



**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES  
ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

**TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:**

**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. In 2023-24, UCOC met three times via Zoom and once in person (with an option to join remotely). 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 2024-25. All chair and vice chair positions for systemwide committees were filled as of June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Appointment of members of Standing Committees**

The ten divisions nominated representatives to standing committees and to the Assembly of the Academic Senate. UCOC subsequently issued appointment letters to each division specifying the term of appointment and information regarding service on systemwide committees.

**Parliamentarian**

UCOC selected Katherine Yang (UCSF) to serve as the Senate's parliamentarian. Professor Yang was appointed by Academic Council Chair Jim Steintrager to a three year term beginning September 1, 2024.

**Appointment of members of Senate committees, subcommittees, or task forces within the systemwide Academic Senate**

- ACSCOLI (two appointments)
- ACSCOTI (five appointments)
- BOARS Area C Workgroup
- Editorial Committee (four appointments)
- UCFW Health Care Task Force (HCTF) (four appointments)
- University Committee on Rules & Jurisdiction (UCRJ) – Appointed one new divisional chair member.

**Selection of Senate Representatives to Other Committees**

UCOC is responsible for selecting Senate representatives to various groups that are proposed by the President, Provost, or other senior administrators. UCOC nominated or reviewed nominations of representatives to serve on joint administration-Senate task forces, external councils, and other groups in 2023-24. These included:

- UC ANR Governing Council
- UCLA Chancellor Search Advisory Committee
- UCSD and UCSB Chancellor Review Committees
- Shared Library Facilities Board (SLFB)
- Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee
- UC Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Advisory Board

### **Oliver Johnson Award**

UCOC reviewed nominations from the divisions for the 2024 Oliver Johnson and forwarded two names to the Academic Council, per the award’s guidelines. The Academic Council selected UC Irvine Professor Mary Gilly and UC Santa Barbara Professor Kum Kum Bhavnani.

### **Senate Service Engagement**

At the beginning of the year, UCOC members discussed strategies employed by the divisions to solicit volunteers for Senate service – including not using the term “volunteer.” Issues faced by divisional Senates include diversity, representation, compensation, and overburdening younger faculty members who may be in high demand. UCOC maintains a shared spreadsheet to compile campus “best practices” used by the Senate divisions for engaging and rewarding faculty for Senate service.

In April, Academic Senate Executive Director Monica Lin joined the in-person meeting to talk about Senate service engagement and recent work at the systemwide level to help campuses increase faculty participation and foster growth into leadership roles. A survey of Senate faculty revealed barriers (time, other service commitments) and motivators (promotions, course release, community-mindedness, interest in shared governance) for Senate service. UCOC members noted that CAPs are key, as is awareness. Publicizing opportunities for Senate service among department chairs, deans, and new faculty is important. Systemwide service should be perceived as an honor. Many campus-level discussions are about how to incentivize faculty to participate and not overburden those who are already doing more.

### **Other topics of discussion:**

- *Comparison of division practices for increasing Senate participation.* Some divisional CAPs are stricter than others in requiring Senate or campus service for promotions. Compensation for service seems to vary across the divisions as well.
- *Service expectations for LSOEs/teaching professors* and criteria for serving on divisional CAPs, particularly around whether non-Senate faculty are included.
- *Procedures for removing a committee member or chair from a Senate committee* if that person is problematic or not doing the work. Most campuses do not have a process for this, and the general feeling was that matters of discipline or adjudication are beyond the purview of CoCs and would be handled by a divisional Senate chair or ad-hoc committee.

### **Systemwide Senate Leadership Updates**

UCOC received regular updates from the Academic Senate chair and vice chair about important issues facing the faculty and the university.

*Respectfully submitted:*

Reza Ahmadi, UCOC Chair  
Robin Nabi, UCOC Vice Chair

Ali Javey (UCB)  
Clare Yellowley (UCD)  
Matthew Huffman (UCI)  
Yi Tang (UCLA)  
Sarah Depaoli (UCM)  
Anne McKnight (UCR)  
Paul Siegel (UCSD)  
Kewchang Lee (UCSF)  
Brad Chmelka (UCSB)  
Dean Mathiowetz (UCSC)  
James Steintrager (Academic Council Chair, ex-officio)  
Steven Cheung (Academic Council Vice Chair, ex-officio)  
Joanne Miller (Committee Analyst)