MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION

MEETING
The Riverside Division of the Academic Senate met on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 1:03 p.m. via Zoom videoconference. Chair Sang-Hee Lee presided. At the start of the meeting attendance was recorded at 75 members of the Riverside Division of the Academic Senate. Chair Lee outlined Zoom protocol to ensure that attendees could participate during the meeting.

MINUTES
The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 5, 2023, were approved as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
There were no announcements by the President as he was unable to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHANCELLOR AT RIVERSIDE
Chancellor Wilcox announced the budget for this academic fiscal year (until June) is currently stable. The governor and legislator concurred on a 5% increase on the base with a little less than 2% increase on tuition which is over half of our base budget. There are concerns about next year's budget with it being made up of 60% tuition and 40% state support, which are determined by enrollment. Currently the state is anywhere between 30-80 billion dollars short for next year in projection. Pre-planning is underway to cause as little disruption as possible, but it is hard to determine in February what is to occur in the month of July. UCR is currently in good standing with a balanced budget in place with no signs of budget/faculty cuts at the moment.

Chancellor Wilcox extended his appreciation for everyone's patience with the construction taking place on campus. On the South side of campus utility access is being installed under the street and on the North side of campus new apartments are being built. Also, a new classroom building (Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Facility) is being built on the footprint of Lot 19. This building will be a great addition in providing more lab and studio space. Chancellor Wilcox mentioned the new dining facility, The Stable, which is now open as well as the excitement surrounding the underway process of the first campus wide research center. Lastly, Chancellor Wilcox extended an invitation for a reception following the in-person Division meeting in May at the Chancellor’s residence.

There were no questions/comments from the floor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE VICE CHANCELLORS
There were no announcements by the Vice Chancellors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DEANS OR OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
Chair Lee called upon the Secretary Parliamentarian, Steven Axelrod, to provide the report on election results. Secretary Parliamentarian Axelrod informed the Division that the results of the 2023-2024 recent elections for the Division, Colleges and Schools could be found on pages 7 of the meeting agenda.
There was one position 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 the open position.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR
Chair Lee made an announcement on significant movement and changes in terms of the relationship with the Regents and the systems on local campuses. All detailed information can be found on the UC system-wide Senate website. The Regent’s policy on the use of university administrative websites is currently undergoing review and will be discussed at tomorrow’s Senate System Wide Academic Council meeting where they will also discuss what other campuses are doing. The concerns are the Regent’s interest in imposing regulations and/or guidelines on what goes on official websites. In Summer of 2023, the Senate recommended that instead of the regental policy, to hopefully guide conservation on what goes on the website and who should oversee/represent what is put on the university’s website. The regental policy however made its way to the January regents meeting where System Wide Academic Senate Chair James Steintrager made a strong argument for the need of sending the regental policy out for the Senate to review to create a balance and shared governance.

The Regents are also interested in expanding online courses and degree programs along with changing the standard or making admission to UC’s easier for students which is translated to the recent non recommendation of Regulation 630.E. The Senate passed Regulation 630.E, stating that on campus college experience requires the student to attend 10% of the unit in person for a student to be granted a UC degree. This was to stop students from receiving a degree based solely on online courses alone. Unfortunately, the regulation vote was tabled at the January Board of Regents meeting and later at the February meeting voted as a non-recommendation. This left Regulation 630.E in a non-existing state and the Council and Senate will need to start over. Senate representation is important on the development of regental policies. With that said, UCR needs to establish its own position as we envision our education mission. Chair Lee has asked the Courses Committee to review and examine the various modalities and course definitions we have on campus and make sure they are aligned with the other UC campuses and accreditors.

Another large movement is within graduate education and Academic Planning Council. The Future of Graduate Education group issued an interim report which is currently being reviewed. The final report will be completed end of year. Chair Lee will work diligently on continuity on communication with the transition of committee members. Chair Lee thanked the Graduate Council for their hard work in response to UC levels interest in graduate education and issuing the guidance on 299 and 297 courses. This was a difficult conversation on delineating academic work vs. employed work by graduate students and how to navigate this new landscape in teaching and research for the graduate students while maintaining the core mission to mentor graduate students who are here for academic reasons and not solely for paid positions. The Graduate Council will be conducting some Q&A sessions to answer questions about new landscaping especially questions surrounding 299 and 297 courses in collaboration with the Graduate Division, so look for announcements and invitations for those sessions.

Lastly Chair Lee made a point on how within the last couple of years adjustments have had to be made due to the pandemic causing more concentration on online teaching, resulting in research work being placed on hold. As we slowly come back, what’s needed is a lot of support in re-envisioning to bring back research as the forefront of our tripartite mission of teaching, research, and service and therefore Chair Lee echoed Chancellor Wilcox’s remarks about appreciating the new Campus Interdisciplinary Research Center that Provost Watkins introduced at the Fall
Division meeting. The call for proposals are now posted on VCRED Rodolfo Torres’s office website.

There were no questions/comments from the floor.

SPECIAL ORDERS
The In Memoriam on the Consent calendar was unanimously approved.

The curricula changes for the Bourns College of Engineering Material Science and Engineering Major and Robotics Major along with the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences Chemistry Major were withdrawn from the consent calendar and added to the regular order of business under item 10: Reports on Standing Committees and Faculties.

The annual reports of standing committees, annual reports of the faculties, 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 Jennifer Hughes, provided the Division with a written report from the Assembly meeting on December 7, 2023. This report can be found on page 52 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 Piotr Gorecki, Vice Chair of the Committee on Educational Policy, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed changes to the Charge of the Committee Bylaw 8.12.01, found on page 54 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Linda Walling, Chair of the Committee on Physical Resources Planning, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed changes to the Charge of Committee Bylaw 8.17.02, found on page 61 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Peter Sadler, Chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed changes to the Guidelines for Admissions by Exception, found on page 67 of the full agenda. With 79 votes in favor and 1 vote in opposition, the motion was approved.

Professor Louie Rodriguez, Vice Provost and Dean, Division of Undergraduate Education, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed Bylaws for the Division of Undergraduate Education, found on page 100 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Victor Rodgers, Chair of the Bourns College of Engineering Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for adoption of the proposed changes to Regulation 02.03.02 and new Regulation 02.03.06, found on page 118 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Wesley Leonard, Chair of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for the adoption of the Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Environmental Studies, found on page 129 of the full agenda. With 97 votes in favor and 9 votes in opposition, the motion was approved.
Professor Wesley Leonard, Chair of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for the adoption of the Proposal for a Minor in Environmental Studies, found on page 362 of the full agenda. With 94 votes in favor and 10 votes in opposition, the motion was approved.

Professor Wesley Leonard, Chair of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for the adoption of the Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Global and Community Health, found on page 537 of the full agenda. With 96 votes in favor and 8 votes in opposition, the motion was approved.

Professor Wesley Leonard, Chair of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for the adoption of the Proposal for a Minor in Global and Community Health, found on page 775. With 94 votes in favor and 7 votes in opposition, the motion was approved.

Professor Wesley Leonard, Chair of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, introduced and moved for the adoption of the Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Religious Studies and Administrative Studies Major, found on page 892 of the full agenda. With 82 votes in favor and 7 votes in opposition, the motion was approved.

Senate Chair Lee, on behalf of the Executive Council, introduced and moved for the adoption of the proposed changes to Bylaws 8.5.1, 8.5.2, and 8.5.3, found on page 930 of the full agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Victor Rodgers, Chair of the Bourns College of Engineering Faculty Executive Committee, made the motion to adopt the proposed changes to BCOE’s Material Science and Engineering Major found on page 10 of the full agenda. The floor was open for discussion as this was an item removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion.

There was discussion surrounding the curricula change and how it would impact respective departments such as Statistics and Bioengineering. Professor Rodgers stated there would not be a significant impact. The small number of courses that are being removed was discussed with the respective departments who agreed with the decision but are also being replaced with similar courses. Professor Rodgers stated that the focus is to improve the overall curricula. Justification of the change can be found on page 11 of the full agenda for more information. There was no further discussion. The members voted and the motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Victor Rodgers, Chair of the Bourns College of Engineering Faculty Executive Committee, made the motion to adopt the additional requirements for transferring into BCOE’s Robotics Major program found on page 12 of the full agenda. The floor was open for discussion as this was an item removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Professor Bahram Mobasher, Chair of College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences Faculty Executive Committee, made the motion to adopt the changes proposed for CNAS’s Chemistry Major found on page 14 of the full agenda. The floor was open for discussion as this was an item removed from the Consent Calendar for further discussion.

There was discussion surrounding the curricula change and how it would impact respective departments such as Math. Professor Mobasher stated there would be no impact to the major as
no math classes were being removed, only changed. There were questions regarding the School of Education being affected in which Professor Mobasher stated there would be none. There was no further discussion. The members voted and the motion was approved unanimously.

**PETITIONS OF STUDENTS**
There were no student petitions.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
There was no unfinished business.

**UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY WELFARE**
There were no issues related to University and Faculty Welfare.

**NEW BUSINESS**
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

**ATTEST:**
S. Axelrod, Secretary-Parliamentarian
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

Aneesah Kelley-Henry
Recording Secretary