, as well as not having the budgetary increases necessary to support our actual increase in student enrollments, the dramatically increased costs of health insurance, and salary increases for our faculty and staff. The Academic Senate's committees have been deeply involved in addressing these issues of mutual concern with the Office of the President, and we remain committed to employing strategies that will minimize the effects of the budget on our core missions of education, research and public service.

One of the few augmentations to the UC budget is funding for the Dual Admissions Program. Recommended by BOARS and approved by the Regents last year, this program enhances the already operative Eligibility in Local Context (www.ucop.edu/sas/elc/) and will facilitate the enrollment at UC of students who were in the top 5-12.5% of their high school class and have successfully completed two years of community college work. BOARS will also be studying the first year of implementation of comprehensive review (www.ucop.edu/news/archives/2001/nov15art1.htm) at the campuses and will present its report at the November Regents meeting. Finally, with respect to admissions, the revision of the SAT exam to place greater weight on mastery of high school curricula is underway, and the decision of the College Board to adopt the recommendations of BOARS has assured that UC admissions tests will be "portable" for students applying to other colleges and universities. The challenge now for the Academic Senate is to ensure that the criteria adopted for such an admissions test (www.ucop.edu/news/sat/summary.pdf) are actually met in the revised SAT exam.

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State Audit of UC Partnership Agreement

At its September 25th meeting, the Academic Council will consider the recently released legislative audit of UC's Partnership Agreement with the Governor, as well as the University's response to the report. The Bureau of State Audit's report focuses on the Partnership Agreement's 22 objectives, their indicators and performance data, finding that the Agreement could be improved to "increase its accountability for State funding," and recommending that quantifiable goals be set for greater accountability in a number of areas.

President Atkinson maintained in his letter of response that the University's performance can be assessed using the principles embedded in the agreement. He also invoked UC's excellent record in achieving the goals of the agreement in areas that are important to the Governor and the Legislature.

Two areas of comment in the report stand out as being of particular interest to faculty and the core mission of instruction. The first relates to the goal of providing sufficient classes for students to graduate in four years. The audit found the increase in expenditures for administrative salaries to be greater than that for academic staff salaries, citing in its breakdown a marked growth in salaries for IT professionals. While defending the decision to invest in technology, the President stated that \$10 million would be re-channeled from institutional support and administration to in-

struction over the next two years.

Another expressed concern was ladder faculty teaching loads. In the early 1990s UC committed to an increase in teaching load and, in fact, the average course load rose from 4.5 in 1990-91 to 4.9 in 1999-00. The audit found, however, that a number of reported courses had only 4-5 students, some as few as one or two, and that some independent studies may have been misreported as regular courses. University administration will respond by examining and possibly re-categorizing the courses in question, but is also emphasizing its goal of adding 1000 undergraduate classes, taught by existing regular-rank faculty and including freshman seminars, as a means of meeting the teaching load commitment. In addition, information on the instructional activities of non-ladder-rank faculty will be included in the annual instructional report to the Legislature beginning in 2003.

The Partnership Agreement was forged with the Governor in May of 2000 and applies to fiscal years 1999-2000 through 2002-2003. The accord commits state resources for the core needs of the University for instruction, research, and public service. The University in turn is expected to realize agreed upon outcomes in the areas of access, quality of instruction, and the improvement of California's public education at all levels. For the complete audit plus the President's letter, go to:

www.bsa.ca.gov/bsa/pdfs/2001130.pdf

UPDATES AND EVENTS

Academic Senate Retreat Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Senate's 17 standing committees and the divisional chairs will meet on September 24th at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club to discuss the Senate's goals for 2002-03.

UCM Inauguration Carol Tomlinson-Keasey will become the first Chancellor of UC Merced in an 11:00 a.m. ceremony on Oct. 25th to be held on the Merced campus site. Among the faculty who will participate in full academic regalia are the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate and members of the Senate Task Force on UC Merced. For more information, visit UCM's website: www.ucmerced.edu/

Master Plan The final report on the California Master Plan for Education was released in early September. To see the report go to: www.sen.ca.gov/masterplan/

Opportunities for Directorships at Education Abroad Study Centers The deadline is 5 p.m. October 2nd to submit applications for study center directorships in Chile, Egypt, Japan, Russia, or Vietnam. A complete list of openings and terms of appointments is located at: www.eap.ucop.edu/faculty/directorrecruit.htm

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Third, we have the challenge of faculty renewal. With the growth of our student enrollments and the projections on retirement over the next decade, UC will need to recruit 7,000 new faculty members before 2012. While the precise numbers and rate of growth will vary among the campuses, this is a daunting task with respect to the time and energy that must be committed to the process, the exigencies of space that we will continue to face for the foreseeable future and the cost of start-up packages. Planning for this accelerated process of growth is proceeding with the expectation that resources from the State will allow the University to move forward.

No discussion of faculty renewal would be complete without a reference to VERIP. One of the questions asked most frequently of the Senate and UCOP by those of us "of a certain age" is "when"? Although there is no plan for such currently, UCFW is working on a very progressive plan for a phased retirement program, modeled after successful initiatives at University of Washington and University of North Carolina. We expect that this will prove to be an important and popular policy recommendation by UCFW.

Finally, this is the first issue of a newsletter that we intend to send electronically five times a year. It will be a brief two-pager, but will also regularly include links to web pages where fuller information on specific issues and matters will be easily accessible. We hope it will prove helpful in keeping all UC faculty aware of the work of the Systemwide Academic Senate. We invite your comments, suggestions and concerns at:

senatenews@ucop.edu

VISWANATHAN HONORED AT ANNUAL CHAIR'S DINNER

Chand Viswanathan, 2001-02 Chair of the Systemwide Academic Senate, was honored at the Annual Chair's dinner held at the UCB

Women's Faculty Club on July 24th, following the last meeting of the Academic Council during his term.

The Vice Chair of the Senate, Gayle Binion, presided over the event.

Among those present were the divisional chairs, chairs of the systemwide Senate committees, Senate staff members, and members of the University's senior administration. Past chairs of the Academic Senate who attended as special guests were Karl Pister, 1979-80; Martin Trow, 1991-92; Daniel Simmons, 1994-95; Duncan Mellichamp, 1996-97; Sandra Weiss, 1997-98; and Lawrence Coleman,

1999-00. The 2000-2001 Chair, Michael Cowan, was not able to attend, but sent

his congratulations on a job well done. Viswanathan was presented with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding Senate service. In his remarks, President Atkinson noted that Viswanathan had been a "vocal spokesperson for the Senate's role" and that during his term he had had to deal with a number of

difficult issues. "It was a challenging year, but a successful one," Atkinson said.

Reflecting on his year as Chair, Viswanathan said that it had been an important and memorable period in his life. He observed that the system is not set up to reward Senate service, which is a disincentive for faculty participation. "Those who do participate" he said, "do so because of their love of the University and their dedication to shared governance. That is why I became involved."



Chair Viswanathan offers farewell remarks.

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THE SENATE SOURCE

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Systemwide Academic Senate

Brenda Foust, Co-editor
Betty Marton, Co-editor

Message From the Co-Editors:

The Senate's newsletter is being reformatted as a primarily online publication. In-depth articles and reports, which have always been a mainstay of the newsletter, will now be accessible by easy electronic links. Issues will come out bi-monthly, September-June. Please help us evolve by sending your comments to:

senatenews@ucop.edu

INTRODUCING THE SYSTEMWIDE SENATE OFFICE

2002-2003 ACADEMIC SENATE CHAIR
Gayle Binion, Political Science, UCSB

2002-2003 ACADEMIC SENATE VICE CHAIR
Lawrence Pitts, Neurosurgery, UCSF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Maria Bertero-Barcelo is the chief administrative officer of the Senate and the chief policy consultant for the Assembly, the Academic Council and all of the standing committees of the Senate. She leads the rest of the staff in all aspects of administrative and analytical support for all systemwide committees.

ANALYSTS There are five committee analysts whose main responsibility is to serve as liaisons between the Senate committee chairs and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Senate, and consultants at the UC Office of the President. They are: **Brenda Foust**, **Emily Hung**, **Betty Marton**, **Kimberly Peterson**, and **Louisa Tapley-Van Pelt**.

Betty Marton and Brenda Foust are also policy

analysts for the Academic Council and co-editors of the Senate publications.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT Micki Conklin, Executive Assistant, provides support for the Chair, Vice Chair, and Executive Director, and is the compiler of *In Memoriam*; **Daniel Leung** is responsible for the accounting and fiscal work of the Senate; and **Tenneh Fallah** provides the logistical support for all of the Senate's committee meetings.

WHERE WE ARE Our offices are on the 12th floor of the University of California Office of the President (UCOP), located on the corner of Franklin and 11th Streets in Oakland. The Senate shares the 12th floor with the offices of the President, the Secretary of the Regents, and University Affairs. Contact details for all Senate staff and more information about the Systemwide Senate, its committees, and current publications can be found on our website at:

www.ucop.edu/senate