

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

March 21, 2018

I. Consent Calendar

1. Today's agenda items and their priority
2. Draft Council minutes of February 28, 2018

ACTION: Council approved the consent calendar.

II. Senate Officer Announcements

- **Shane White, Academic Council Chair**
- **Robert May, Academic Council Vice Chair**

UC Budget: In March, the Regents approved a 3.5% increase in nonresident undergraduate supplemental tuition and rescinded a previously-approved increase to the UCRP employer contribution rate from 15% to 14%. The Department of Finance will determine by May 1 whether UC has made a "good faith" effort to meet the AB 97 requirements pertaining to the \$50 million sequestration of state funds, including the requirement that UC meet a 2:1 freshman to transfer enrollment ratio at every campus. The DOF informed UC that it will receive all or none of the sequestered funds.

Transfer Guarantee: President Napolitano recently asked the Academic Senate to determine "what it would take" to extend a guarantee of admission to all "qualifying" California Community College (CCC) transfer students. Separately, a joint Senate-Administration Task Force co-chaired by former Senate Chair Jim Chalfant and Provost Brown has been considering several ways to improve the transfer path to UC, including a possible guarantee. In addition, President Napolitano and CCC Chancellor Ortiz Oakley, who is also a UC Regent, are discussing the possibility of an MOU related to a transfer guarantee.

Professor Chalfant joined the meeting to discuss the work of Transfer Task Force. The Task Force began meeting in fall 2017 and has been collaborating with CCC faculty on a pilot program for two Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees in Chemistry and Physics based on UC Transfer Pathway courses. The Task Force is also separately working with UCOP to develop a proposal for a guarantee of transfer admission to the UC system for any student completing the coursework in a UC Transfer Pathway with major preparation GPA and overall GPA above some minimum still to be determined. The existing Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) program would remain. In addition, the Task Force has been discussing strategies for improving transfer advising and outreach; for making the UC Transfer Pathways more effective through better articulation of courses between the CCC and UC; and for updating the UC Pathways over time.

- Council members agreed that it is critical for UC to control the terms of transfer to UC, and observed that political considerations should not drive admissions policy. The MOU should acknowledge that additional resources would be needed to support a possible influx of new transfers. Improving access without an equivalent financial commitment to improving preparation could lead to a reduction in quality for all students.

Professor Chalfant noted that the President's letter aligns with recommendations the Task Force was already considering and does not give away any of the Senate's authority over admissions. He said the academic preparation of students guides the Task Force's efforts. The guarantee would be based on preparation and performance. The term "guarantee" may be politically attractive, but the primary goal is to attract better prepared transfer students and to more clearly define the preparation needed to enter UC and complete a degree in two years. He added that TAG is a successful program; 60% of transfer students who enter UC through TAG agreements finish in two years.

III. Systemwide Review of Proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations

Council discussed responses from Senate divisions and systemwide committees to the proposed Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations.

The policy is intended to build on the Academic Senate's Open Access (OA) policy for faculty publications (2013), and the Presidential Open Access policy (2015), which applies the provisions of the Senate policy to non-Senate UC authors. Both give UC a limited, non-exclusive right to make published scholarship freely available in the California Digital Library's eScholarship open-access online repository, and both allow authors to opt-out of the OA license or request a temporary embargo for any publication and for any reason. The Presidential Policy on Open Access for Theses and Dissertations would require graduate students to deposit electronic copies of new dissertations and theses to eScholarship. It would allow graduate students who do not want to make their work immediately available to specify an embargo period of two years, or longer for "compelling circumstances."

Several Senate reviewers expressed concern about the potential for an OA requirement to harm a graduate student's ability to publish a book based on their dissertation, particularly in book-publishing fields such as the arts, humanities and social sciences. Reviewers cited evidence that publishers are more reluctant to publish manuscripts from dissertations available in an open access repository. Some suggested that the policy's two-year embargo period for scholars in book-publishing fields is too brief and could hurt students' publication chances and expose them to the risk of copyright infringement.

It was suggested that Council should recommend including in the policy a requirement for students to make an affirmative selection with their thesis or dissertation submission of a two-year embargo, no embargo, or an infinite embargo – that is, a waiver allowing a student to opt-out of the OA requirement altogether.

ACTION: Circulate a draft letter for comment and approval.

IV. Consultation with UC Senior Managers

- **Michael T. Brown, Provost & Executive Vice President - Academic Affairs**
- **David Alcocer, Associate Vice President - Budget Analysis & Planning**
- **Monica Lin, Director - Academic Preparation and Relations with Schools and Colleges**

UC Budget: AVP Alcocer noted that UC is seeking \$105 million in permanent new state funding, including \$70 million for a tuition buy-out, \$25 million to address unfunded enrollment growth of 2,600 over the past two years, \$5 million for undergraduate enrollment growth, and \$5 million for graduate enrollment growth. UC is also seeking \$35 million in one-time funding for deferred maintenance. UC is optimistic given the broad support for a tuition buy-out and a projected \$6 billion surplus in State budget reserves. UC is also advocating for a General Obligation bond ballot initiative next year to support infrastructure needs at UC and CSU. A statewide ballot initiative requires a two-thirds vote of the Legislature and approval by the Governor.

Cost Drivers: The March 15 Regents meeting featured a presentation on the University's cost structure and cost drivers affecting core academic activities. The presentation included metrics describing how the decline in state funding has affected long-term structural issues related to facilities infrastructure and the student experience. The noted metrics included, for example, declines in the percentages of students who say they know a faculty member well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation, students who are able to get into their first-choice major, and students who say they would still choose to enroll at their UC campus. The presentation makes the case for a long-term funding partnership with the State that will enable UC to continue to provide a world class educational experience.

PDSTs: Provost Brown noted that the Regents approved [24 multi-year campus plans](#) for Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition (PDST) charges, consistent with the new Regents policy on PDSTs which allows the Regents to approve proposals on a multi-year basis instead of annually. Regents pressed several proposers to clarify plans and strategies for improving racial and ethnic diversity.

Transfer Guarantee: Provost Brown noted that the President's call to the Senate honors the faculty's provenance over the conditions for admission. The Regents delegated this responsibility to the faculty in part to protect admissions from political interference. The Senate's approach to admissions policy has always served the cause of academic excellence and diversity, and has been grounded in sound educational philosophy, analytical data, and logical reasoning. Director Lin noted that several practical obstacles will initially limit the scope of any systemwide guarantee based on UC Transfer Pathways, including gaps that remain between the articulation of specific CCC courses and their nine UC campus equivalents. As a result, no single CCC currently offers articulated courses for all 21 Transfer Pathway majors. Provost Brown noted that a guarantee can have a powerful signaling effect, not only for the individual student, but also for CCCs and policy makers.

- Council members noted that campuses are deeply concerned about the ongoing unfunded enrollment mandates and their effect on quality. Campuses are overwhelmed with undergraduates who are contending with overcrowded classrooms, increasing wait lists, and deteriorating facilities. External review committees have also remarked on the deterioration of quality.
- Members noted that faculty are likely to support in principle the concept of a transfer guarantee linked to preparation, as well as efforts to increase the transfer pipeline and to improve transfer preparation. They also noted that more state resources will be needed to

support additional transfer enrollments and the success of transfers after they arrive. The MOU should not fail to raise the issue of resources. Council members urged administrators to deliver a message that the University cannot take more students and maintain quality without additional resources. They observed that the decline in state funding has occurred at a time when UC is serving a greater percentage of students from underrepresented backgrounds.

ACTION: Council asked BOARS to draft a letter in response to the President’s call for Council’s review. In addition, it was agreed that Senate leaders would craft a response to the MOU emphasizing the need to tie it to resources.

V. Executive Session: Nomination of 2018-19 Vice Chair

ACTION: Council selected Professor Kum-Kum Bhavnani of UC Santa Barbara as its candidate for 2018-19 Vice Chair. The nomination will be forwarded to the Assembly of the Academic Senate for consideration at the Assembly’s April 11 meeting.

VI. Executive Session: Selection of Nominee(s) for 2018 Oliver Johnson Award

ACTION: Council voted to name Professor Daniel Simmons of UC Davis and Professor Duncan Mellichamp of UC Santa Barbara recipients of the 2018 Oliver Johnson Award. The names will be forwarded to the Assembly for ratification on April 11.

VII. Executive Session: Nominee for Academic Senate Representative to Regents Committee on Health Services

Council discussed the qualifications of three nominees in executive session.

ACTION: Council voted to defer action on a nominee until it could hear directly from each of the candidates.

VIII. Systemwide Review of Proposed Amendment to SB 128, Conflicts of Interest

Council reviewed comments from Senate divisions and systemwide committees on a proposed amendment to [Senate Bylaw 128](#) governing conflicts of interest (COI) on Senate committees, subcommittees, and task forces. New section (J) of Bylaw 128 outlines a process for addressing circumstances in which a committee member must abstain from a vote, meeting discussion, or meeting. It requires a committee member to inform the chair about a potential COI, or the vice chair if the COI involves the chair. It also specifies that any committee member may raise a concern about a potential COI. It names the chair (or vice chair) of the Academic Council as the final arbiter in cases of disagreement about self-recusal between the member and the chair of the committee.

Several Senate reviewers noted that the new bylaw lacks a comprehensive definition of conflict of interest with examples specific to the activities of Senate bodies. Vice Chair May noted that Council reviewed a longer document in October outlining specific examples, circumstances, and guidance about COI. Council decided that a more limited policy is appropriate for the bylaw, and

that it will produce a supplemental definitional statement for inclusion on the Academic Senate website.

ACTION: A motion was made and seconded to endorse the bylaw revision and forward it to the Assembly for final approval. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: A motion was made and seconded to produce a companion document with more in-depth guidance about COI definitions and procedures that would be provided to committees at the beginning of each year. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. UCACC Recommendations on IT Governance at the Campus Level

o Christine Borgman, UCACC Chair

Council reviewed a set of best practices from the University Committee on Academic Computing and Communications (UCACC) for faculty engagement in joint governance of information technology (IT) strategy, planning, policy, and implementation at the campus level. The letter asks Council to endorse and disseminate the recommendations to divisional Senates.

UCACC Chair Borgman noted that UCACC developed the recommendations following an investigation into campus IT governance structures to determine which governance models were most effective in fostering communication and shared governance in decision-making. UCACC found that although IT is broadly relevant to the faculty's teaching, research, and public service missions, the Senate's involvement in IT governance can be minimal. The recommendations encourage campuses to build strong partnerships between Senate faculty, administrators, and IT professionals at every level of the University on all IT planning and policy issues. At the same time, UCACC is aware that faculty engagement with campus IT governance varies widely and that no single governance model is suitable for all UC campuses.

Council members agreed to circulate UCACC's advice to campus committees and faculty bodies for consideration in their identification of best and common practices in their individual implementations. They agreed that Council should encourage campuses to view UCACC's advice as part of a toolkit that may help them consider ways to strengthen faculty involvement in IT issues, rather than prescriptive recommendations that will be enforced by the systemwide Senate or UCOP.

ACTION: A motion was made to disseminate the UCACC document to divisional Senates for informational purposes. The vote was 17 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention.

X. New Business

Variance to Senate Regulation 750.B: The San Francisco division has requested a variance to Divisional Regulation 750.B concerning persons in charge of courses. The University Committee on Educational Policy approved the request at its March 2018 meeting. The University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction has certified its consonance with the Code of the Academic Senate. The amendment would change the language of the regulation to include the Health Sciences Clinical Faculty series. Approval of the variance authorizes a change to UCSF Senate Regulation 750, not systemwide Senate Regulation 750.

ACTION: A motion was made and seconded for Council to approve the variance and send it to the Assembly. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm
Minutes prepared by Michael LaBriola, Principal Committee Analyst
Attest: Shane White, Academic Council Chair

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Videoconference Meeting
April 11, 2018

**I. Executive Session: Nominee for Academic Senate Representative to Regents
Committee on Health Services**

Council discussed the qualifications of nominees in executive session.

ACTION: Council selected Professor Steven Hetts of UC San Francisco as its nominee.

Council also discussed the need to modify Bylaw 125.B.14 to clarify which Senate titles within the School of Medicine are eligible for the position, and specifically what is meant by the specification regarding “clinical appointment.”

II. Faculty Salaries

Council members agreed that the Academic Council should continue to advocate for its March 2018 plan to close the salary gap over three years. They noted that faculty should emphasize to administrators the need to prioritize funding to address this urgent matter affecting the quality of the University, as well as the importance of taking a systemwide approach.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm

Minutes prepared by Michael LaBriola, Principal Committee Analyst

Attest: Shane White, Academic Council Chair