I. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Pursuant to the call, the Assembly of the Academic Senate met by teleconference on Wednesday, April 16, 2014. Academic Senate Chair William Jacob presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Senate Director Martha Winnacker called the roll of Assembly members and confirmed a quorum. Attendance is listed in Appendix A of these minutes.

II. MINUTES

ACTION: The Assembly approved the minutes of the February 12, 2014 meeting as noticed.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

 Bill Jacob

Graduate Education Conference: Provost Dorr and Senate Vice Chair Gilly co-chaired a University-wide doctoral education conference on April 15 at UC Irvine. The conference focused on 39 separate best practices and proposals for supporting graduate students submitted by the graduate deans, Graduate Council chairs, CCGA, and the systemwide Association of Graduate Students. These addressed areas such as competitiveness, diversity, professional development, and nonresident tuition. Conference organizers intend to develop a formal systemwide proposal for the review of the Regents in July.

Composite Benefit Rates: President Napolitano has asked a joint Senate-Administration Advisory Group to help guide her decision about composite benefit rates. The group will be gathering data and modeling scenarios in time for the President to discuss a recommendation with the Council of Chancellors on May 7. Chair Jacob, Vice Chair Gilly, and UCFW Chair Hare are the Senate representatives to the group. Chancellors Blumenthal (UCSC), Khosla (UCSD), and Yang (UCSB); Chief Financial Officer Taylor, and Associate Vice President Arrivas are the other participants.

Chancellor Searches: Chair Jacob is participating on search committees for chancellors at the San Francisco and Irvine campuses. Regents’ policy requires chancellor search committees to include five Regents, five Senate members – three of whom come from the division – as well as alumni and students from the campus. Divisional faculty are encouraged to contact Chair Jacob with names of chancellor nominees or to share their opinions and priorities regarding priorities for the new chancellors.

Statement on Importance of Writing: At its April 9 meeting, the Academic Council voted to endorse and forward to the president a “Statement on the Importance of Writing at the University
of California,” authored by the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) and the University Committee on Preparatory Education (UCOPE). The statement references the upcoming redesign of the SAT exam, including moving its Essay segment from mandatory to optional, and notes that UCOPE and BOARS will assess what role the new Essay section should play in providing guidance on appropriate preparation for UC and in evaluating students applying for admission to UC. The committees felt it was important to convey to high school students, teachers, and counselors the message that writing preparation is essential for success at UC.

Professional Fee and Program Policies: Following a systemwide review, the Senate expressed concerns to the Provost about a pair of proposed policy revisions covering high-fee professional degree programs. The policies on Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs) and Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) will undergo additional revisions and be released for a second round of review later in the year.

March Regents Meeting: The results of the 2012 UC Campus Climate Survey were released at the March 19 Regents meeting. President Napolitano directed each of the 13 UC locations covered by the survey to identify two to three action items with measurable goals and timelines by the end of 2014. It is essential for the Senate to actively participate in each campus’s response to the data. The Regents also approved UC’s financial participation in the Thirty-Meter Telescope (TMT) project, an international collaboration that will leverage UC’s systemwide research capabilities, and they heard a report from the Senior Vice President for Health Sciences warning that UC’s clinical enterprise are likely to face deficits by 2017, even if significant administrative savings are found.

An Assembly member noted that the faculty members on the chancellor search committees should insist that candidates for the position of chancellor must have an academic background and an excellent record of scholarship. Another member noted concern about whether the constitution of the Irvine chancellor search committee was broadly inclusive. Irvine’s Divisional chair noted that the Senate was consulted in the process of constituting the committee. UCSF’s chair added that the UCSF Senate was also consulted in the constitution of its search committee.

IV. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Council
   o Bill Jacob, Chair, Academic Council

   1. Nomination and election of the Vice Chair of the 2014-15 Assembly

Chair Jacob introduced J. Daniel Hare, the Academic Council’s nominee for 2014-15 Assembly vice chair and 2015-16 Assembly chair. Professor Hare is Professor of Entomology at UC Riverside and current chair of UCFW. Chair Jacob stated that Professor Hare has been a strong and consistent voice for faculty welfare issues and is well-prepared to take on the broader systemwide leadership role of Senate vice chair. He asked for any additional nominations from the floor, and hearing none, invited Professor Hare to make a statement. Professor Hare made a brief statement about his goals and priorities and noted that he looks forward to working with Chair-designate Mary Gilly next year on initiatives that will maintain UC’s excellence. He then left the room. A motion for a vote was made and seconded, and a vote was taken.
ACTION: The Assembly voted unanimously to elect J. Daniel Hare vice chair of the 2014-15 Assembly.

2. Ratification of the 2014 Oliver Johnson awardees

Chair Jacob stated that the Oliver Johnson Award for Distinguished Senate Service is presented every other year to a Senate member in recognition of lifetime service to the Academic Senate, outstanding and creative contributions to faculty governance, and exceptional abilities in working with different University constituents. The award is governed by procedures adopted by the Academic Council, in which each Senate division is asked to nominate a candidate and the University Committee on Committees selects two names to forward to Council. Council then selects an awardee or awardees from the two nominations it receives, and asks the Assembly to ratify the choice. This year, Council voted to honor both UCOC nominees—UCLA Professor Kathleen Komar and UCSD Professor Joel Dimsdale.

ACTION: The Assembly ratified the nominations of Professors Joel Dimsdale and Kathleen Komar as the 2014 recipients of the Oliver Johnson Award.

B. Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs
   o Donald Mastronarde, Chair, CCGA

1. UC Riverside Proposed Master of Public Policy

CCGA Chair Mastronarde stated that Bylaw 180.B.5 requires the Assembly to approve new degree programs when the program will award a degree that is a new title on the campus. The School of Public Policy at UC Riverside was approved in 2008 but was not implemented due to budget constraints. CCGA recently approved the Master of Public Policy (MPP) degree program planned to open in fall 2015 and is submitting it for the Assembly’s approval.

ACTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the addition of the MPP degree title at UC Riverside. The Assembly approved the degree title by unanimous consent.

V. UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE REPORT
   o J. Daniel Hare, Chair, UCFW

Chair Hare noted that UCFW is asking all individuals seeking changes to the 2014-15 provider list for UC Care’s lower cost (“UC Select”) tier to make their request through their divisional faculty welfare representatives by May 9. The UCFW Health Care Task Force chair will then forward all requests to the administration. The employer contribution for UCRP will rise to 14% on July 1, and UCFW is concerned that failing to follow the Regents’ plan to ramp up the employer contribution to 18% by 2018 will increase the unfunded liability to $20 billion by 2042. UCFW is developing a funding proposal that will help meet UCRP’s full funding needs and pay down its unfunded liability over the long term. The proposal calls on the university to use an internal borrowing mechanism to meet two years of the Annual Required Contribution. Campuses would pay off the loan over ten years with an additional 2% surcharge on the employer contribution. Finally, UCOP’s total remuneration study for faculty is underway and scheduled to be completed by May 19, with full results expected by the end of the academic year.
VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

Janet Napolitano

University Budget: The President has completed a series of budget review meetings with campus leadership teams and is considering a multi-year approach to the UC budget that combines increased state funding with one of several possible tuition models. She is meeting with the Governor at the end of April to discuss the University’s budget and the level of state funding UC needs to sustain its programs and avoid deficits. The President will have a clearer picture of where UC stands in mid-May, after the Governor releases his budget revision and updated revenue projections become available.

President’s Initiatives: The President thanked BOARS Chair George Johnson for co-chairing the Transfer Action Team and noted that she met with the CSU and CCC chancellors to discuss the extent to which the higher education segments can consolidate their efforts around transfer and high school outreach, and more generally, combine forces to speak as a unified voice on higher education issues. The segment leaders also want to conduct a study of long-term enrollment capacity. The President noted that her initiative to increase and strengthen academic and cultural partnerships between UC and Mexico is moving forward, as are a number of activities related to her initiative to enhance the transition of UC basic research and UC-developed technologies to the marketplace.

Questions and Comments:

Q: Is there a timeline for completion of the UC Irvine chancellor search, and will there be an opportunity for public input?
A: I expect the search committee to interview six to eight candidates and complete its process in September. Regents’ policy does not allow for public interviews or public vetting of candidates, because it would discourage many potential candidates from participating in the process.

Q: Can you say more about your expectations for the enrollment capacity study?
A: UC is working with CSU and CCC to project how long-term enrollment planning and capacity at UC and the other segments will be impacted by the number of expected California high school graduates, “a-g” completion rates, community college enrollments, and state funding. I believe California should be sending a higher proportion of its high school graduates to college. We are low relative to other states. We need to do a better job of preparing and recruiting students, particularly students from underrepresented groups.

Q: How can interested UC faculty stay informed about the UC-Mexico initiative?
A: One of my initial goals for the project is to take an inventory of all UC’s current Mexico programs and move them under one umbrella. UC Riverside, as host of the initiative, is building a website that will serve as a repository for this information and about the program as it develops. But for now, interested faculty should contact the Office of the Provost. I expect graduate education to be one of the first areas for the initiative; I know that the president of Mexico, like myself, is interested in increasing and enhancing exchange opportunities for graduate students and faculty.

Q: What is the financial status of the UC Medical Centers?
A: The UC Medical Centers are financially healthy, but we need to adjust the cost curve to avoid deficits that could arise as soon as 2017. We are working with the five medical centers to explore “scale of value” projects that can save money by leveraging common processes across the system.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PROVOST

Aimée Dorr

Campus Climate Survey: President Napolitano is sending letters to the leaders of the 13 UC locations covered in the campus climate survey asking that they use the report and data to identify actionable goals, metrics, and a timeline to meet the goals, and to report their progress to her by the end of the 2014 calendar year.

Graduate Education Conference: The working meeting on doctoral education held yesterday at UC Irvine was highly productive. Each campus brought an enthusiastic and engaged five-person team of faculty, graduate students, and administrators (most from the graduate division, research, or budget office). Conference participants broke into four work groups, each of which was asked to produce a minimum of three recommendations for improving graduate education, and a cost estimate for each. The proposals generated by the groups include building a networking website for doctoral students, eliminating nonresident supplemental tuition (NRST) after the first year, and creating new avenues for increasing scholarship and fellowship support. The work groups also discussed the importance of “family friendly” policies, affordable housing, and spousal hiring, and the need for UC to be clearer to graduate student recruits about financial support offers. Conference organizers will be assembling the recommendations and sending them to Senate and administrative groups for review and feedback.

Professional Degree Policies: The Academic Planning Council is preparing new draft revisions to the policies governing Self-Supporting Graduate Professional Degree Programs (SSGPDPs) and Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST), in response to concerns expressed during the initial systemwide review earlier this year. Self-supporting programs are typically targeted to students seeking professional training rather than academic Ph.D.s. SSGPDP programs and their fee levels are approved by the president, while the authority to levy PDST and set their amounts belongs to the Regents. The President is responsible for implementing PDST after Regental approval. The effort to update the SSGPDP policy comes as more programs are expressing an interest in converting to self-supporting status.

Online Education: The Innovative Learning Technology Initiative (ILTI) has identified 35 new online or hybrid courses for funding and plans to release another RFP for ILTI courses this fall. ILTI also plans to direct some funding to support the additional costs associated with opening up existing campus-based online courses to all UC campuses.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm
Attest: Bill Jacob, Academic Senate Chair
Minutes Prepared by: Michael LaBriola, Academic Senate Analyst

Attachments: Appendix A – Assembly Attendance Record, Meeting of April 16, 2014
Appendix A – 2013-2014 Assembly Attendance Record, Meeting of April 16, 2014

President of the University:
Janet Napolitano

Academic Council Members:
William Jacob, Chair
Mary Gilly, Vice Chair
Elizabeth Deakin, Chair, UCB
Bruno Nachtergaele, Chair, UCD
Peter Krapp, Chair, UCI
Janice Reiff, Chair, UCLA
Ignacio Lopez-Calvo, Chair, UCM
Jose Wudka, Chair, UCR
Kit Pogliano, Chair, UCSD
Farid Chehab, Chair, UCSF
Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair, UCSB
Joseph Konopelski, Chair, UCSC
George Johnson, Chair, BOARS
Donald Mastronarde, Chair, CCGA
Emily Roxworthy, Chair, UCAAD
Timothy Labor, Chair, UCEP
J. Daniel Hare, Chair, UCFW
Robert Clare, Chair, UCORP
Gary Leal, alt for Donald Senear, Chair, UCPB

Berkeley (5)
Leslea Hlusko
Nicholas Mills
Kristofer Pister
Panos Papadopoulos (alt for Lowell Dittmer)
Karen Christensen (alt for Robin Einhorn)

Davis (6)
Richard Grotjahn
John Oakley
Ahmet Palazoglu

Irvine (4)
Darryl Taylor
Craig Walsh
Elliott Currie

Los Angeles (8)
Hanna Mikkola
Purnima Mankekar
Frank Petrigliano
E. Richard Stiehm
Christopher Tilly

Merced (1)
Paul Maglio

Riverside (2)
Bahram Mobasher
Ilhem Messaoudi Powers

San Diego (5)
Eduardo Macagano
Margaret Schoeninger
Jan Talbot
Steven Wasserman

San Francisco (4)
Jacque Duncan
Catherine Waters (alt for Elyse Foster)
Robert Nissenson
Russell Pieper

Santa Barbara (3)
William Davies King
B.S. Manjunath
Daniel Montello

Santa Cruz (2)
Marilyn Walker (alt for Donald Brenneis)
Joel Ferguson

Secretary/Parliamentarian
George J. Mattey