

ACADEMIC COUNCIL SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAB ISSUES (ACSCOLI)

I. CHARTER

The Academic Council Special Committee on Lab Issues (ACSCOLI) was established by the Academic Council on April 25, 2007, as a successor to the Academic Council Special Committee on National Labs (ACSCONL).

Duties: Consistent with [Bylaw 40](#), the Special Committee shall:

1. Provide regular and broadly-based Senate oversight of UC's relationship with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), and any other national laboratory for which UC establishes a management contract – hereafter referred to as “the national labs.”
2. Confer with and advise the President and The Regents on general policies relating to the national labs, including
 - a. The dispersal of UC's share of net fee monies; and
 - b. Orders or policies that affect the science-management structure of the national labs.
3. Promote greater intellectual exchange and closer connections between the national labs and UC faculty and students.
4. Determine, in partnership with the national labs, unmet educational needs that joint collaboration can address.
5. Assist the national labs in their research and programmatic review procedures by identifying UC faculty with relevant technical expertise.
6. Share Senate procedures and faculty expertise in the personnel review process of the national labs, both in the design of such processes and by serving on search committee and/or periodic career progress reviews.
7. Work with the Technical Staff Members (TSMs) from the national labs to address issues that might be of interest to TSMs.
8. Consult with relevant Senate committees on major policy issues affecting relations between UC and the national labs.
9. Evaluate the benefits to UC of continued participation in management of a national lab.
10. Stimulate faculty interaction in research collaboration with the national labs.
11. Advise the Academic Council as to the desirability of the University continuing its relationship with a national lab beyond the time period required by present contractual commitments.
12. Provide an annual report of its activities to the Academic Council.

Term: Unless previously extended by the Academic Council, the term of the Special Committee shall expire at the end of May 2028.

The tenure of special committees is described in [Bylaw 35.E](#). A special committee shall serve only until the first meeting of the establishing agency in the ensuing fall term unless:

1. A definite term is specified;
2. Its authorization occurs after the first day of March, in which case it shall continue for one year beyond the normal expiration date; [or]
3. It is continued by action of the establishing agency.

II. MEMBERSHIP

(Initially determined by the Academic Council on June 27, 2007. Revised on June 23, 2021 and July 24, 2024.)

In consultation with the University Committee on Committees (UCOC), the Chair of the Academic Council will appoint the Chair of the Special Committee and 4 to 6 at-large members. In addition, *ex-officio* members of the committee are:

- 1) Chair of UCPB (or designee)
- 2) Chair of UCORP (or designee)
- 3) Academic Senate representatives to the advisory board of LBNL, the science and technology advisory boards of LANL and LLNL, and any other relevant advisory boards of other UC-managed (or jointly managed) national labs
- 4) Chair of the Academic Council
- 5) Vice-Chair of the Academic Council

The Chairs of UCORP and UCPB may each designate a member of their respective standing committees to serve in their stead. The ACSCOLI Chair may delegate their appointment as the Academic Senate representative to a national lab advisory board to an at-large member. Committee membership should include a range of scientific and technical expertise relevant to the activities of the national labs.

Term of Appointed Members: Appointed members shall normally serve three-year renewable terms for no more than two consecutive terms. A member is again eligible for service one year after leaving the Special Committee. A partial term is counted as a full term.

Consultants and Guests: Consultants and guests will be determined by the Special Committee Chair so as to permit effective communication and collaboration with UCOP personnel involved in lab management and with senior management of LLC-managed national laboratories.

As is the case for all other special and standing committees, Academic Senate members holding an administrative position higher than department chair cannot serve as members.

III. BACKGROUND

ACSCOLI's predecessor, the Academic Council Special Committee on the National Labs (ACSCONL) was established in July, 2003, to advise the Council and consult with the Administration regarding oversight of the DOE Laboratories and possible bids to retain

management of the Los Alamos and Livermore laboratories. The Special Committee replaced the previous UCORP Subcommittee on the Labs and was expected to continue until the future of UC's involvement in the labs was determined. On October 11, 2006, after UC's successful bid for management of LANL, the Assembly of the Academic Senate resolved that "ACSCONL shall recommend to the Academic Council an appropriate entity and review protocol for regular and broadly based Senate oversight of UC's relationship with the national labs by Senate members who are informed and knowledgeable in regard to the labs."

<http://senate.universityofcalifornia.edu/files/assembly/oct2006/faculty.lab.relations10.06.pdf>

1. ACSCONL was charged to:
 - a. Consult with the Administration regarding the management of the DOE Labs, the decision about whether to compete to continue managing the laboratories, and the circumstances surrounding any possible bid;
 - b. Report to the Academic Council on the relationship between the DOE Labs and UC, including but not limited to: the advantages of UC management to the laboratories and to the US, the advantages to UC of managing the DOE Labs, the total cost to UC of managing the Labs, the consistency of the missions of the Laboratories and UC, the cost and conditions regarding any UC bid to retain management;
 - c. Advise the Academic Council about the best timing and form of Senate input, both at a systemwide and campus level, regarding the advisability of UC competing to retain management of the Labs.
2. Due to the potential for access to confidential information and the sensitivity of the contractual terms of the LLC-managed national laboratories with which UC is or may be affiliated, the committee, of necessity, will have direct interactions—or seek them—with members of The Regents (at least those who are either on the Board of Governors of the labs or who are on The Regents' Lab Oversight Committee, or on both) and members of the Office of the President in order to influence LLC policy.
3. A committee with such interactions must directly and centrally involve the Chair of the Senate.
4. The committee should remain a special committee of the Academic Council rather than a standing committee of the Assembly until the Los Alamos National Security (LANS) LLC contract to manage the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) nears expiration, at which time Council should determine the future status of the committee in light of whether UC does or does not seek to remain an LLC partner.

TIMELINE

- July 2003: ACSCONL established
- April 2007: Academic Council approves replacing ACSCONL with ACSCOLI
- May 2013: Academic Council extends the term of ACSCOLI to May 2018 to coincide with the contracts for LANL & LLNL
- May 2017: Academic Council extends the term of ACSCOLI until May 2028
- June 2021: Academic Council approves removal of immediate past chair of Academic Council (or designee) as *ex-officio* member
- July 2024: Academic Council approves extension of ACSCOLI duties to include any national lab managed by UC contract; appointment of ACSCOLI chair by the chair of the Academic Council; and clarification of committee membership.