May 2, 2005

Members of the Assembly of the Academic Senate

Dear Colleagues:

Wouldn’t you like to have a chance to interact in person, rather than by telephone, with your colleagues on the Academic Assembly? Do you look forward to participating in several historic decisions of the Academic Senate, including the establishment of a new division, four important bylaw and regulation amendments, and the much-discussed resolution on the restriction of research funds?

Our meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 will afford you just such an opportunity, and we enclose the Notice of Meeting for you to peruse. This will be the first, and only, face-to-face Assembly meeting of the year, and it will be held on UC Berkeley's Clark Kerr Campus, in the Joseph Wood Krutch Theatre Room, Building 14, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Directions and travel information are enclosed. If you are unable to participate, please contact your Divisional Senate Director (or Senate office) and let them know as soon as possible, so that your campus can choose an alternate who can represent your campus. It is essential that enough members and alternates attend to safely achieve a quorum.

The meeting promises to be both interesting and important. Perhaps the most historically significant item among the day’s business is the UC Merced Task Force proposal for the establishment of the UC Merced Division. If endorsed, this will be the first time since 1965 that the Assembly will have approved a new Division of the Academic Senate. Also on the agenda are a number of other action items, including:

- The Academic Council Resolution on Restrictions on Research Funding Sources, which was revised and approved by Council on February 23, 2005
- The nomination and election of the 2005-06 University Committee on Committees (UCOC) Vice Chair
- Four important changes to the Senate Bylaws and Regulations including:
  - A proposed addition to Senate Bylaw 128 governing the appointment of subcommittees;
  - A proposed amendment to Senate Regulation 478, which will establish a general education transfer curriculum for science majors taking a heavy load of lower division courses for their major;
A proposed new Senate Regulation 477, which will streamline the articulation of transferable courses for lower division major preparation at the California Community Colleges; and

A proposed amendment to Senate Regulation 600.B, which will allow faculty to earn post-baccalaureate degrees from their own campuses.

Our meeting in person also provides the occasion to formally present the newly elected Vice Chair of the Assembly for 2005-06, Professor John Oakley of UC Davis, who will be assuming office in September. Lastly, the Assembly will hear updates from the University Committee on Faculty Welfare (UCFW), and the Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS).

Your work as Representative to the Assembly is essential for keeping the Academic Senate vital and effective. I believe this meeting will be stimulating and productive, and I look forward to seeing you in Berkeley on the 11th.

Best Regards,

George Blumenthal, Chair
Assembly of the Academic Senate

Encl.: Notice of Meeting
Directions to Clark Kerr Campus:
http://www.housing.berkeley.edu/conference/conf_dirto_CKC.html
Map of Clark Kerr Campus:
http://wwwbsac.eecs.berkeley.edu/iab_spring_2005/maps/KerrCampusMap.pdf
Senate Travel Regulations:
http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/resources/travelregulations0405.pdf