

## **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES ANNUAL REPORT 2001-02**

TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE:

The University Committee on Committees (UCOC) is charged in Academic Senate Bylaw 150 to "appoint the Chairs and, where specified in the Bylaws, the Vice Chairs and all appointed members of all other Senate committees that report to the Assembly [see Bylaw 35]." This includes 16 of 18 Senate committees, excepting Academic Council and UCOC. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Council, who also serve as Chair and Vice Chair of the Assembly, are elected by the Assembly. UCOC nominates two members at-large to the Assembly, from which its own Committee Chair is appointed. To fulfill its charge, UCOC held four meetings in Academic Year 2001-02: December 14, 2001; February 11, March 11 (by teleconference), and April 19, 2002.

### **Academic Senate Committee appointments**

UCOC first completed 2001-02 Committee memberships, then turned to 2002-03 appointment process, for which it addressed the issues of 1) defining "administrator" as it applies to faculty, and 2) deciding whether administrators, as defined, should serve on Senatwide Committees and, if so, in what capacity. Department Chairs would be excluded only from Committees agreed upon as dealing with issues that are sensitive with respect to administration—UCAF, UCAP, and UCP&T. Titles above Department Chair level were determined to be primarily administrative in their line of reporting, thus being in potential conflict of interest with Senate business and therefore excluded from Senate Committee membership. Certain lower level administrative positions such as residential College Provosts would be excepted when/if these positions are deemed not to be in conflict of interest with most Senate business.

UCOC established goals, objectives and a timeline for appointments. One Committee goal is to achieve overall balance within Committees with respect to gender, discipline, and northern/southern campus representation. Another is to make it as attractive as possible for Senate members to serve on Committees. (UCOC remained sensitive to the many concerns of Senate members in working out potential obstacles to travel to meetings and achieving a quorum at meetings in the wake of travel problems related to airport and other security measures following the September 11, 2001 World Trade Center/Pentagon tragedies.)

UCOC developed a process whereby its members were assigned Committees, and engaged in several uniform, fact-finding queries and procedures to:

- determine the need for Chairs and Vice Chairs after addressing succession, continuity, availability (e.g., not planning to be on sabbatical) and willingness to serve
- consult with and consider observations from prior and current chairs and vice chairs and also current committee members to identify potential candidates, and also to consider nominations from Divisions
- identify potential candidates for nomination
- ensure confidentiality throughout the process until appointments are final.

The Committee discussed all nominations, voted, and contacted those who were selected. Subsequently, a slate of Appointments of Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs, 2002-03 was presented to the Assembly at its May 29, 2002 meeting.

Members recognized that several Committees need more disciplinary balance, especially for the purpose of achieving balance in work related to reviewing proposals that are discipline-related. UCOC members contacted their own campus representatives to systemwide Committees to determine which representatives would be continuing their service. Members discussed developing a statement to outline what terms members are to abide by when they serve on Committees in terms of service and consonance between Divisional Senate and Systemwide Senate Bylaws; however, no action was taken. Members were to remind Senate Committee members to take term into consideration when accepting Committee membership and to honor Senate Bylaw. Although members acknowledged that Divisional Committees may need to be notified when members are not being appointed for an appropriate term of service, they favored avoiding a blanket rule that could deter Senate members from serving on Committees. The issue is unresolved, but subject to future discussion. UCOC was to complete appointments remaining after its final meeting by E-mail.

### **Standing and Special Committee appointments**

UCOC was requested to appoint, as appropriate, new members to the UC Merced Committee on Academic Personnel (UCM-CAP) for two-year terms. Four current members whose terms were ending did not wish to continue, and two members requested reappointment. This action was to have been completed by E-mail after the final meeting.

The Panel of Counselors was established to aid Divisional Privilege and Tenure (P&T) Committees on campuses that have no Law School and who are thus disadvantaged in not having available legal expertise to deal with P&T cases. UCOC members updated the member list by omitting names of those who will not continue on the Panel and nominating possible replacement faculty members who have law degrees or appropriate related training.

### **Appointment of emeritus faculty members to Academic Senate Committees**

UCOC discussed appointment of emeritus faculty members to Committees when regular faculty are available and willing to serve. This appears to be neither a widespread problem, nor a regular practice; these appointments are made on a case by case basis. Primary considerations in appointment are a potential member's merit and usefulness to a Committee. Members were generally in favor of allowing opportunity to people who are willing and able to serve, including emeriti. They favored informal measures over a systemwide policy on emeritus faculty appointments. Data on emeriti appointments to systemwide committees will be analyzed to determine whether there are any noticeable trends from one or more campuses that would need to be addressed.

### **Oliver Johnson Awar**

UCOC amended language in nomination criteria for the Oliver Johnson Award. The award, bestowed biannually, honors a UC faculty member who has demonstrated: "1. Outstanding and creative contributions at the divisional and systemwide levels as evidenced by major impact on faculty governance; 2. Sustained excellence in serving the Academic Senate; 3. Exceptional abilities in working effectively with different university constituents." UCOC set a deadline for and received nominations, voted on and forwarded two nominees for the Academic Council to consider as a recipient. [The Academic Council subsequently voted on and announced the recipient.]

### **Additional business**

Σ Members were apprised of a recent Senate Workload survey conducted among Academic Senate Committee Chairs indicating that many Chairs and Vice Chairs are spending time well in excess of what had been expected for their years of service as Committee officers. Results will be sent to UCOC for review. Members discussed how to promote and support Senate service in a way that does not interfere with faculty career advancement.

Σ Members discussed restructuring of the Systemwide Academic Senate Committee structure, and folding several Committees together into one larger committee, as several Divisions have done. Both of the above items will be discussed at a two-day systemwide Chairs retreat in the fall.

Σ UCOC remains concerned about how the move to year-round session might affect the Senate, through faculty service on Committees. How would an active year for a Senate member be defined and what would be the new model for Senate service?

Σ UCOC provided input on the Academic Senate website and on what it would like to provide on a UCOC web page. This included information on how faculty may contact the Division Senate about Senate service, a statement of

encouragement for Senate service, and a Senate faculty survey on how to have the Senate built more visibly into the University.

In addition, UCOC benefited from consultation and updates on Academic Council business and office procedures as needed and presented by Academic Council Chair Chand Viswanathan, Academic Council Vice Chair Gayle Binion and Executive Director María Bertero-Barceló.

Respectfully submitted,

Concepcion Valadez, Chair	(UCLA)
Ronald Stroud, Vice Chair	(UCB)
Richard Lyons	(UCB)
Jessica Utts	(UCD)
Rozanne Sandri-Goldin	(UCI)
Neal Garrett	(UCLA)
Georgia Warnke/ Albert Stralka	(UCR – fall, winter/spring, summer)
Theodore Groves	(UCSD)
John Kane	(UCSF)
Steven Buratto	(UCSB)
Shelly Errington	(UCSC)
Chand Viswanathan, <i>Ex officio</i> member, Academic Council Chair	
Gayle Binion, <i>Ex officio</i> member, Academic Council Vice Chair	

Committee staff:

María Bertero-Barceló, Executive Director, Academic Council  
Louisa Tapley-Van Pelt, Committee Analyst