

UC Assembly Meeting
February 9th 2022
Prepared by David Biggs

Chair Robert Horowitz called the meeting to order at 10:00 am with Vice Chair Susan Cochran attending, roll was called, and quorum was met.

Minutes were approved.

There was one vote on a proposed revision to language in Senate Regulation 478 and the rest of the meeting involved discussion and updates of assembly-wide events and issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. UNIT 18
 - a. The University has reached a 5-year contract with the UC-AFT, the union representing Unit 18 lecturers.
 - b. the proposal seeks to raise salaries 20% over 5 years.
 - c. The University is also exploring membership of a new Graduate Student Researcher bargaining unit but seeks to exclude students who are not UC employees.
2. BUDGET
 - a. There will be a 4% across the board increase to faculty salaries.
 - b. The Regents approved a reduction in the UCRP employee contribution from 15% to 14%.
3. CLIMATE
 - a. The Assemblywide Senate's Climate Task Force is drafting a memorial to the Regents on the topic of the climate crisis and plans to initiate a systemwide ballot on the memorial to increase retrofitting power plants and other campus infrastructure to achieve a zero-carbon-emissions goal.
4. COVID
 - a. Provost Brown and a committee are looking at Academic Council's recommendations for mitigating COVID-19 impacts to faculty.
5. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
 - a. Senate has asked UC Legal to consider an institutional response to illegal posting of faculty intellectual property.
6. TEACHING MODALITIES
 - a. Academic Council continues to address uneven practices across campuses for determining teaching modalities.
7. REGENTS
 - a. UC received some funds for seismic retrofitting but less than what was asked.

- b. The Regents are pushing to increase student enrollment by 2030 across all campuses and also to substitute more California residents for non-resident students.
- c. The budget is still awaiting Legislature approval.
- d. Currently UC continues to register concern for 5000 over-enrolled undergraduates.
- e. A UCOP Working Group is convened exploring expansion of summer session teaching, possibly through leasing of satellite campus space at smaller, nearby colleges.
- f. The Regents continue to push for expanded online education offerings as a way to meet goals for increased enrollment. There is one court case concerning environmental impacts of physical expansion, especially at Berkeley, so the Regents are looking to online courses to solve continuing classroom shortages on many campuses.

DISCUSSION

1. LABOR

- a. UC and UAW continue to negotiate definitions of covered classes of graduate students. Those funded by external grants, for example, are currently not in the bargaining unit. Pls may opt to hire postdocs instead of graduate students if these students are later included in the bargaining group.

2. MODALITIES

- a. Disabled students are requesting faculty to offer permanent, hybrid instruction and mandatory recording of classes.
- b. Campuses continue to explore online/hybrid options for student advising.

VOTE – Proposed Revision to Senate Regulation 478

- Note: Assembly Representative Peter Chung could not attend. Senate Chair Stajovich voted in place of Chung.

The discussion centered on language in Point 7 of the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) which governs the completion of General Education course credits at community colleges or other institutions before students transfer to UC. Point 7 concerns the Ethnic Studies requirement, and the proposed revision was to change the word “should” to “must” in the following:

“7. Ethnic Studies. 1 course: 3 semester units, 4 quarter units. This course should/MUST be in ethnic studies or in a similar field if the course is cross-listed with ethnic studies.”

45 of 69 Assembly Reps including Biggs and Stajich (for Chung) voted in favor of this change.

PROPOSED FUTURE ACTION – MEMORIAL

Biggs had to leave the meeting due to a conflicting schedule at 11:00 pm but Vice Chair Jonathan Eacott filled in. The remaining discussion centered on continuing issues with respect to a Memorial on Climate Action. No votes were taken, and Assembly Representatives remain divided for and against such as Memorial citing issues such as costs and timetables for climate retrofits.

The meeting concluded at approximately 11:45pm.