



*Kum-Kum Bhavnani*  
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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate  
Faculty Representative to the Regents  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

July 28, 2020

**PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTING A UC PRESIDENT**

Dear Regents Elliott and Lansing, members of the Special Committee, and members of the Board of Regents,

In line with Regents Policy 7101, an Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) was formed to assist the Special Committee as it searched for a new president for the University of California. We write following receipt of the attached report from the AAC.

We consider Dr. Drake to be the ideal person to lead the UC as its next president. This letter is not about the choice of President. We are delighted that Dr. Drake will lead the UC in the coming period.

We write, however, to state that this search process, starting at the selection of interviewees and ending at the nomination of the President-designate, departed significantly from prior searches.

As you know, the AAC, Academic Council and the Assembly of the Academic Senate made direct requests to the Special Committee that the AAC be involved in all Special Committee discussions. This involvement had been previously accomplished by the presence of the AAC Chair in search committee meetings. These formal requests were never acknowledged nor responded to. While the Chair of the AAC had conversations with Regent Elliott, Regent Lansing, and Board Chair Pérez regarding this request, we gather that meaningful participation in Special Committee deliberations was denied, without explanation. Even more troubling, in one of the two screening meetings between the Special Committee and the AAC, when asked about the Assembly resolution, we understand the Special Committee responded to the question very brusquely. We still do not know why customary interactive dialogue with the AAC was not followed, nor why the AAC Chair was excluded from the deliberations of the Special Committee.

We write about this matter to remind future Special Committees that return to respectful consultation with the UC Academic Senate, which includes the AAC, is absolutely necessary to reaffirm commitment to shared governance at the University of California.

The strength of the University of California draws from its strong tradition of shared governance-- faculty, administration, and the Regents working collaboratively to envision, support, and build the most excellent public research university to serve California and the world.

Sincerely,

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair  
Academic Council

Cc: President Napolitano etc.



ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair  
[kum-kum.Bhavnani@ucop.edu](mailto:kum-kum.Bhavnani@ucop.edu)

Assembly of the Academic Senate  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup>  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
Phone: (510) 987-9466

July 2, 2020

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**RE: Academic Advisory Committee Report of Activities, November 2019 – June 2020**

Dear Council Colleagues,

Pursuant to Regents Policy 7101, an Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) was formed in November 2019. The AAC was charged to advise the Regents Special Committee on the Selection of a New President. The enclosed describes the AAC processes and activities in light of this charge, in advance of a Regents' announcement regarding the incoming President.

We thank Academic Council and the Assembly for your heartfelt support and the opportunity to serve.

Linda Bisson, Oenology, UCD  
Henning Bohn, Economics, UCSB  
Steven Cheung, Otolaryngology, UCSF  
Javier Garay, Mechanical Engineering, UCSD  
Sandra Graham, Education, UCLA  
Sean Malloy, History, UCM

Dele Ogunseitan, Public Health, UCI  
Sarita Echavez See, Media and Cultural  
Studies, UCR  
Christina Ravelo, Ocean Sciences, UCSC  
Barbara Spackman, Italian, UCB  
Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Sociology, AAC Chair

Encl.

CC: Hilary Baxter, Executive Director, Academic Senate  
Michael LaBriola, Assistant Director, Academic Senate  
Kenneth Feer, Principal Policy Analyst, AAC

**ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: REPORT TO ACADEMIC COUNCIL****A. ROSTER**

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Sociology, AAC Chair

Linda Bisson, Oenology, UCD

Henning Bohn, Economics, UCSB

Steven Cheung, Otolaryngology, UCSF

Javier Garay, Mechanical Engineering, UCSD

Mary Gauvain, Psychology, Vice Chair, Academic Council, member-at-large

Sandra Graham, Education, UCLA

Sean Malloy, History, UCM

Dele Ogunseitan, Public Health, UCI

Sarita Echavez See, Media and Cultural Studies, UCR

Christina Ravelo, Ocean Sciences, UCSC

Barbara Spackman, Italian, UCB

**B. SUMMARY REPORT****November 2019 to June 2020**

- i. Participated in approximately 30 meetings regarding the UC Presidential search.
- ii. Met on three occasions with the Special Committee:
  - 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (1 hour)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 (3 hours)
  - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (1 hour)
- iii. Met with the representative of the Search firm, Storbeck Pimentel on eight occasions.
- iv. Reviewed 607 prospects, each prospect having at least 3 AAC reviewers. Brief biographies and related materials were provided by Storbeck Pimentel. Brief biographies (usually from the prospects' institutional website) and related materials were provided by the Storbeck Pimentel. AAC reviewers also sourced publicly accessible information to update dossiers, including, but not limited to, Google, Wikipedia and related media searches.
- v. Reviewed forwarded "prospects" more comprehensively by assigning them to at least another 3 AAC reviewers.
- vi. Prepared a preliminary shortlist of approximately 70 prospects for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March meeting with the Special Committee. Each of these were reviewed by 11 to 12 members of the AAC.
- vii. Winnowed list to 38 prospects for 17<sup>th</sup> March meeting with the Special Committee. Each of these underwent further review by 11 to 12 members of the AAC.
- viii. No communication from the Special Committee since 17<sup>th</sup> March, barring a handful of phone calls with Alberto Pimentel.
- ix. Enthusiasm expressed by AAC to engage with the Special Committee in candidate evaluations. Regrettably, the role of the AAC was strictly limited to dossier reviews.

**C. TIMELINE*****i. 27<sup>th</sup> September to 20<sup>th</sup> November***

*27<sup>th</sup> September:*

Senate Chair Invited to form AAC in line with Regents' Policy 7101 via letter from Regent Elliott, Chair of the Special Committee

*30<sup>th</sup> September*

Senate Chair accepted the invitation

*1<sup>st</sup> October:*

Divisional Chairs invited to submit Senate nominations, via their CoC to UCoC

*2<sup>nd</sup> October:*

Informal phone call with Chair Pérez and Senate Chair regarding the search – he reached out from Mexico City.

*15<sup>th</sup> October:*

Divisional nominees discussed at UCoC follow-up requested in some instances to ensure diversity of the AAC

*20<sup>th</sup> October:*

Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> November announced

*31<sup>st</sup> October:*

7 AAC members' names confirmed: all but one could travel to the 6<sup>th</sup> November meeting

*1<sup>st</sup> November*

Phone call between Regent Elliott, Chair of the Special Committee, and the AAC Chair regarding the Presidential search. Regent Elliott repeated he would not allow anyone from the AAC to be part of the Special Committee discussions, even as a non-voting member. While this had been done in previous searches, Regent Elliott felt there was no reason to do as had been done in the past. He was not convinced faculty had much to offer in such a Search.

*4<sup>th</sup> November:*

11 AAC members confirmed (but not enough notice for all to travel to LA for 6<sup>th</sup> November meeting)

*6<sup>th</sup> November*

AAC at UCLA meeting with Special Committee

*22<sup>nd</sup> November*

Final Roster of AAC confirmed

*2<sup>nd</sup> March 12:30 to 3:30 pm*

AAC + Special Committee Sacramento  
Overview + Discussion

*17<sup>th</sup> March Special Committee UCLA (via Zoom) 12:30 to 1:30*

AAC + Special Committee

One hour meeting

*7<sup>th</sup> July*

AAC meeting with UC President nominee

**ii. *Meetings 6<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> July***

***6<sup>th</sup> November: six of the seven currently appointed members of the AAC met with the Special Committee in person at UCLA to discuss the Criteria for the next President <sup>++</sup>***

Questions for AAC to discuss with the Special Committee:

- What are the most pressing challenges and most significant opportunities the new president will encounter shortly after being appointed and within the next 3-5 years?
- What are your top 3-4 expectations of the next president?

*11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December Zoom AAC only meeting*

Agenda

- Introductions: 10 mins
- KKB: background: 7 mins
- Group comments on criteria: 30 mins
- Any other comments: 10 mins

*3<sup>rd</sup> January KKB w Alberto Pimentel, Storbeck and Pimentel:*

1<sup>st</sup> Phone call regarding AAC the Presidential Search

*16<sup>th</sup> January UCR*

AAC Chair attended the UCR Senate + UCFA Town Hall

Special Committee had a public meeting that day at UCR: AAC Chair was present.

*17<sup>th</sup> January in-person at UCOP – with Alberto via Zoom*

Regent Elliott not present

**Agenda:**

Intros and Updates

Consultation with the Search Firm

Further Discussion

*30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 9 am to 12 noon*

Special Committee meeting at UC Merced, UC Merced campus.

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<sup>++</sup> Bolded text indicates meeting with the Regents' Special Committee

AAC Chair and AAC Member attended.

*3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Review Prospects #001-100

*5<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 am to 9 am*

AAC + Alberto Pimentel Review Prospects #001-100

*11<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Review Prospects #101-200

*13<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC + Alberto Pimentel Review Prospects #101-200

*18<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Review Prospects #201-300

*19<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC + Alberto Pimentel Review Prospects #201-300

*25<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Review Prospects #301-400

*26<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC + Alberto Pimentel Review Prospects #301-400

*27<sup>th</sup> February 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Debrief on reviews and plan for March 2 at Davis

*1<sup>st</sup> March (Sunday) 3:15 to 4:15*

AAC only meeting to discuss forthcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> March meeting with Special Committee

***2<sup>nd</sup> March Sacramento AAC + Special Committee (in-person) 12:30 to 3:30 pm<sup>++</sup>***  
**Prospect review + Discussion**

*4<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC Only Debrief after 2<sup>nd</sup> March meeting

*5<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC + Discussion with Alberto Pimentel

*9<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am*

AAC only Review Prospects #402-498

*10<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am*

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<sup>++</sup> Bolded text indicates meeting with the Regents' Special Committee

AAC + Alberto Pimentel #402-498

16<sup>th</sup> March 3:30 to 4:30 pm  
AAC only Discussion re Nominees Short List

**17<sup>th</sup> March Special Committee UCLA (via Zoom) 12:30 to 1:30**  
**Prospect review + discussion**

19<sup>th</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am  
AAC Only Debrief 17<sup>th</sup> March meeting


22<sup>nd</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am  
AAC only Review Prospects #499-607


23<sup>rd</sup> March 7:30 to 9 am  
AAC + Alberto Pimentel #499—607


15<sup>th</sup> May 12:30 to 1 pm  
AAC only

20<sup>th</sup> May 7:30 to 8:30 am  
AAC only:

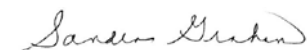
26<sup>th</sup> May 6:30 to 7:30 pm  
AAC only

  
Linda F. Bisson, UCD

  
Henning Bohn, UCSB

  
Steven Cheung, UCSF

  
Javier E. Garay, UCSD


  
Sandra Graham, UCLA

  
Sean Malloy, UCM

  
Oladele Ogunseitan, UCI

  
Ana Christina Ravelo, UCSC

/s/ Sarita See e-sign  
Sarita See, UCR

  
Barbara Spackman, UCB

  
Kum-Kum Bhavnani, AAC Chair