

UC Assembly Meeting
June 09, 2021
Prepared by Peter Chung

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

There was a roll call and minutes for April 14th, 2021 were approved by the Assembly.

Mary Gauvain, the Chair, made several **announcements**. (1) Campus representation for the Assembly changed. UCLA gained one seat and UCSF lost one seat. (2) The Academic Council honored Professors Tara Javidi of UCSD and Steven Cheng of UCSF with the 2021 Senate Mid-Career Award, which was created in 2019 with an endowment. (3) President Drake supported the re-opening guidance recommended in April 2021 by the Senate chair and vice chair. It was shared with Senate divisions before it was sent to the President. (4) The Senate concluded its survey on UC faculty experience with remote instruction during the pandemic. More than 4,300 faculty participated in the survey and the results will be analyzed by the UCOP for a report. (5) Chair Gauvain and BOARS Vice Chair Sorapure is co-chairing a working group that studies the feasibility of the Senate's role for the Smarter Balanced Assessment in UC admissions, following the Regent's recent decision to discontinue the use of the SAT and ACT. (6) Vice Chair Horwitz and UCD Provost Croughan has formed a working group that will address Academic Council's recommendations for mitigating the impacts of Covid-19 on UC faculty, particularly on junior faculty and faculty with caregiving responsibilities. (7) The regents in their May 2021 meeting accepted a working group's report, which proposes additional recognition of faculty patent and start-up activities in tenure and promotion reviews. An implementation committee will discuss potential additions to the APM. (8) Chair and Vice Chair met with UC Legal to discuss UC's response to faculty concerns about websites used by students to upload and share course documents, that may violate academic integrity and intellectual property rights. (9) The Academic Council released a letter in May 2021 expressing its argument that UC should not engage in contracts with healthcare providers that practice ethical and religious discriminatory restrictions on health care.

Several **decision items** were opened, discussed, and endorsed. (1) The Assembly elected Professor of Micah Perks of UCSC for 2021-22 UCOC Vice Chair. (2) The Assembly ratified Professor Andrew Dickson of UCSD as Assembly Secretary/Parliamentarian for a second three-year term for 2021-2024. (3) The Assembly approved the proposed revision to Senate Regulation 610 proposed by UC Ed Pol. The revision is to clarify that "residency" does not necessarily mean the physical presence on campus. (4) The Assembly unanimously endorsed the UCPT-proposed revision to Senate Bylaw 336.F.3 and 336.F.6. The revisions are necessary to respond to federal regulatory changes that require a Title IX hearing for cases that involve sexual violence and sexual harassment. The essence of the revision is to avoid duplication of effort and burden on parties to go through two full hearings unless absolutely necessary.

Then **President Drake** came to provide the Assembly with general updates: (1) The budget approved by the legislature includes \$506M increase in ongoing funding, combining \$325 restoration from the 2020 cut and \$173M increase. The budget also includes \$325M one time funding for deferred maintenance. Also, UC is told to reduce nonresident undergrad enrollments to 18% at each campus and at the systemwide level. This reduction is going to be funded by the State with a \$30M annual buy-out of nonresidents. (2) Preliminary data, including early SIRs, suggest that campuses will meet their enrollment targets and also increase student diversity. (3) The University has released a Presidential Campus Safety Plan for systemwide review. The key elements include service-driven safety, a holistic and tiered response model for safety services, transparency, and continued improvement. (4) The University has completed its review of a proposed vaccine mandate policy. The vaccine certification process will begin around July 15th, 2021. (5) There will be a special Regents meeting to discuss UC health affiliations. He then entertained a Q&A session. Questions and answers were geared toward the classroom air ventilation systems and the 18% enrollment cap on nonresident undergraduate students.

Provost Michael Brown also came to provide the Assembly with other updates: (1) UCOP has been sponsoring a series of public symposia to educate state/local policymakers of the UC's research and graduate education mission. The first one featured on wildfire resilience and recovery. (2) Provost believes the current systemwide review process for both state- and self-supporting Master's degree programs is too time consuming, and wants to move the approval process from UCOP and the systemwide Senate to campus chancellors and divisional Senates. The assembly members asked the Provost to think collaboratively with the Senate about this issue when he goes forward. He reiterated that his proposal was at an early stage and agreed to work with the Senate.

There was a comprehensive presentation by Shelley Halpain, Chair, **University Committee on Faculty Welfare**. The report was primarily to update the Assembly on the same topic presented during the April 14th Assembly on Mitigating Covid Career Impacts on Faculty. She reported that President Drake responded by forming a workgroup to advise him on specific actions. The report was also on other issues such as faculty access to information about non-compensation benefits, adequate behavioral health care, online tools and advisory services for new UC hires for retirement plan options, and other priorities including closing the faculty salary gap with UC's Comparison 8 institutions.

The meeting ended at 1:00 pm.