

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION**

MEETING

The Riverside Division of the Academic Senate met on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Chair D. Rodríguez presided. The meeting was attended by 166 members of the Riverside Division. Chair Rodríguez outlined Zoom protocol to ensure that attendees could participate during the meeting.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 25, 2020 were approved as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

There were no announcements by the President.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHANCELLOR AT RIVERSIDE

Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox addressed the Division.

The Chancellor presented Associate Professor Huinan Liu, Department of Bioengineering, with the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement. The Chancellor asked for a virtual applause for Associate Professor Liu.

Chancellor Wilcox discussed the pressing issue of COVID-19 impacts on UCR, including requests to make an announcement regarding the Fall 2020 quarter. Though face-to-face instruction is always preferred, any decisions about the nature of teaching in Fall 2020 are guided by public health. UCR is also unique from other UC campuses in that it was the only UC campus required to close by order of the County Health Officer.

Chancellor Wilcox discussed how, even if on-campus instruction were to return in Fall 2020, some members of the campus community will feel unsafe returning to campus. Therefore, the Chancellor stressed the need for a remote "safe option" for all. If this safe option is the baseline, then there can be subsequent conversations about some in-person interaction on a program or class basis.

The Chancellor asked for feedback from the group. There was significant discussion about the timeline for the Fall 2020 announcement, revamping research, budget concerns, merit promotions for faculty, and maintaining safe social distancing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE VICE CHANCELLORS

Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Thomas Smith and Associate Provost Ken Baerenklau yielded their time to Chancellor Wilcox to allow additional time to discuss COVID-19 impacts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DEANS OR OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

There were no announcements by the Deans.

Chair Rodríguez called upon the Secretary Parliamentarian to provide the report on election results. The Secretary Parliamentarian informed the Division that the results of the 2020-2021

recent elections for the Division, Colleges and Schools could be found on pages 9-12 of the meeting agenda.

There were several positions that had no more nominees than vacancies and there were no nominations received from the floor. The Division authorized the Secretary-Parliamentarian to cast a single ballot for all open positions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Chair Rodríguez addressed the Division and thanked the Senate staff and the Senate committee chairs and members. This was Chair Rodríguez's last meeting as Senate Chair. He welcomed incoming Chair Jason Stajich and thanked him for running for the position. Chair Rodríguez will work with incoming Chair Stajich on a continuity plan.

Chair Rodríguez underscored the importance of checking in on colleagues during this COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair Rodríguez acknowledged Professor and Chair of the Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology Department, Manuela Martins-Green, as one of the two recipients of the systemwide Oliver Johnson Award for Distinguished Leadership in the Academic Senate.

Chair Rodríguez thanked members of the Senate Workgroup on COVID-19, which has worked on temporary bylaw suspensions in response to COVID-19. The Workgroup is also developing a document of principles for faculty.

Chair Rodríguez acknowledged the Senate Executive Director and Senate Analysts for their work.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The Consent Calendar was unanimously approved.

The degree reports and regular reports of standing committees and faculties were received and placed on file.

REPORT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY

Riverside Assembly Representative Professor Thomas Cogswell provided the Division with a written report from the Assembly meeting on February 12, 2020. This can be found on page 276 of the full agenda. There were no questions from the Division.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There were no reports of Special Committees.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTIES

Professor Linda Walling introduced and moved adoption of the nomination of Distinguished Professor Norman Ellstrand, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences and Professor Jay Farrell, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering as the recipients of the Distinguished Campus Service Award. The contributions of Distinguished Professor Ellstrand and Professor Farrell are summarized in the report of the Committee found on pages 278 and 279 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Katherine Borkovich introduced and moved adoption of the nomination of Associate Professor Rebekah Richert, Department of Psychology, as the recipient of the Distinguished

Teaching Award. The contributions of Professor Richert are summarized in the report of the Committee found on page 280 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Distinguished Professor John Fischer introduced and moved adoption of the nomination of Distinguished Professor Walter Clark, Department of Music, as the Faculty Research Lecturer for 2020-2021. The contributions of Distinguished Professor Clark are summarized in the report of the Committee found on page 282 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Sheldon Tan, Chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed Exception for Applicants to be considered for Admission by Exception (AxE) without Faculty Special Review Committee (SRC) Evaluation for Fall 2020 Cohort, found on page 284 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Sheldon Tan, Chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions, introduced and moved for adoption the proposed changes to the Guidelines for Admission by Exception, found on page 286 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Joseph Kahne, Chair of the GSOE Executive Committee, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed Athletic Leadership Minor, found on page 298 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Subramanian Balachander, Chair of the Executive Committee of the School of Business, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed changes to the School of Business Bylaws, found on page 360 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

PETITIONS OF STUDENTS

There were no petitions from the students.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY WELFARE

Chair Rodríguez introduced Distinguished Professor Steven Brint, Chair of the General Education Review Committee, to give an update on the General Education revision process.

Distinguished Professor Brint discussed some frequently cited issues regarding General Education, including lack of coherence or guiding philosophy, as well as the belief by some students that General Education is an ineffective use of time.

The General Education Review Committee is considering three draft proposals titled: 1) Crossing Boundaries, R'search, and Thematic Tracks. Common themes in these proposals include philosophy statements, skill building, and quality control.

Distinguished Professor Brint acknowledged that four possibilities may come out of the General Education review process: 1) Some proposals may blend together, 2) One proposal will emerge as preferred, 3) There may be an entirely new approach, or 4) UCR may continue with existing General Education requirements.

Chair Rodríguez then introduced Abhijit Ghosh, Chair of the Committee on Faculty Welfare to give an update on the Faculty Climate Survey administered by the committee.

Associate Professor Ghosh gave background on the survey and presented key findings from the report, which are found on pages 390-405 of the full agenda. The key findings were: 1) Lack of consultation with faculty at campus level, 2) Insufficient support for graduate education, 3) Hostile campus climate, 4) Inequities in workload and retention, 5) Inequities in advising and mentoring, 6) Insufficient consultation and communication at college-level, 7) Departmental leadership and 8) Other Issues.

Associate Professor Ghosh closed by sharing the Faculty Welfare Committee's goals of distributing the report, asking for Senate and department feedback, and developing recommendations to address the issues raised in the survey. The Faculty Welfare Committee has decided not to put forward recommendations at this time, as recommendations should come from the committees that review the document in detail. Once recommendations are developed, the Senate and Administration should work together to implement the recommendations within a reasonable timeline.

Chair Rodríguez thanked the Faculty Welfare Committee for their hard work.

NEW BUSINESS

Senate Vice Chair Christiane Weirauch and incoming Senate Chair Jason Stajich expressed their gratitude for Chair Rodríguez's time, dedication, and strong leadership as Senate Chair for the past four years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16pm.

ATTEST:

K. Esterling, Secretary-Parliamentarian
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

Rosana Franco
Recording Secretary