UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ACADEMIC SENATE
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON COMPUTING AND COMMUNICATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

The University Committee on Computing and Communications (UCCC) is charged by Senate Bylaw 155 to represent the Senate in all matters of instruction and research policy involving the use of information and communications technology and advising the president concerning the acquisition and use of information and communications technology. UCCC held one meeting during the 2012-2013 academic year. Highlights of the committee's actions are outlined below.

UC Online Education

UCCC was briefed by Interim Director Keith Williams about the implementation of UC Online Education. UCOE began before massive open online courses (MOOCs) began to hit the news. Committee members felt that by partnering with the commercial providers offering MOOCs, UC will have an opportunity to influence decisions about online courses. Members were interested in the metrics that will be used to determine the success of UCOE. The committee also suggested that UC might want to invest in a UC-branded learning management system.

Senate's Online Instruction Pilot Project Blue Ribbon Panel Report and Recommendations

UCCC received a report from Diane Harley, the Chair of the Senate Blue Ribbon Panel on online education. The Panel convened one year ago and reports to UCEP. The Panel has tried to keep track and make sense of the efforts of UCOE. A report from the UC Evaluation Center at UCSB was provided in August which included only a summary of information about the courses. A critical analysis was written by the Panel and in November, the Panel recommended that development of new courses should be stopped until data on the current courses offered was received. A final interim report was received in December but the Panel still has a number of outstanding questions. There are concerns about methodology and the evaluation has not addressed big picture issues such as faculty workload. Chair Harley indicated that UCCC could help figure out what technical infrastructure is needed for the delivery of online courses.

Information Security and Privacy Initiative and IT Accessibility Policy

Stephen Lau, the Systemwide Information Management and Technology Policy Director at UCOP, met with UCCC to discuss the Information Security and Privacy Initiative and the Information Technology Accessibility Policy. The Initiative started two years ago and involved a cross-section of people from UC. The workgroup's report is almost finalized. One recommendation will be to review all information security policies in the near-term and to review privacy policies at a later date. Several security policy frameworks and standards have been reviewed, and UC will likely adapt ISO.

Lucy Greco, chair of the Electronic Accessibility Leadership Team (EALT) and UCD CIO and Vice Provost Pete Siegel, a member of the ITLC, joined the meeting by phone to discuss the IT Accessibility Policy. The draft policy is the result of significant informal discussion at the campuses. UCCC provided feedback on the policy. UCCC members felt that the positive way the accessibility policy has been created will be appreciated by faculty. The committee noted that UC faculty members who offer online courses outside of UC are still required to meet accessibility standards. Currently there is no comprehensive list of the types of things that create barriers to accessibility, and UCCC suggested that even a short list of the top five things faculty should be aware of would be helpful.

Additional Business

UCCC devoted part of the meeting to reports on issues facing local committees.

Representation
UCCC Chair Chalfant was a faculty representative to the Information Technology Leadership Council (ITLC), which consists of the campus Vice Chancellors for IT and Chief Information Officers. ITLC focuses mainly on administrative computing issues. Chair Chalfant was also an *ex officio* member of the University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communications.

Acknowledgements
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Respectfully submitted,

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