Responsibilities and Duties

Pursuant to Senate Bylaw 150, the University Committee on Committees (UCOC) oversees the appointment of chairs and vice chairs for each of the standing committees of the Assembly; oversees the nomination of Senate members to serve on ad hoc or ongoing joint Senate-Administration committees and task forces, and sends letters of appointment to all appointees specifying term of the appointment and committee charge. UCOC met three times in person and twice by videoconference in 2019-20. Major issues and accomplishments are reported below.

Appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Senate’s Standing Committees

While being mindful of balance and representation among campuses, UCOC reviewed and approved chairs and vice chairs for standing committees for 2020-21. The vice chair of one committee (UCOPE) will be finalized in the fall.

Appointees of the UCOC vice chair selection is handled much like the process for the other standing committees, but with an additional step of a committee vote (up or down) on the selected vice chair. In April, UCOC members discussed having a more formal and transparent process where members can self-nominate. It was decided that the process for selecting a new UCOC vice chair would include an announcement in the winter UCOC meeting to let members know that they can nominate themselves.

Appointment of members of Standing Committees

The ten divisional Committees on Committees nominated divisional representatives to standing committees and to the Assembly. Subsequently, UCOC issued appointment letters, which specified the term of appointment and the committee’s charge.

Appointment of members of Senate committees, subcommittees, or task forces that report to the Assembly

- Editorial Committee – UCOC appointed four new members.
- University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction (UCRJ) – UCOC appointed a new chair and a new ex-officio member. Three members were re-appointed.
- Academic Council Special Committee on Lab Issues (ACSCOLI) – Three members were reappointed including the designated chair of the committee.

Appointment of Senate Representatives to Special Committees & Task Forces, Search Committees, and Joint Senate/Administrative Task Forces and Committees

UCOC is responsible for appointing Senate representatives to various groups that are proposed by the President, Provost, and/or other senior administrators, including search committees of senior executives and chancellors. UCOC nominated and appointed representatives to serve on a number of joint Administration-Senate task forces and other groups. These included:

- UC Irvine Chancellor Ad Hoc Review Committee
- Academic Advisory Committee for the UC President Search
- Online Undergraduate Degree Task Force
- Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee
- Shared Library Facilities Board
UCOC nominated and forwarded Senate representatives for the following councils:

- Alianza UCMX
- Global Climate Leadership Council
- UC Washington Center (UCDC) Academic Advisory Committee

UCOC was asked to suggest members for and/or consulted upon the following:

- Academic Council Extending Diversity Task Force
- Climate Crisis Task Force
- California Air Resources Board (CARB) Scientific Review Panel – Three subject matter experts in each of three categories: 1) epidemiology, 2) occupational medicine, and 3) toxicology
- Systemwide Native American Repatriation Implementation and Oversight Committee (“Systemwide Committee”) and six Campus Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Implementation Committees (“Campus Committees”)
- University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) Task Force on Agriculture and Natural Resources (TF ANR)
- Feasibility Study Work Group to determine the viability of developing a new UC standardized admissions test for use in freshman admission and selection

**Oliver Johnson Award**

Based on nominations from Divisions, UCOC recommended Robert Powell (UC Davis) and Manuela Martins-Green (UC Riverside) as Oliver Johnson award recipients for 2020. The Academic Council subsequently approved both nominations for the Oliver Johnson Award.

**Other UCOC Discussions**

- UCOC recommended a review of the stipends provided to systemwide committee chairs.
- Staff members from the UCOP Office of Research and Graduate Studies joined a UCOC meeting to explain UC’s legal requirement to nominate a minimum number of representatives to state-level review panels. This is part of UC’s service to the State, and the state relies on these expert committees.
- UCOC heard concerns about the effectiveness of UCOPE (the Committee on Preparatory Education), which monitors academic preparation and remedial education, including the Analytical Writing Placement Exam. The issues should be followed up to see whether improvements can be made.
- UCOC recommended a review of the Task Forces and subcommittees for consistency in appointment processes, lengths and renewals.
- UCOC members shared practices employed by their campuses for expanding participation in Senate service and increasing leadership diversity.
- UCOC received regular updates from the Academic Senate leadership about the important issues facing the faculty and the university.

Respectfully submitted:

Pamela Ling, UCOC Chair
Cynthia Passmore, UCOC Vice Chair
Ula Taylor/Candace Yano (UCB)
Judy Van de Water (UCD)
Carole Uhlaner/Rahul Warrior (UCI)
Vickie Mays (UCLA)
Linda Hirst (UCM)
Jennifer Nájera (UCR)
Lei Liang (UCSD)
Janice Tsoh (UCSF)
Lisa Hajjar (UCSB)
Micah Perks (UCSC)
Kum-Kum Bhavnani (Council Chair, ex-officio)
Mary Gauvain (Council Vice Chair, ex-officio)
Joanne Miller (Committee Analyst)